

For the Common Good in Uncommon Times



**HAMILTON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

For Hamilton, For Ever



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2008-2009

What We Do

Hamilton Community Foundation has three main roles:

- Building resources for long-lasting solutions. We work with donors to build funds that ensure vital futures for communities.
- Supporting all aspects of community life. We grant to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives.
- Fostering community leadership. We bring people together from all parts of the community to stimulate new ideas, build participation and strengthen community philanthropy.

Highlights of the Year

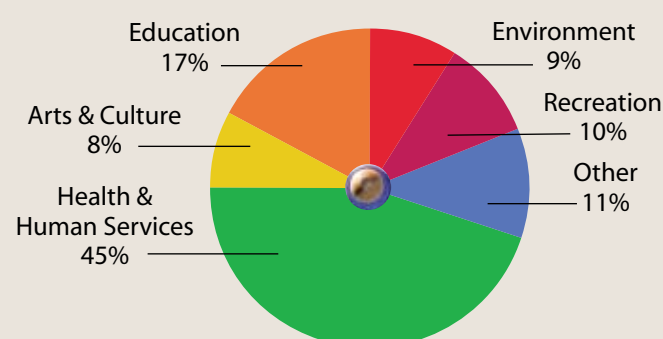
- Gifts received: **\$3,375,429**
- Grants approved: **\$4,100,568**
- Community leadership project expenditures: **\$485,951**
- Operating expenses **1.6% of average total assets**
- Growth in endowed capital **2.4%**
- January 2009 results from HCF's *Tackling Poverty Together* program showed that 25,000 people benefitted from its first three years, touching people of all ages and across all areas of Hamilton, with strategies proven to reduce poverty.

Financial Summary

Year ended March 31, 2009	2008-09	2007-08
Endowment Capital	105,214,626	102,797,950
Total Gifts received		
– for endowment purposes	2,416,676	3,062,894
– for other purposes	958,753	2,539,547
	<u>3,375,429</u>	<u>5,602,441</u>
Development activities expenses ¹	571,888	560,560
Total Grants approved	4,100,568	6,086,963
Community leadership ²	485,951	546,466
Granting activities expenses	397,287	379,031
Philanthropic services expenses	204,476	139,418
Investment income (loss) ³ :		
Interest and dividends	4,388,685	6,892,708
Realized gains	(3,478,208)	2,429,721
Unrealized losses ⁴	(17,746,909)	(13,573,122)
	<u>(16,836,432)</u>	<u>(4,250,693)</u>
Total Assets ⁴	99,794,622	120,458,111
General administration and governance	581,012	641,259

- 1 Development activities and costs incurred in the year do not necessarily relate to donations in any one year. The asset development methodology used by the Foundation may result in normal gift delays and costs preceding the gifts by several years.
- 2 Community leadership includes administering the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction and other projects.
- 3 Investment income (loss) is shown before investment fees of \$511,950 (2008-\$500,658) and losses of \$1,034,964 (2008-\$277,122) allocated to Funds held on behalf of third parties.
- 4 Unrealized losses reflect market value fluctuations of stocks held from one period to the next. While it continues to be difficult to predict financial market results, HCF remains grounded in strategies that have supported us through past uncertainty. Although our portfolio declined during the year, we expect its value to be restored over the long term as markets slowly improve.

Total Grants 2008-2009



Total annual granting by Hamilton Community Foundation reflects both Board-directed granting from the Community Fund and field of interest funds, and the interest of those donors who have established donor-advised funds.

Board of Directors 2008-2009

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Dr. Gary Warner, CM
Emmaline Houston
& Laura Sharp
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Carolyn Milne, *President & CEO, Secretary of the Board*

Message from the Board Chair and President & CEO

As we look back on the last year, there is no doubt that it was a tumultuous one on the economic front. It was indeed “uncommon times” as the city experienced layoffs, business closures and job loss and, more importantly, felt – and will continue to feel – the impact on people and families.

But the last year was also a time when generous Hamiltonians continued to step up to think about – and act on – the “common good.”

We received gifts of over \$3.3 million, made grants of \$4.1 million to more than 200 organizations in all sectors and continued focusing on reducing poverty and promoting prosperity.

As the charitable sector faces increasing community needs, the Foundation’s support is more important than ever. To make sure that we can respond appropriately – even in a downturn – HCF is working to offer donors even more opportunities to give back in ways that mean most to them. We also continue our



Sandra Stephenson
Board Chair



Carolyn A. Milne
President & CEO

focus on learning and sharing knowledge that will strengthen Hamilton’s quality of life as an inclusive and sustainable community.

These highlights illustrate some of our work in a year of both challenges and opportunities. We hope they will inspire and reassure: Hamilton Community Foundation is here for Hamilton, forever; and in tough times, this city works together for the common good.

Guests Celebrate Couple’s Wedding with Gifts to Community



Jeff Howard and Sarah Murphy marked their marriage with the launch of The Conducive Fund.

While many brides are focused on cakes and flowers, Sarah Murphy and her fiancé Jeff Howard looked to the common good as they planned their September wedding. They decided to offer guests the opportunity to give back to the community instead of giving wedding gifts to them.

“We just weren’t comfortable with receiving a lot of gifts,” says Sarah. “We’re very fortunate, and wanted to find a way to give back instead.”

Guests responded enthusiastically, honouring the marriage with dozens of gifts to HCF, and forming the core of Jeff and Sarah’s fund, called *The Conducive Fund*. It will provide outdoor opportunities for children, recognizing the couple’s passion for the outdoors. A portion will also go to HCF’s Community Fund, giving the Foundation flexibility to meet Hamilton’s changing needs.

“We’re also looking ahead,” says Sarah. “When we have children, they can get involved with this fund. Fifty years from now, it will still be there for the community.”

Harvesting Backyard Fruit for Those Who Need it Most

For most low-income families, fresh fruit and vegetables are out of reach: for example, the cost of a nutritious monthly diet is more than one-third of the Ontario Works monthly family income. Access is often limited too, with few inner city grocery stores stocking fresh produce.

But this year, HCF funding for Environment Hamilton Eat Local supported close to 5,000 pounds of fruit making its way to Hamilton food banks. The Hamilton Fruit Tree Project recruits backyard tree owners and sends volunteers to pick the fruit that would otherwise drop unused. The harvest is then distributed to local food banks and breakfast programs, for families in need.

Just 24 to 48 hours pass from the tree to the food bank making this fruit fresher than most on supermarket shelves, and ending up where it should be: in kitchens, instead of wasting unpicked in local gardens.



The Hamilton Fruit Tree Project involves local fruit growers and volunteers who help pick the fruit and donate it to those in need.

For More Information

Report to the Community is published both as a requirement of our Private Act and our commitment to transparency. To find out more about how HCF can help you achieve your philanthropic goals, for a copy of our annual report or other information, please visit us or visit our website.



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120 King St.W., Suite 700, Hamilton, ON L8P 4V2
Tel: 905-523-5600 • Fax: 905-523-0741
Web: www.hcf.on.ca • Email: information@hcf.on.ca