



# HURON HOUSE

## WINTER BULLETIN 2022

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## Huron House Grad and Family Give Back

When Aiden graduated from Huron House in 2021, our staff received a heartfelt letter from his family thanking us for the care he received during his time with us and for the change that it made in their family. Aiden helped out at various fundraising events during his time living at Huron House, and much to our great appreciation, that hasn't changed now that he has returned to live with his family.

He hadn't been gone long when he reached out in response to a call for volunteers and said he would be happy to help. He signed up to be a regular volunteer working bingo shifts at Jackpot City. The funds that come from that (over \$15,000 each year!) are relied on to cover some of the costs of our large monthly grocery bill and are a big boost to our fundraising.

Aiden's grandmother often brought special snacks for the boys on Fridays when he lived here, a generous tradition that she still continues. Aiden often comes with her for the drop-offs and staff are always happy to see them both and catch up with what he's doing.

He and his grandmother were also great helps when Run/Walk/Skate/Bike returned in June and gave up their Sunday morning to help keep our breakfast tent running smoothly.

While staff often keep in touch with boys once they leave, it's not often that boys take the step to give back. We are so grateful for Aiden and his family for continuing to think of Huron House and help us make a difference in the lives of more youth, because they know first hand what a difference it made in theirs.

## Successful return of Run/Walk/Skate/Bike



The 10k run gets underway. See inside for more photos.

On a beautiful sunny Father's Day, 400 participants took to the streets of Bright's Grove for the long awaited return of Run/Walk/Skate/Bike. It was a

great day with some tight competition in the 5k and 10k runs, and lots of family fun in the bikes and walks.

The event raised over \$20,000 thanks to our participants. The top overall fundraiser this year was Julie Fairbairn of Sarnia, and top youth fundraiser was Benjamin Schenck of Corunna.

Thanks to all of our prize donors and sponsors, especially Kel-Gor, Arlanxeo, Shell, Steeves and Rozema, and Team Outfitters.

We look forward to seeing everyone again on Father's Day 2023!



## Message from the Executive Director



The past year has flown by! I have so been enjoying working at Huron House and getting to know the

amazing community and all the people in it. Huron House has been part of Sarnia-Lambton for 52 years now and is still here today thanks to the generous support of this community. The staff are amazing, the kids are awesome, and the boards are so supportive of the kids, myself and the staff.

A special shout out to our staff team who continue to do great work with our boys. We've had a lot of new staff join us in the past few months

and we've appreciated all of their contributions.

I have told many people about Sarnia and what a great place it is. When I first arrived from Stratford, I was amazed at the support Huron House received and receives from this community. For a non profit agency, that is so needed. Thank you.

We look forward to a great 2023 full of new activities, getting to know new residents and exciting fundraising events. Wishing you all the best this holiday season and beyond!

- Brett Gatt

## At Huron House

The last several months have been busy as the boys enjoyed a summer of normal activities after two years of everything being different due to the pandemic. In addition to fun activities around our property and regular trips to the beach, the boys enjoyed weekly trips with destinations like Adrenaline Paintball, the adventure park at Boler Mountain, Canada's Wonderland, the Pinery, and St. Mary's Quarry. A couple lucky boys were even able to attend the Honda Indy in Toronto (with Paddock Passes) thanks to donated tickets we receive each year from Levitt Safety.

We had some great students join us over the summer working in fundraising, administration, groundskeeping, and directly with the boys.

We have many building updates underway right now including new exterior doors, updating the boys' bedrooms with new furniture, and giving a fresh new look to our dining area. Work is happening outside too as the boys and staff put some hard work into updating our front gardens and lawn before the weather gets too cold.

We were thrilled to have one boy graduate and return to his family this summer, though sad to say goodbye, and we wish them all the best. We now have seven boys living on our main floor, plus two in our Independent Living Program. We're regularly receiving new referrals and will see that number grow again soon.

## SAVE THE DATES

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4,  
2023**

Men Who Cook, Dante Club

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023**

Run/Walk/Skate/Bike, Mike  
Weir Park

More info at [hhbh.ca/events](http://hhbh.ca/events)



Two boys enjoy the Indy races in Toronto in August



ED Brett (left) and two boys work on redoing our front gardens during the September PD Day



## Run/Walk/Skate/Bike Photos



All images taken by members of the Sarnia Photographic Club who donate their time to this event each year. For more event photos, results and information visit [hbbh.ca/events/runwalkskatebike](http://hbbh.ca/events/runwalkskatebike).

