



**FOR THE  
CAUSE OF  
GOOD**

## THE MASONIC FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

The Masonic Foundation of Ontario was established in 1964 by an Act of the Ontario Legislature, "to receive, manage, control, and use donations exclusively for charitable purposes within Ontario". Recipients are not required to have any Masonic connection, and there is no restriction as to race, religion, colour, or sex.

The Foundation began with capital funds in the amount of \$100,000, provided by The Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario.

Over the next two years an additional amount of \$65,500 was transferred by Grand Lodge to the Masonic Foundation. These generous donations by our Grand Lodge gave the Masonic Foundation a capital fund and a small income.

Since the inception of the Foundation, several projects have been instituted to raise funds. One of the most successful was a campaign in 1988 to raise one million dollars to help young people fight the drug and alcohol problems that exist within the communities in which we reside.

The Masons of Ontario have given generously since 1964. Total assets of the Foundation are valued at nearly \$4.5 million. The income generated from this amount, together with donations and bequests from our members, has been committed to various projects in the Province of Ontario.

## BURSARIES

Bursaries for students in Post Secondary Institutions was the very first project for the Foundation. It is designed to provide assistance for any student who, through no fault of his or her own, encounters an unexpected financial emergency. The Foundation has awarded in excess of one million dollars in bursaries to over 2500 students since 1965.

Deserving cases are identified, investigated, and referred to the Foundation by the Financial Awards Officers of Universities and Colleges within the Province.

## HEARING RESEARCH

In 1978 the Foundation began to collect funds expressly to support medical research into hearing problems of the inner ear, particularly to contribute to the development of a cochlear implant program. The Masonic Foundation of Ontario supports the Auditory Research Laboratory at The Hospital For Sick Children. Contributions to this program have totalled approximately one million dollars since the inception of the project. Since 1993, these funds have enabled The Hospital For Sick Children to fit children with Cochlear Implants.

## Youth Programs

The Masonic Foundation of Ontario demonstrates its interest in the welfare of young people by making regular contributions to Girl Guides of Canada, (Ontario) Scouts Canada, (Ontario) The Canadian 4H Council, (Ontario), and other youth organizations within Ontario.

A review of our total donations given for the projects The Foundation supports within the Province of Ontario will quickly identify the fact that all of the funding available is committed to youth, an excellent investment today, for a better tomorrow.

## VOICE FOR HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN

This program was started by parents of children with severe hearing problems. It began at The Hospital For Sick Children, then spread to the North York General Hospital.

Special teachers, working with one child at a time, are able to teach them to communicate orally, and in due course to attend regular public schools. More recently, ten chapters across the province have been established by parents to provide auditory-verbal therapy to hearing impaired children in Ontario. The Masonic Foundation has subsidized this program and is committed to the expansion of Voice Ontario's auditory-verbal outreach service through our contributions.

## HELP NIP DRUGS IN THE BUD

Research literature concludes that the success of drug education is very significantly enhanced if curriculum components are taught by trained student peer leaders. In the Help Nip Drugs in The Bud program, trained senior secondary school students teach preventative alcohol and other drug education to junior students; grades seven and eight students for Parents Against Drugs ( PAD ) and grades nine and ten for the Council on Drug Abuse ( CODA ). The curriculum is interactive, contemporary and uses a variety of activities. Over the last eight years, 400 peer education programs have been taught in secondary schools across Ontario. About 14,000 senior peer leaders have taught the programs to about 100,000 students. Both the student trainers and the junior students they taught feel that they have benefited greatly from the program.

## AUTISTIC HOMES

Autism is a brain dysfunction that has gained public attention in the past few decades. In recent years some parents of autistic children have been instrumental in setting up group homes. Known as "Kerry's Place", it is here that their offspring can live and develop under the supervision of trained staff. Kerry's Place offers a variety of clinical services relative to Autism, notably Psychological / Behaviour Assessments, Assessments for Rage / Aggressive Behaviour, Diagnostic Assessments, Workshop Presentations, and Assessment for Supported Independent Living. The Masonic Foundation has assisted five group homes in Ontario with financial grants. In this new environment these young people are given an opportunity to assume new responsibilities, gain employment and participate in recreational and social programs within the community.

## Lodge and District Projects

Since 1979 the Foundation has increased their assistance to help in a variety of local requirements. Some of these have been community projects, such as rebuilding a town after a natural disaster, assisting in the restoration of historic sites, providing transportation and accommodation for parents of a six year old daughter diagnosed with cancer while in hospital. The Foundation will continue to work with local community organizations in searching out and assisting in charitable endeavours throughout the Province of Ontario.

## Making a Difference

The " Yellow Envelope Campaign" Bequests, use of the grey Memorial envelope, and our " Planned Giving" program is the lifeline of the financial support received.

This commitment has made it possible for the Masonic Foundation of Ontario to be as effective as it is today.

The results speak for themselves! Every year hundreds of Ontario residents benefit directly from the generosity of Ontario Masons and others, through the Masonic Foundation of Ontario. Your support of the Masonic Foundation will continue to be thankfully received and faithfully applied...

"FOR THE CAUSE OF GOOD".



*Want to know more about The Masonic Foundation?*

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