

CELEBRATING OUR **FIRST** **VITAL GRANT** RECIPIENT

“Current longitudinal research on lone mothers living in poverty in the GTA has consistently shown that those who are provided with multiple supports such as housing, child care and recreation programs, transportation and funding for a working wardrobe are the ones most likely to become and remain self-sufficient.”

– Sara Cummings, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Sheridan College

SMART & CARING COMMUNITIES

The Foundation’s Smart & Caring Initiatives, launched in 2014, offer unique purposes for supporting and guiding the growth and vitality of our community. One of these initiatives is our Vital Grant.

WHAT IS A VITAL GRANT?

A Vital Grant supports innovative, forward-thinking projects that also fit strict criteria. The program:

- Enables people to move beyond symptomatic relief.
- Transforms people’s lives.
- Removes barriers to success.
- Provides multi-year support.

HOMEWARD BOUND HALTON

THE FIRST VITAL GRANT INITIATIVE

Funding a pathway out of poverty for single mothers and their children.

Homeward Bound Halton is a new, coordinated, wraparound service delivery model that provides the key elements that struggling single mothers need to become self-supporting. The innovative model, based on the highly successful WoodGreen Community Services program in Toronto, provides single mothers with a fully-furnished apartment for up to four years, a college education, job internships, fully funded child care, and career placements. The Oakville Community Foundation and its Fundholders through the Vital Grant Fund, have funded two groups of five single mothers, each for three years of college education.