



Oak Park Neighbourhood Centre

ANNUAL REPORT
2024

4,642

members **SERVED** this year across Halton

80%

live **BELOW** the poverty line

29

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

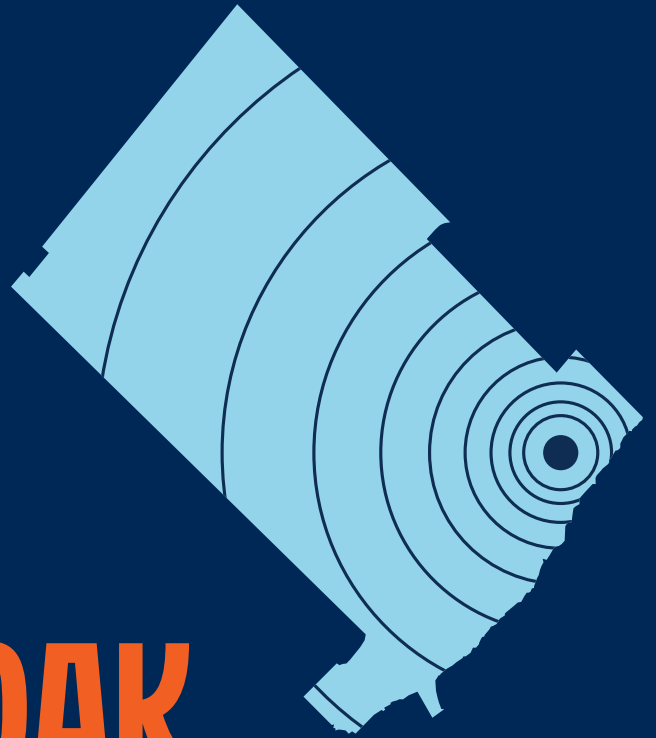
(and we speak some too)

OAK PARK & BEYOND

Our members live well beyond the border of our Oakville neighbourhood. Many of our services help people **ACROSS ALL OF HALTON.**

22,798

served **SINCE 1999**



Our **CENTRE** has been set up to be a **NON-INSTITUTIONAL, BARRIER FREE SPACE**, so that it is **WELCOMING TO EVERYONE**.

It is a **REFLECTION OF THE NEEDS, TALENTS** and **GIFTS** of our **NEIGHBOURS** and **FRIENDS** so that it is **RELEVANT** to the whole community.

WE BELIEVE in supporting the whole community together, **REGARDLESS OF INCOME LEVEL, AGE, or BACKGROUND. WE ENSURE** barriers to participation are reduced so that we reflect a **MULTICULTURAL & FINANCIALLY DIVERSE** membership.

THE CENTER'S MISSION is to **SUPPORT, CONECT & ENGAGE** the community in every program that we run, and in all partnerships to build a healthier Halton. To do this **WE HELP EVERYONE**, but we specifically reach out to **PEOPLE WHO ARE STRUGGLING MORE THAN OTHERS**, to connect them to services and the larger community.

