



Over \$2 million in new funding announced for The Resilience Project

KITCHENER, ON: Since 2014, The Family Centre, Family & Children Services of the Waterloo Region, and 15 community organizations have worked to co-create and develop The Resilience Project together. The project fosters resilience, wellbeing, social justice and equity among children, youth, families, and organizations in our community (a full list of partners can be found at www.bounceforward.ca)

The Resilience Project has provided different programs and activities to over 5,000 families and children in the region during the past 4 years through art, physical activities, mentoring and supporting caregivers, and child capacities forging healthy relationships.

“The evidence shows that this approach is working, that we are increasing individual and community resilience,” says Dr. Jill Stoddart, Director of Research, Development, and Outcomes. As a result of this success, The Resilience Project was invited to apply for the Hallman Foundation’s General Operating Support pilot. The next phase of this innovative pilot is focussed on Collaborations.

“We are thrilled to be chosen to participate in this pilot along with two other community collaborative projects. This will be a wonderful chance to learn more about what makes Collaboratives successful,” says Stoddart. In addition to the \$ 1.5 million for the next three years from the Lyle S. Hallman Foundation, the project has also received \$75,000 from the Fairmount Foundation to promote youth-specific initiatives.

This funding will allow The Resilience Project to continue its programming and enhance structures that support resilience programs (e.g., creative arts, theatre play, music, and other group activities) for children, youth, adults, and organizations locally, regionally, and globally.

“We recognize that an individual needs a community to flourish and a community needs spaces to grow through collaborations and partnerships. We intend to continue working in these directions with our new funding. We are grateful to our funders, Lyle S. Hallman Foundation and the Fairmount Foundation for supporting our work,” says Stoddart.

Building on the learning and creating a local and global understanding of collective resilience, the project is organizing its second Resilience Summit which will bring dynamic experts and practitioners in this field from the region and beyond. The Summit being held on 18-19 February 2021 will be an important virtual platform for all the organizational and community partners of the Resilience Project to reflect on their experiences and knowledge but also for the community to influence that learning. A link to the Resilience Summit Info can be found on www.bounceforward.ca

For more information:

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