

IMPACT REPORT

2021

IGNITE DURHAM LEARNING FOUNDATION



MISSION AND VISION

The **Ignite Durham Learning Foundation** is a charitable organization that serves to remove financial barriers to create equitable opportunities that empower Durham District School Board students to achieve academic & personal success.

Tomorrow's made
BRIGHTER!



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

It is an honour and a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Board for the Ignite Durham Learning Foundation. I never imagined the amazing people I'd meet and the incredible things that we would do collectively as a Board at IDLF when I first joined as a board member three years ago.

2021 has been a year like no other, just when we thought our lives were going to rebound from the pandemic, we were faced with new variants that exasperated the needs of so many children, youth and families in Durham.

Imagine a parent struggling to make ends meet for his family. Each morning he must choose who is able to go to school that day because there is only enough food for two out of his four children. Imagine a child returning back to the classroom after learning remotely for several months and straining to see the white board in the class because having corrective eye wear is considered a luxury. These are real stories from our Durham District School Board community – poverty exists here at home.

We were so pleased to receive charitable status this year, after close to 18 months working through the process. This enabled us to call on our community to support the on-going and increased needs of DDSB students.

Thanks to an incredible group of colleagues on the Board of Directors and a skilled staff team, we successfully activated supports where they were most needed. Our mission statement calls on us to serve the needs of DDSB students and this Annual Report is indicative that our first year of operations, thanks to our donors, is advancing exactly as we set out to.

We are still in our infancy as a newly formed charity. We know there is much work to be done. We are excited to embark on a strategic plan that will carry us forward and guide our work over the next two years.

In closing, **THANK YOU** to each and every one of you for the time, talents and treasures you invest in helping us remove barriers and provide opportunities for students to reach their full potential.



Neil Joshi



OUR BOARD MEMBERS



CHAIR
Neil Joshi



VICE CHAIR
Mohammed Karatella



TREASURER
David Wright



DIRECTOR
Dexter John



DIRECTOR
Frank Auddino



DIRECTOR
Mary Galvan



DIRECTOR
Carolyn Morton



DIRECTOR
Norah Marsh

OUR STAFF TEAM



**FUND DEVELOPMENT
COORDINATOR**
Shauna Reay



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Stacey Lepine-Fisher



**ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT/SECRETARY**
Jade Boodram

OUR FUNDING PILLARS

Sometimes poverty is hidden! Durham District School Board staff build relationships with children and families and together we ensure the needs of students are not over-looked. Since receiving charitable status in May we have supported:



STARFISH FUND

Provides resources to assist schools in addressing student needs including, but not limited to: clothing, school supplies, food, health and transportation.

\$6,250

Support for
25 students



MAKE A DIFFERENCE FUND

Offers financial subsidies to students experiencing poverty so that they may participate with their peers in field trips, extracurricular activities, and school events.

\$1,750

Support for
7 students



THINK OUTSIDE THE BELL FUND

Provides financial support to students in need who would significantly benefit from participating in specialized programs such as Preschool Success and After School Recreation and Arts Programs.

\$0

Support for
0 students



FUTURE FUND

Provides students with financial support to assist post secondary pathways.

\$0

Support for
0 students

IMPACT STORIES



"As a result of the funding we received from the Ignite Durham Learning Foundation, we were able to support our goal of removing barriers for one of our students. Having gained the trust and confidence of the family, we have successfully worked together and are now able to provide the necessary items/supportive environments for him to thrive in his learning and achievement. Thank you to the Ignite Durham Learning Foundation for all that you do in helping students to reach their full potential."

Michael Loscavo

Vice Principal, Willows Walk Public School



"The Foundation's generosity has allowed the student and family to survive a very difficult financial and personal situation with reduced stress. The mother is also using this opportunity to share with her children how accepting the help of others doesn't make you weak."

Andrea Peel

Principal, Nottingham Public School



"A huge thank you to the Ignite Durham Learning Foundation for helping to support our students and their families in need. We reached out for help in areas of transportation, clothing and food and were so thankful for the response and generous support. The positive impact on our students and families has been tremendous and has really made a huge difference in their lives. Thank you!"

Tracey Running

Principal, O'Neill Collegiate & Vocational Institute

IMPACT STORIES



"Schools are very often the point of contact for many families in need who may not know where else to turn for support. Being able to access funds for specific students through the Ignite Durham Learning Foundation has helped us to ensure that, in addition to the non-perishable items available through the pantry, our students' families have been able to access fresh groceries when they are in need."

