

2025 IMPACT REPORT



Kerr Street Mission
Oakville's Mission of Hope



Let us not become
weary in doing good, ...
as we have
opportunity, let us do
good to all people, ...

Galatians 6: 9 -10

Making Progress, Having an IMPACT!!!

In our last report, we were excited to share the addition of a Mental Health and Well-Being Coordinator and the increased investment in our Family Services team. Today, it's inspiring to look back and see the incredible progress they have made - and the meaningful impact on the lives of those we serve. Kerr Street Mission continues to be a true Hub of Care for the community, offering essential resources and a strong network of support for individuals and families facing financial hardship or navigating times of crisis.

As you read the updates on the following pages, I hope you will be as excited and encouraged as I am. Our mission goes beyond a band-aid solution. We want to help individuals and families take steps that will improve their current and future well-being.

Thank you for your continued support. As the needs in our community have increased and deepened, many of you have increased and deepened your generosity. We are very grateful for your commitment and trust in the mission of KSM!

Blessings,

Gary O'Neill
Executive Director

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A Grateful Family

When Olena and her family arrived from Ukraine, they carried the weight of uncertainty and loss. With her husband working toward Canadian credentials, their savings were stretched thin, and they turned to Kerr Street Mission (KSM) for support. Through food assistance and Christmas Wonders, KSM walked alongside them during this critical time.

Recently, Olena shared that her husband is now working - and with his new income, their family no longer qualifies for KSM support. Far from disappointed, she expressed deep gratitude: "We have been absolutely blessed by this community and by the support of KSM."

What began as a season of struggle has become a story of stability and hope. Together, we helped this family find belonging and build a new beginning.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Send a Kid to Camp

This year, your generosity has had a profound impact at Kerr Street Mission. Because of you, nearly 1,000 life-changing summer camp spots were offered to children that otherwise would not be able to afford it. You have provided experiences and memories that will last a lifetime. Together, you helped us reach **100% of our \$300,000 summer camp goal**, a 15% increase from last year, which was required to create a new and exciting Sports Camp and 100 additional camp spots.



We reached our goal of
\$300,000
which allowed us
to provide
1,000
CAMP SPOTS

Community Impact Investment Campaign

Your support has also fueled strong progress in our **Community Impact Investment Campaign**, where we are currently at 78% of goal, with just \$90,000 left to raise. These funds are critical for us to respond to the needs in our community, and expand services in food security, mental health, and access to social supports.



We still need your support!

