



HGCC Foundation closes out 2017 with cheque presentations



The HGCC Foundation handed out \$213,000 to our smiling charity partners on behalf of club members at a reception at the end of October.

The HGCC Foundation shared the wealth at the end of October by distributing cheques totalling \$213,000 to each of our six local community charity partners.

The celebration put heart-filled smiles on the faces of the agency representatives and their HGCC member sponsors as they can now put the money to work in their own way to improve the lives of people living in Hamilton and surrounding communities.

McMaster Children's Hospital Foundation Pediatric Palliative Care Program and Rygiel Support for Community Living received their first cheque of \$40,000 each from the foundation as part of a three-year commitment by the foundation to fund both organizations.

"I would like to say thanks from the people we support. There needs are great," Donna Marcaccio, Executive Director at Rygiel said, noting that donations like this continue to give hope and are a reason to have hope for many marginalized people. She added, that there is a long waiting list for support from parents who can be in their 70s, 80s and 90s and still looking after their adult children who live with developmental disabilities.

De Mazenod Door Outreach, which feeds upwards of 400 needy people daily in the downtown core, received \$33,000 from the foundation through proceeds raised during the Ladies' Golf for a Cause charity event. Ancaster Community Services receives \$20,000 annually from the HGCC Foundation as an on-going commitment.

"Despite the appearance of wealth in some neighbourhoods there is a need for support services in this community. We have a changing community that is much more diverse than it was a decade ago and it's aging," says Melanie Barlow from Ancaster Community services. "We could not do the work we are doing without the support of the community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the members and the club."

If there was a note of sadness in the air, both The Eva Rothwell Resource Centre (The Larry Paikin Literacy Express) and The Hamilton Music Collection (An Instrument of Every Child) received their last cheque of \$40,000 each from the foundation as the three-year support commitment comes to an end. Two new charity partners will be announced in 2018.

"What you have done through the HGCC Foundation is provide hope for a lost community. This funding provides money for The Larry Paikin Literacy Express, but it also provides new hope and new beginnings for families and children living in one of the poorest areas of Hamilton and we are thankful for that," Don MacVicar said in appreciation of the \$100,000 that was received over three years.

"I would just like to say thank-you. We're blown away by the number - \$100,000 over three years. That's a lot of money and a lot of good has been done and will be done with it," said Astrid Hepburn representing An Instrument of Every Child. "We enrich and change children's lives through access to high-quality musical education for 55 students with free weekly lessons."

Funding for the HGCC Foundation comes primarily through funds raised at the Borthwick Memorial Golf Tournament and Golf for a Cause.