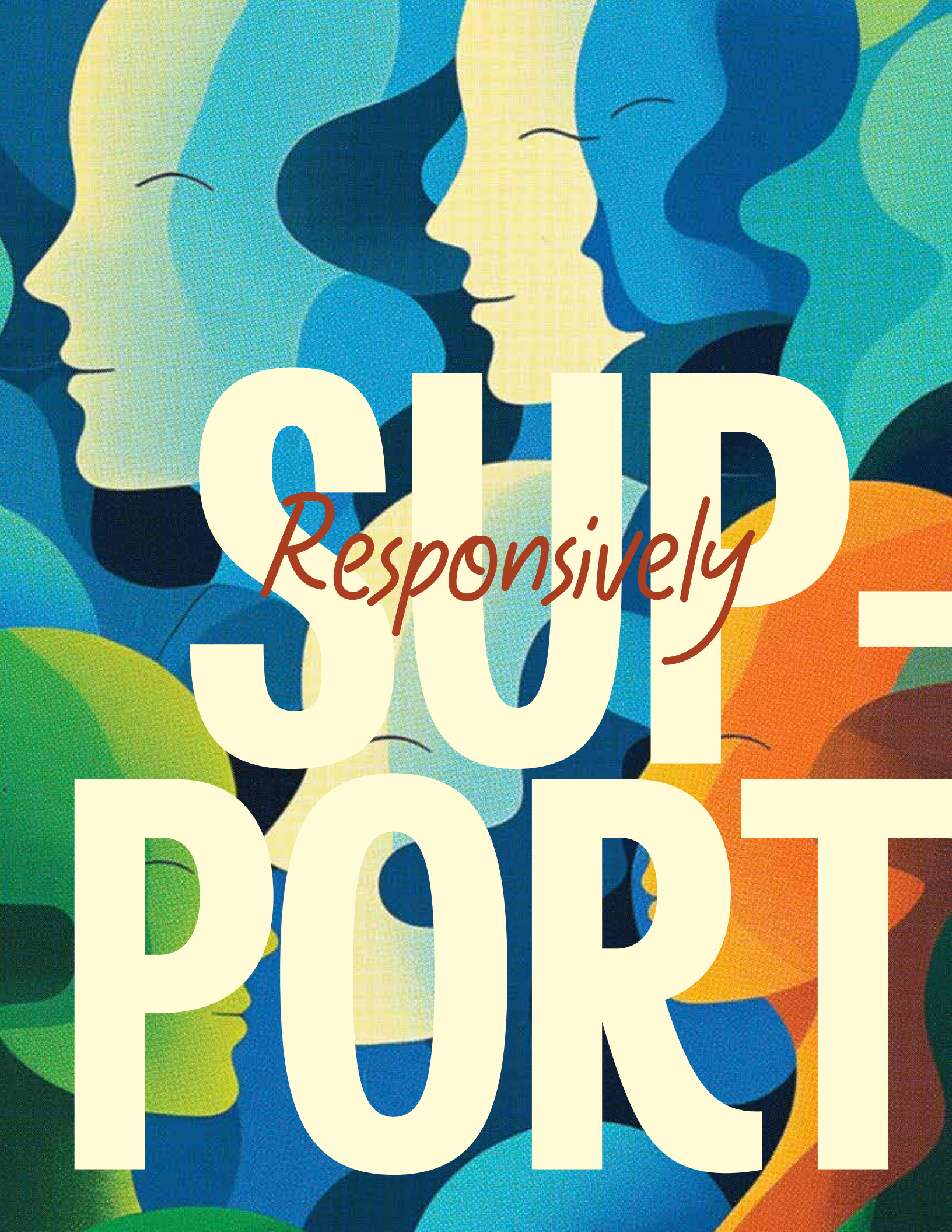
SUPPORT means we meet you where you are at and assist with challenges.

We **CONECT** you to other people, services and new opportunities.

We **ENGAGE** people with the broader community needs and provide opportunities to share your talents, gifts, culture, and ideas with others.

THESE THREE THINGS HELP PEOPLE WHEN THEY NEED IT MOST, building friendships and support networks that increase capacity, empathy, understanding, and community for a healthier Halton.

We believe in a community where we all come together to support each other.
Come Join us – **YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!**



SUPPORT
Responsively
SUPPORT

468

Households

627

Adults

268

Children

accessed our **FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS** available five days a week.

43

people are **NO LONGER HOMELESS** thanks to our support with taxes, housing search, ID clinics, and advocacy with our partners.

\$6,864,132

PUT IN THE POCKETS OF 1,987 PEOPLE struggling financially through tax completion, microloans, utility and recreation supports.

1,394

HOUSEHOLDS SUPPORTED with budgeting and financial literacy support.

 **Churchill** Harm Homeless Initiative

487

households **SUPPORTED WITH WRAP AROUND SERVICES.**

310

naloxone kits distributed, **SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCING EMERGENCY CALLS**

161

clients struggling with mental health successfully **MEETING TWO OR MORE LIFE GOALS**



CONNECTION

Flexibly

NEEDS

64

seniors attended programs three times weekly, including **LIFEMARK SENIORS EXERCISE PROGRAMS** & weekly social programs

254

parents and children participated in **FAMILY DROP-IN PROGRAMS**

173

parents and children **SUPPORTED THROUGH PROGRAMS INCLUDING:** 11-week **SNAP** program helping at-risk children and their parents to keep problems small; inclusion supports & Collaborative Problem-Solving workshops, to learn new ways to understand and respond to challenging behaviours.