- ✓ Food Security
- ✓ Mental Health & Well-Being
- ✓ Access to Social Supports

Pickleball for a Purpose

Tuesday, October 21, 2025 | 12:00pm - 5:00pm
Blue Zone Courts, Burlington

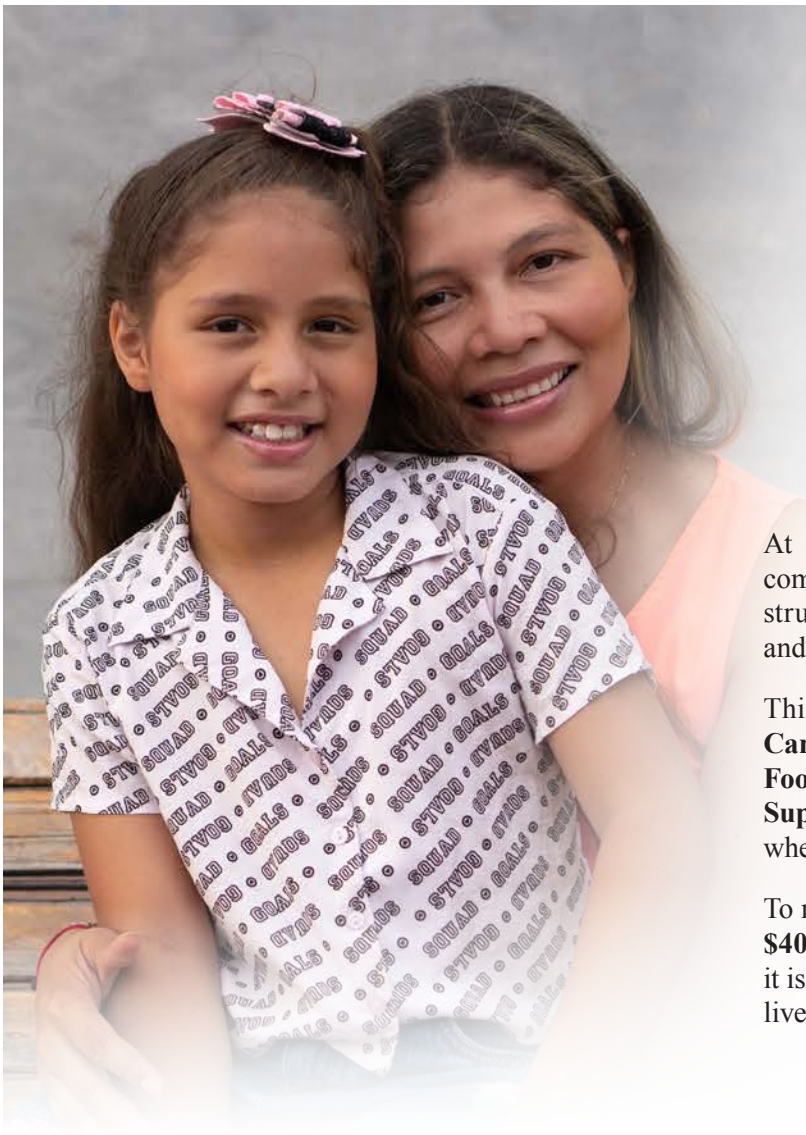
The 1st Annual KSM Pickleball Classic will proudly support our Christmas Wonders & Beyond Campaign - a season of hope and generosity that ensures families not only experience the joy of Christmas but also receive ongoing care and support into the new year.



SCAN TO REGISTER



Thank you for your continued generosity. Together, we are not only meeting urgent needs—we are building brighter futures.



Community Impact Investment Campaign

At Kerr Street Mission, we exist to provide care and a community of support for those in Oakville who are struggling and in need - helping improve both their present and their future.

This year, we launched the **Community Impact Investment Campaign** - a bold initiative to expand essential services in **Food Security, Mental Health, and Access to Social Supports**. These are the areas where help is needed most, and where together, we can create lasting change.

To meet this growing need, we have committed this year to a **\$400,000 budget increase**. Your gift is more than a donation, it is an investment in real change. Together, we can transform lives and strengthen our community.

Food Security

Food insecurity has reached crisis levels, both Toronto and Mississauga have declared it an emergency, and 40% of food banks across the province have scaled back support due to record-high demand. At Kerr Street Mission, the need is greater than ever, with a staggering 200% increase in families relying on our food market over the past six years.

At Kerr Street Mission, we are committed to ensuring families have access to healthy produce and proteins through our Choose Fresh Program.



Strategic Partnership with
 **FeedHalton**
Feeding Our Community Together

 Expanded Food Supply

Mental Health & Well-Being

Youth mental health is in crisis. In Ontario, 1 in 5 children struggles with mental health, more than half of middle and high school students experience serious psychological distress, and 1 in 6 has considered suicide in the past year. Your support can help change these alarming statistics.

Our new Mental Health & Well-Being resource provides critical support to struggling families in our community through in house programs, 1:1 life coaching and referrals to fully subsidized third party counselling sessions.



60 presentations have been given to **500** KSM clients

48 people completed mental health training courses.

66% of people reported they:

- ✓ Developed healthy coping strategies to reduce stress
- ✓ Improved self-compassion
- ✓ Learned how to develop positive behaviour patterns

24 people have been supported with 1:1 life coaching or counselling.

75% reported improved mental health

Access to Social Supports

During times of greatest need, navigating complex social support systems can be overwhelming, especially for families and single parents. Those who receive guidance from a supportive worker will have the greatest success in accessing vital resources. Your support ensures that no one has to navigate these challenges alone.

