



Anonymous

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANONYMOUS DONATION OF \$25,000 WILL STRENGTHEN HOSPITAL CARE PROGRAM

The Anonymous Fund held at Waterloo Region Community Foundation Supports Vital Initiative

KITCHENER, ON | FEBRUARY 11, 2025 – Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services is proud to share that it has received a generous \$25,000 donation from an unnamed donor through the Anonymous Fund held at Waterloo Region Community Foundation (WRCF). This contribution will directly support Sunbeam's vital Hospital Care Program, enhancing care for individuals with developmental disabilities during hospital stays.

"We are grateful to the anonymous donor and Waterloo Region Community Foundation for their support," says Brian Swainson, CEO of Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services. "This grant allows us to address a critical gap in healthcare by providing Sunbeam staff accompaniment who understand the unique needs of our clients while in hospital. Their presence ensures better care, reduces stress, and gives individuals the support they need during a vulnerable time—benefiting both the clients and the healthcare system."

Hospitalization often presents unique challenges for individuals in Sunbeam's inclusive living and respite programs. Many of Sunbeam's clients do not communicate with words, which can make it difficult for medical professionals to fully understand their needs and emotions. Sunbeam's Hospital Care Program supports our clients' communication, emotional and care needs by providing trained staff to accompany individuals throughout their hospital stays, offering consistent emotional support and improving communication with healthcare providers.

"Our Hospital Care Program moves beyond standard care to ensure that the most vulnerable in our community receive the best possible care," adds Swainson. "This donation will help us to advocate for and support clients during difficult times. It's a reminder that with the right support, individuals can experience greater dignity, compassion, and quality of care in our healthcare system."

WRCF plays a vital role in strengthening local initiatives by connecting donors with impactful

causes, enabling organizations to expand their reach and address urgent community needs. Through its dedicated work in granting, investing, and mobilizing resources, WRCF ensures that organizations have the support needed to create more equitable, connected, and sustainable communities where individuals of all abilities can thrive.

“Through partnerships like this, we’re able to help organizations like Sunbeam make a meaningful impact in our community,” says Lynne Short, Vice President at Waterloo Region Community Foundation. “By supporting programs that address critical needs, we’re working together to build a more equitable and connected community where everyone can thrive.”

To learn more about Sunbeam Community & Developmental Disabilities, please visit sunbeamcommunity.ca/.

About Waterloo Region Community Foundation

Waterloo Region Community Foundation (WRCF) collaborates with partners to ensure our communities are equitable, connected, and sustainable; and people are thriving. We strengthen local organizations, spaces, and experiences to increase connection with communities across the three cities and four townships of Waterloo Region. We make it easy for people to do more good. We work with individuals and companies to support the organizations and issues they care about. WRCF is focused on Granting, Investing, and Mobilizing to make measurable and sustainable impacts. Gifts are directed to WRCF's endowed funds, with the income generated being distributed in partnership with Fundholders through grants and investments that support a wide range of charitable causes that drive positive change within our community. We are growing our assets in a socially-responsible way without compromising financial returns, and transitioning to a 100% mission-aligned portfolio. These investments include directing at least 10% of our portfolio to impact investments. As a leading community-building organization, we also work to amplify voices and issues of importance by mobilizing conversations and sharing information, which leads people to action, while approaching our work with an equity mindset. In 2025, WRCF continues to focus on improving social infrastructure in Waterloo Region. www.wrcf.ca

ABOUT SUNBEAM COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services creates inclusive communities where people of all abilities are valued. With deep roots in Waterloo Region extending back to 1956, Sunbeam currently serves more than 15,000 individuals and families annually across Waterloo Region, Wellington County, Dufferin County, Peel Region, Halton Region, York Region and Simcoe County. Sunbeam's Community Living Services offers inclusive living, children's overnight respite, community participation supports and clinical services. A variety of community and professional services, autism programming, urgent response and other critical programs are provided through Sunbeam's Developmental Resource Centre, and Sunbeam is also the host agency for Developmental Services Ontario - Central West Region. The Sunbeam Community offers services and supports to individuals of all ages living with a developmental disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder, and their families.

Website: sunbeamcommunity.ca

Facebook: [Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services](#)

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