4,000

people at our **ANNUAL FALL FAIR** with 50 exhibitors, entertainers, inflatables, movie, BBQ and silent auction raised:

\$60,000

21

women participated in the program, to **UPLIFT, SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE** each other to meet life goals.

234

children aged 2 to 12 supported in childcare programs to **INCREASE SELF-ESTEEM** and build a sense of community.

An abstract, colorful background featuring stylized hands in various colors (yellow, orange, blue, white) and shapes (circles, triangles, dots) on a dark blue and black base. The overall style is modern and artistic.

Adaptively

ENV-

GAGE

92

STUDENT BACKPACKS filled by the community for a successful start to the school year.

\$47,960

IN ITEMS DONATED by the community, local teams, churches and businesses to provide Holiday Cheer

252

Children

261

Adults

49

Seniors

24,571 lbs

of food to support local food banks from our 16th annual Oakville Food Drive.
500 VOLUNTEERS from local faith communities collected **2,355 BAGS**.

12

people supported with **MOBILITY EQUIPMENT** through a community initiative

680

WEEKLY MEALS and **COMMUNITY GARDEN HERBS** and vegetables provided by local volunteers

56

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS joined us to develop their skills, confidence, empathy and learn about the importance of community building.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

FAMILY DROP-IN & CIRCLE

Monday to Thursdays
10-11:30am

PUBLIC HEALTH VISIT

1st Monday of the month

FAMILY PLAYTIME

0-24 months
Mondays 12:30-2pm

BABY RHYME TIME

0-15 months (non-walkers)
Fridays 10-11:30am

LIBRARY

3rd week

HEALTH DEPT.

4th week

GERMAN PLAY GROUP

annelisa_adam@yahoo.ca

JAPANESE PLAY GROUP

Thursdays 12:15-2:00pm
hiyokochickclub@gmail.com

INFANT FOOD BANK

Monday-Friday 10am-2pm
Donations accepted

LA HORA DEL CUENTRO

Tuesdays 10-11:30am
hello@opnc.ca

HIPPY

Home Instruction for Parents
of Preschool Youngsters
coordinator@hippysakville.org

HALF-DAY PRESCHOOL \$

Ages 2.5-5
Monday-Friday half-day

BREASTFEEDING CAFÉ

3rd Tuesday of the month
1-2pm

CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAMS

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE \$

JK-8
Monday-Friday
7:30-8:30am & 3-6pm
youth@opnc.ca

ACORNS EDUCATION \$

Mandarin language program
acornseducation@gmail.com

WU'S TAEKWONDO \$

bwubrown@gmail.com

WEI YAN ART STUDIO \$

yuran52w1@yahoo.ca

UNSINKABLE-JUST BE YOU

Tuesdays 7pm
Text/Call 289-230-9416

HALTON MATH AND CODING \$

info@haltonmathcoding.com

SCHOOL AGE SUMMER CAMP \$

Monday-Friday 1-5pm
youth@opnc.ca

SNAP

ages 6-11 years

BEHAVIOUR SUPPORTS & FAMILY PROGRAMS

cabrahams@opnc.ca

WE SING \$

Sundays 6pm
We.singcanada.com

POLISH SCOUTING \$

Thursdays 6:30pm
kaszuby@wajtra.zhpkanada.org

PATHFINDERS \$

Tuesdays 6:45pm
www.girlguides.ca

WONDERLAND KIDS DRAMA STUDIO \$

Sundays noon
Inessa.by@gmail.com

SOS KIDS \$

Babysitting & home safe
www.sosfirstaid.ca

GUIDES \$

www.girlguides.ca

ADULT PROGRAMS & POVERTY SUPPORT

FIRST AID CLINICS \$

www.sosfirstaid.ca

FREE MOBILITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Providing mobility equipment
Donations accepted
hello@opnc.ca