## Community Notes and Appreciation

We want to extend our most sincere appreciation to:

- Home Depot Sarnia/The Home Depot Canada Foundation for their support through the spring Orange Door Campaign. Huron House received over \$7,000!
- Sentry Fire, who invited us to attend their customer appreciation BBQ and open house in August and requested donations on our behalf. We raised \$1,600 and received many donations of food and personal hygiene supplies.
- Enbridge for their recent generous donation of \$9,000 to support our ongoing operations.
- The families and friends of: David Elliott, Rod Brown, John Macintyre, Patrice Kelley, Royce Evans, Dave Wardell, Jim Clarke Peter Fisher, Catherine Huggett and Earl Reece for the donations received in their memories.
- Global Donuts & Deli and their ongoing support for this community. Our donut sales fundraiser with them in May raised \$1,600 in just one day!
- Canadian Cart Sales in St. Mary's who is providing us with a golf cart rental at no cost. This will be a great help for our annual Run/Walk/Skate/Bike and with work around our ten acre grounds.
- HUB Insurance for a \$5,000 contribution they secured for us through Intact Insurance's Better Communities Program.
- Our many new monthly donors who have come on board over the last year. It is so helpful to have regular donations we know we can rely on!

### Become a monthly donor!

To set up your monthly contribution fill out the form at the back of this bulletin, visit [hbbh.ca/monthly](http://hbbh.ca/monthly), or call us at 519-869-4000.



## Creative ways to support Huron House

We are so grateful for those who support Huron House, whether financially, with their time and expertise, or those who think of us when doing their weekly shopping and buy a little extra to drop by and make our day. If you're looking for a way to support us outside of writing a cheque, here are some options:

### Food and Good Donations

It takes a lot to care for growing boys, so we're always accepting food and other in-kind donations. Examples of things that we can always use are snacks and juice boxes for school, shampoo and body wash. If you buy them brand new and provide a receipt and your contact information, we're happy to issue you a tax receipt.

### Host an Event

We always welcome individuals, businesses and community groups who want to organize a fundraising event on our behalf, or collect donations at an event they're already planning. We can provide informational material, signage, and support on any written promotions and provide our logo if you are interested.

### Volunteer

This is an incredibly valuable way to contribute, especially right now. There are many organizations in our community, including Huron House, who are struggling to return to pre-pandemic volunteer levels. We have opportunities available supporting our fundraising that range in commitment from a couple hours every few months, to taking on a role in one of our event organizing committees. If you have some time to spare, please get in touch with us and we can share more about these opportunities.

### Follow and Share

Social media is a great way for us to get our message out. Even if you aren't able to attend an event or give to an appeal, maybe one of your friends can. The bigger an audience we can reach, the better!

Facebook: [facebook.com/hhboyshome](https://facebook.com/hhboyshome)

Instagram: [@huronhouse.sarnia](https://www.instagram.com/huronhouse.sarnia)

*There is more information on these and other ways to support on our website at: [hhbh.ca/how-to-support/](https://hhbh.ca/how-to-support/)*

### Huron House Boys' Home Foundation Board of Directors

Mike Raes, *President*  
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Linda Ryan, *Board Liaison*  
Rob Longo  
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Brett Gatt, *Executive Director*

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*All donations are collected by the Huron House Boys' Home Foundation and provided to Youth Services of Lambton County (o/a Huron House Boys' Home) as needed.*

*Tax receipts will be issued for all donations over \$20.*

## I would like to support Huron House Boys' Home with a contribution of:

☐ \$50    ☐ \$100    ☐ \$250    ☐ \$500    ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please add me to the Huron House electronic mailing list for updates on news, events, and needs

All cheques should be made payable to Huron House Boys' Home.

### Credit card donations:

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I want to make this a monthly gift!

*\*Tax receipts will be automatically emailed to all donors who provide their email address*

Credit card donations can also be made securely online at:  
[hhbh.ca/winterbulletin](https://hhbh.ca/winterbulletin)

or by phone at:  
**519-869-4000**