



FAMILY &
CHILDREN'S SERVICES
OF THE WATERLOO REGION FOUNDATION

Help Today for a Better Tomorrow

You Can Make a Difference in the Lives of Children & Families All Year-Round!

The months ahead are marked by celebrations and festivities. Whether you gather for Hanukkah, Solstice, Kwanzaa, Christmas, Diwali or simply for the sake of being together, this is a time of year when you focus your time and attention on friends and family. As the year comes to a close, you think to the future, wishing the best for those you love.

That's our wish too. That the families we serve be as connected, as loving, as resilient as possible.

Strengthening families is at the core of what we do. We know that supporting families is the best thing possible for children **and** for our communities. Families that are resilient, that can bounce back in the face of hardship or adversity, are families that can heal, learn and grow together. They are parents and children that can truly belong to your diverse and caring community.

And this community is a wonderfully kind and generous community.

We are SO fortunate to have so much interest in the Holiday Support Program but we can often have more donors wanting to help than families & youth registered for the Holiday Support program. Even if we can't match you directly with a family or youth or you have chosen to give differently this year, there are still needs both now and year round and we hope you will consider these other opportunities to make a difference.

Supporting one family of three through Holiday Support is approximately \$300.

Did you know that with that same donation you could offer a child the life changing opportunity to attend summer camp?

Experiences like camp are powerful ways to build resilience in children, giving them the ability to bounce back from hardship and adversity so they can bounce forward and thrive.

Developing resilience in children, youth, and families is an important focus right now. The programs that can build resilience include art and music lessons, workshops that foster attachment in families affected by trauma, and opportunities to connect youth with the community to provide a sense of belonging. These successful, evidence-informed programs create lasting impact. Unfortunately, many of these resilience-building opportunities are not covered by government funding. You can give children and families the chance to bounce back and bounce forward, building a caring community where we can all thrive.

Can we count on you to help children and families in YOUR community build a brighter tomorrow?

Here are some ways that you can make a difference today:

- 1) Donate developmental toys, games and puzzles, or gift certificates for experiences that bring families together.
- 2) Make a donation to support The Resilience Project so the success we have had with children can be expanded to youth and caregivers.
- 3) Provide gift cards to the Holiday Support program to insure that even families who connect with us after the regular program ends can still have a merrier season.
- 4) Purchase items from our seasonal wish list that meet the current needs of kids and families.

You can help families build the trusting, loving connections they need to grow. Make the dreams and wishes you hold for your loved ones happen for others – give a family hope for the year ahead.

At Family & Children's Services Foundation our goal is to ensure that the innovative, evidence-informed programs and services that make such a difference in the lives of children and their families are available for ALL families in our community.

You can help us reach our goal of strengthening and nurturing families. Giving is easy online at facswaterloo.org – click on the “donate now” button and choose “Grow General”. You can make a one-time gift or arrange a monthly gift and you will receive your tax receipt immediately!

If you would like to donate gift cards, developmental toys, games and puzzles, gift certificates for experiences that bring families together or items from our seasonal wish list, please contact us at foundation@facswaterloo.org for more details.

Thank you for helping us reach our goal of strengthening and nurturing families.