KSM has added dedicated Family Service resources that will provide personalized guidance, helping families access the social supports they need to transform their lives.

In one month we hosted **7** community agencies:

Support House

CENTRE FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Halton Community Legal Services

FEDCAP

Goodwill Amity

Service Canada

Halton REGION

Plus our Caseworker has connected

60 clients with over **200** resource referrals



CHILD & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

New Sports Camp: Expanding Opportunities for Kids

This summer, Kerr Street Mission's regular camp quickly reached capacity, with **100 spots filled each week**. To meet the demand and give more children the chance to learn, grow, and play, we partnered with **King's Christian Collegiate, Oakville Soccer Club, Titans Football Club**, and others to launch a new three-week Sports Camp. The result was a tremendous success - children discovered new passions, built confidence, and experienced the joy of community through sport.

Given the strong demand and positive feedback, Kerr Street Mission is excited to expand Sports Camp even further next summer, opening doors for even more kids to thrive.

"I grew up independent and quiet but working at Kerr Street Summer Camp gave me confidence and taught me the value of teamwork. Leading activities was intimidating at first, but each day strengthened my communication and leadership skills. I loved my time at Kerr Street Mission and would be thrilled to return."

- Dawit, Sports Camp Counsellor

**100
MORE CAMP
SPOTS**

**SKILL
DEVELOPMENT
TEAMWORK
FUN**



**30
YOUTH LIT**

Leaders in Training: Building Tomorrow's Leaders

Kerr Street Mission is committed to equipping Oakville youth with the tools, confidence, and opportunities they need to thrive. Our **Leaders in Training (LIT) Program**, delivered in partnership with the renowned Muskoka Woods Leadership Studio, develops essential life and leadership skills for high school students. The program is **fully subsidized**, ensuring that youth from under-resourced families can access these transformative experiences.

The LIT Program is a cornerstone of Kerr Street Mission's youth development pathway. Many graduates return as camp counsellors and leaders, creating a powerful cycle of mentorship. In fact, a significant number are hired back to inspire the next generation multiplying the impact across our community.



COMMUNICATION - TEAMWORK - RESILIENCE



Volunteers are at the heart of Kerr Street Mission. Every program, every meal served, every smile shared is made possible because people in our community choose to give their time and talents to care for others. From stocking shelves in the Market, to serving a hot meal, to mentoring youth, to welcoming newcomers with warmth and dignity - our volunteers make KSM a place of belonging and hope.

The impact goes far beyond tasks completed. Volunteers form relationships, build trust, and remind struggling neighbours that they are not alone. In turn, many volunteers tell us how deeply rewarding it is to be part of this work - how serving at Kerr Street Mission has given them purpose, perspective, and joy. Simply put, Kerr Street Mission could not fulfill its mission without them. Together, our staff and volunteers are creating a community where lives are changed every day.

We have
140
REGULAR
VOLUNTEERS
(weekly shift)

We have
583
VOLUNTEERS
TOTAL

They have donated
17,000
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

Which equals to
\$340,000
OF DONATED
TIME



***Join our team and
become a volunteer!***

SCAN TO LEARN MORE



OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:

- Community Meals
- Food Drive/Adopt a Shelf
- Donation Sorting
- Family Night Activities
- Meals to Go
- Kitchen Deep Clean
- Seasonal Events
- Special Projects



Christmas Wonders AND BEYOND

As the holiday season approaches, we are reminded that many in our Oakville community are struggling. If you are thinking about how to make an impact, consider supporting our upcoming **"Christmas Wonders and Beyond"** program. It's more than a donation, it's a gift of hope and joy for families who find the season challenging. Your generosity directly supports our neighbours in need, ensuring everyone can experience a bit of Christmas magic.

Thank you for your continued support!

***Scan code to
donate today!***



Kerr Street Mission
Oakville's Mission of Hope

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