Amanda Chapman

Principal, Waverly Public School



"As a school community, being able to access IDLF support for new families to Durham region was a critical part of a successful transition. The generous funding provided direct support for students and their families to their specific needs and resources as they began a new chapter in their lives as newcomers to Canada."

Cristina Cox

Principal, Seneca Trail Public School



HOW ARE WE MAKING TOMORROW BRIGHTER?

CAMPAIGN PROCEEDS



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE
\$5,866



TEACHER -
GIVE THE GIFT
\$1,730



GIVING TUESDAY
\$11,281

Matching gift
donation from:

FIELDGATE
DEVELOPMENTS



FACILITIES SERVICES
HOLIDAY RAFFLE
\$5,785

THIRD PARTY EVENTS



FACEBOOK BIRTHDAY
DONATIONS
\$985

2021 DONORS

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of our donors and corporate partners. Thank you so much to the following individuals and businesses for making tomorrow brighter for DDSB students in need.



Firecracker
\$10,000+

- Frank and Kim Auddino
- Fieldgate Developments
- Mayors Community Development Fund – Town of Whitby



Illuminator
\$5,000 - \$9,999

- Mr. Mike Forman
- Walker: Head Barristers & Solicitors
- Norah Marsh
- Careswell c/o Mohamed Karatella
- Benevity c/o Neil Joshi
- Schoolhouse Playcare Centres c/o Lisa Rankin



Sparkler
\$1,000 - \$4,999

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Morosons Construction Limited | • Tim Pritchard |
| • Moffet & Duncan Architects, Inc. | • James Groff |
| • Mrs. Stacey Lepine-Fisher | • Jack Eisenberger |
| | • Laurel Armstrong |
| | • ABB Inc. |



Igniter
\$500 - \$999

THANK YOU!

LOOKING AHEAD: OUR STRATEGY FOR 2022-2024

OUR MISSION

The Ignite Durham Learning Foundation is a charitable organization that serves to remove financial barriers to create equitable opportunities that empower Durham District School Board students to achieve academic and personal success.

OUR VISION: Tomorrows Made Brighter

The Ignite Durham Learning Foundation believes that all students deserve a brighter tomorrow and a broad range of opportunities to be successful.

The following elements are in place:

- We are self sufficient and have enough funds to support all school requests
- Everyone in the District knows about the Foundation and what we do ("the children's charity of choice")
- We have measurable impacts in the community; helping 500 children and youth and raising \$225,000 dollars and having an annual impact report delivered to our community
- We have an active network of volunteers to assist with high impact events



LOOKING AHEAD: OUR STRATEGY FOR 2022-2024

THREE PRIORITIES IN 2022-2023 (WITH INITIATIVES)

1. BOARD GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

- 1.1 (Year 1) : Review of By-Law #1 to identify committee structures and amend as required
- 1.2: Review needs and devise committee structure to help guide the work
- 1.3 (Year 1): Board member recruitment and succession planning

2. FUND DEVELOPMENT

- 2.1: Develop community and corporate connections that align with our mission, vision, values & present mutually beneficial partnership opportunities
- 2.2 (Year 1): Develop Donor Stewardship Plan
- 2.3 (Year 1): Develop a campaign road map inclusive of activities, events, financials and milestones
- 2.4: Annual reporting to all donors

3. AWARENESS AND PROFILE

- 3.1: Engage ambassadors to reach & raise more funds
- 3.2 (Year 1): Branding events and activities that reinforce what we do and who we serve
- 3.3 (Year 1): Introduce the Foundation to community and individuals with means to engage with us
- 3.4: Communication plans for promotions & events

Scorecard (Key Performance Indicators)

- Committees revised and up and running
- New board members oriented and engaged
- Donor stewardship plan implemented
- Campaign road map completed and actioned
- Revenue increased in year one events by 20%
- Website updated and social media strategy successful



HELP US MAKE **TOMORROW BRIGHTER**

A gift to the Ignite Durham Learning Foundation supports students in a variety of ways. A child or youth in need may receive a healthy snack for school, a winter coat, a pair of shoes, or waterproof gloves. In addition, a gift to IDLF may come in the form of financial assistance to cover application fees for college, or bus fare to support a student's transportation needs.

Every gift makes a difference and provides children and youth the opportunity to reach their full potential.

To share a gift, please visit us at: [**IDLF.ca**](https://www.idlf.ca)



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