WEEKLY SENIORS WEDS CHAT

laila.hulays@gmail.com

CHURCHILL NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

125 North Service Rd E
Poverty, unsheltered
& harm reduction
navigator@opnc.ca

FINDING HOPE SUPPORT GROUP

Wednesdays 10-11:30am
hope@opnc.ca

FREE SENIORS PROGRAMS 50+

Lifemark Exercise Program
Tuesdays & Fridays 1-4pm
1-800-315-4417 to register

FOOD, CLOTHING, GENERAL SUPPORT

Registration required
hello@opnc.ca

UTILITY FUNDS & BUDGET SUPPORT

Wednesdays & Thursdays
11:30am-2:00pm
community@opnc.ca

YEAR ROUND FREE INCOME TAX

Completion support@opnc.ca

MICRO LOAN PROGRAM

Interest Free short-term loans
support@opnc.ca

A special **THANK YOU** to those volunteers who provide **WEEKLY SUPPORT AND PROGRAMS**

CHURCHILL PROGRAM

Laila Hulays
Narjis Taylor
Ryan Sina
Carrie Turcotte
Seon Lawrie
Oyinda Bashorun
Ron Ball
Anne Wilson
Katherine De La Cruz
Susana Yrigoyen
Rehana Iftikhar
David Knoll
Kyla Guerriero
Mezaina Janbali
Diana Ricketts
Rose Gamble

HOPE SUPPORT

Carol Bertuzzi

IT SUPPORT

Jeff Knoll
Evan Williams

COMMUNICATION DESIGN & BRAND MANAGER

Carmelo Galati

UTILITY SUPPORT

Leanne Dancuart

DROP IN

Anne Adams
Kanna Suzuki
Kristen Monaghan

FOOD BANK

Monica Desai
Jean Mohammed
Geraldine McRae
Wendy Long
Marko Stupar
Jayant Shirodker
Steven Reist
Rahila Dhansi
Jacquie Tancoo
Frange Stupar
COMMUNITY GARDEN & MEAL PROGRAM
Patty O'Connor
Aki Tanaka
Sue Manson
Mary Beth Neibert

TAWASOL

Maye Abdul Shafy

FRONT DESK SUPPORT

Arielle Reid

MAINTENANCE

Jamie Bay
Jonathan Flores

SILENT AUCTION

Geraldine McRae
Elizabeth Peck

TAX CLINIC

Kevin Farrell
Natalia Chang
Keri Tabet

Srikala Sivakumar
Renzie Persad
Sara Chin
Tracy Zhang
Xin Zhang
Kellin Enslev
Trevor Tafri

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Sharon DeVellis

HUMAN RESOURCES

Wendy Alderdice

SENIORS

Laila Hulays

10,103 HOURS contributed by **439 VOLUNTEERS** last year

STAFF

MICHELLE KNOLL

Executive Director

PAIGE LAUER

Early Years & Community Support Manager

ROCHELLE HEDMAN

Youth Program Manager

LATIFAT THOMPSON

Churchill Program Manager

NURALI MUKHA

Financial Wellness Manager

CHARLENE ABRAMMS

Family Resource Manager

LISA BROWN

Food Program & Engagement Manager

HEATHER TOMPKINS

Finding Hope Program Leader

LISA YUKICH

Accounting & Tax Program Administration

KAREN BUCK

School Age Leader

BLAIR YOUNG

School Age Leader

VESNA RABBA

Preschool Lead Teacher

ALISON LEE

Assistant Preschool Teacher

CHRIS ALEXIOU

OPS Parenting Workshop

JESSICA BELANGER, JAMIE BRASSARD, DEANNA BURNS

Snap Program Leaders

BOARD

Anne Cesak Chairperson

Lambrina Nikolaou Vice chairperson

Rachel Li Treasurer

Erman Galal Secretary

Jamie Bay

Diane Melo

Pat Whyte

Keith Kasselman

Adeola Onafuwaju

KEY FINANCIAL SPONSORS

Halton Region
Canada Summer Jobs
Oakville Hydro
Ian & June

CLV Group
RBC
Ontario Ministry of Sport
Co-operators- Matthew Donohue

Film.ca
Councillor Jeff Knoll
Rotary Oakville Trafalgar

People
BELONG,
families are
STRONG,
neighbours
CARE,
everyone
SHARES.



**OAK PARK
NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE**

*2200 Sawgrass Drive
Oakville, ON L6H 6M8*

OPNC.ca (905) 257-6029

*Registered Charitable
No. 855402244RR0001*

**PLEASE VISIT OPNC.ca
TO DONATE**