

Your Impact...

is just what families need.

Help When it's
Needed Most

Giving Kids
a Chance


You Got Your
Move On!



Your Impact... is *personal*



Thanks to you,
Sophie and her family
found a community
who cared.



I never imagined ourselves needing help, but you were there **when we needed it most**

When my contract ended, I was lucky enough to find another short-term teaching position. Ready for my new job, I drove my 18-month old daughter Sophie to my home child care provider's house like I did every morning. But when I got there, she refused to care for Sophie any longer now that I only needed her help on a part-time basis. With my reduced salary, we could no longer afford full-time care.

I felt so hurt and helpless. Standing on her doorstep with Sophie in my arms, I pleaded with her to help us out just until I could find another child care provider. But she simply turned us away. As she closed the door on us, I started to cry.

It was as though my world instantly fell apart. I was distraught and frantic. Who was going to look after Sophie while my husband and I were at work? We're a young family, just starting out and barely making ends meet. Not working wasn't an option for us. How were we ever going to afford the cost of child care?

Then I remembered the YMCA. My husband had been donating to the YMCA Strong Kids campaign for years and I knew that they

helped families in times of need. So I reached out for help. Lorraine and Lisa at the YMCA were so understanding and compassionate, they assured me they would do everything they could to help.

Within a couple of days, they had not only found a place for Sophie in their preschool child care program, but thanks to the support of donors to the YMCA Strong Kids campaign, we were able to receive financial assistance which made it affordable for us.

Every day Sophie is surrounded by little friends to play with and teachers who are helping my little girl develop into this amazing little person.

My husband has always been a strong believer in the work of the YMCA and has supported their cause for years, but we never imagined ourselves needing their help. But in reality, there are times when we all need support. I'm so grateful to the staff at the YMCA and to the donors who give so generously to the YMCA Strong Kids campaign each year. Thank you for being there when we needed you.

- Meghan

Your Impact... is powerful



Did you know?

A child's brain development is influenced and advanced through exploration, thinking skills, problem solving and language expression that occurs during play. Nurturing educators at YMCA child care centres all across Oakville provide structured, play-based experiences according to the YMCA Playing to Learn curriculum which helps build resiliency and gives kids a solid foundation for success at school and in life.



High-quality child care for every child

Today, child care is a significant factor in the way many Canadian children live, learn and grow. Research shows that children from low-income families benefit even more from high-quality child care. Halton Region helps struggling families afford the cost of child care, but there are times when this support is not enough. We believe that every child deserves to be nurtured to reach their full potential and thanks to our caring donors, we're here to help.



The power of your gifts

The majority of child care families helped by the YMCA require transitional or short-term support in times of crisis, illness, bereavement or loss of employment. Your donations are used to help make child care affordable for all families, but even more, it means that every child, no matter their circumstances, can get the chance to learn and develop in a positive, supportive environment.

Thanks to you,
affordable, high-quality child care
is within reach for families in need.

Every child deserves a chance

For families who are struggling, the cost of high-quality child care can be beyond reach. Every child deserves to be cared for by compassionate professionals in a safe, nurturing environment.

2013-2014 school year by the numbers



\$12,823

annual cost for one child in full-time child care in Halton Region



350

children whose families can't afford the full cost of child care



580+

thoughtful donors (and still counting!)



\$31,000+

raised to provide financial assistance (and still counting!)



57

children who were helped



2,814

families with children being cared for at a YMCA child care centre



Your Impact... is unforgettable

Get Your Move On

In the first week of June, participants in YMCA preschool and afterschool child care centres raised funds for the YMCA Strong Kids campaign through Get Your Move On a-thon events. Your kids jumped, cycled, walked or showed off their best dance moves to help give kids in need a chance to reach their full potential and we are so grateful!

1 week	41 centres	14 healthy activities
6 sponsors	4,446 kids	over \$31,000 raised to date

= **MORE changed lives**



Thank you for adopting YMCA Child Care Centres and helping kids raise money for the YMCA Strong Kids campaign!

Canadian Tire Jumpstart Foundation
Canadian Tire Financial Services
CIBC Wood Gundy
FCT

The May Court Club of Oakville
O'Connor MacLeod Hanna
The Optimist Club of Oakville



Thank you

for your generous support and for giving those in need hope for the future.



Inspiring young philanthropists

At the YMCA Before and After School program at Palermo Public School, kids created and performed an outstanding year-end talent show for their parents in support of the YMCA Strong Kids campaign. Young Jacob Braid was inspired to donate \$100 of his own money. "I just want to help other kids," he said humbly. Way to give Jacob!



Dancing at the car wash!

Little ones at the Waterford YMCA Child Care Centre got all soapy while grooving to tunes and washing cars to raise funds for the YMCA Strong Kids campaign. The teamwork and smiles were evident and great fun was had by all.



CIBC Wood Gundy gives kids a chance

A special thank you goes out to CIBC Wood Gundy for their very generous donation; proceeds from CIBC Miracle Day where Investment Advisors donate their fees and commissions to help kids in need.



Your Impact...

can help everyone reach their full potential

Last year, donors to our YMCA Strong Kids campaign provided 2,114 children and families who are struggling with financial assistance.

Your support means the world to them.

Make your gift to the 2014 YMCA Strong Kids campaign today and help ensure that everyone has the chance to reach their full potential.

See more examples of the impact that your donation makes at ymcaofOakville.org.



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