



Michael House

OUR MISSION

To provide shelter and support to pregnant and parenting women in our community.

Located in Guelph, Michael House is a non-profit, registered charity that provides shelter and support to pregnant and parenting young women in Guelph and across the province. We are a non-denominational, Christian-based pregnancy and parenting support centre.

We encourage positive parenting skills and provide access to life skills training. Michael House's programs place an emphasis on infant mental health promotion and lay the ground work for secure attachment for the mother-child dyad.

We liaise with other organizations and agencies in our community in order to provide wraparound care for women in need and for the young families returning to independent living in the community.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As I reflect on the past year at Michael House, I am thankful for the many praying partners including staff, current and past board members, as well as many in the community.

You will know from social media, newsletters and speaking to staff and the board, that 2019 was a challenging year financially. We wished Beth a long and prosperous retirement and recruited for her replacement as well as replacement of retired board members. I'm grateful for the staff, board and community members on our committees who worked tirelessly to source new avenues of fund development, analyzed opportunities and made personal sacrifices to minimize the financial deficit. We discovered new partners and also the deep level of commitment from our long-standing partners. In addition to that, there were other discoveries:

- We hadn't always used our donations as we had promised. This pertains to capital pledges that were used to fund operations and another donation received in 2019. Although we can't replace that money, we informed the donors and have now re-instated the capital fund for a mortgage pay-down that we would like to make in March 2021. And we praise God that \$25,000 has already been donated to the capital fund.

- During the recruitment of the Executive Director, we were challenged as to whether Michael House was a faith-based organization. After careful consideration of the implications, as well as the initial purpose of Michael House, the board unanimously agreed that we will re-instate our reputation as a faith-based organization on the website. You will now find our Values on the Michael House website.

As 2019 closed, we were thankful for another successful Christmas Joy campaign and the generosity of our donor family as well as new partners in the community. We were also thankful for the staff who made personal sacrifices to reduce the year-end deficit and for their commitment to our clients, families and the mission of Michael House. Lastly, we were thankful to finalize recruitment for Beth's replacement, and we are pleased to announce Karen Kamhuis as the new Executive Director.

In closing, I would like to share my verse for 2020, which is my prayer for clients, staff and board members.

3 John 2 (MSG) I pray for good fortune in everything you do, and for your good health – that your everyday affairs prosper as well as your soul!



Wendy Clayson

President and Chair of the Board

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dear Michael House Family and Friends,

Having come on board as the new Executive Director in January 2020, I have to admit that it feels a bit awkward to be writing the ED report for 2019.

The good news is, I have been so blessed to be part of the Michael House family for the past two years. I have had the privilege of being on the Fund Development team as well as coordinating the fundraising events for this wonderful organization. Many of you have also been a part of this Michael House family for many years and I just want to say Thank You! Many of you will know exactly what I mean when I say, this work, these Moms, our little ones capture your heart in so many ways that you get drawn in to what is going on here. Soon, your passion for the work entices you to dream “Big Dreams” and to work hard to support, grow, build and be a part of all that is happening in this place!

Some years are full of excitement and wonder, and other years can seem full of hard work and heavy slugging. I believe that this truly is the circle of life, and what we can expect both privately and professionally as we go through life. 2019 seems like it was one of those heavy slugging years when so many were asked to sacrifice for the greater good of the organization. I feel so proud of the staff, board and so many of our supporters who rose to the challenge, dug deep to give up certain things and to give to the work of Michael House. I love the quote that says “When your back is against the wall is when God does his best work”. There have been a few times over the past many months when we have felt our backs against the wall but God is still present, has a heart for our work and continues to supply our needs. I cannot thank you, the Michael House family enough for being there and for your willingness to go above and beyond for the betterment of the work at Michael House!

The staff have worked so hard this past year to help move the work of Michael House forward. They are an amazing team and I am so looking forward to working arm-in-arm with them over the coming months and years. I so appreciate each and every person on the team and their wonderful gifts and talents that they so freely share to make Michael House the best it can be. It has also been an honour to get to know the Board of Directors in this short time. I am so grateful for the wonderful men and women who sit around the board table. Their heart, passion and commitment to the work is unparalleled. The programs and support we offer these families and the commitment of so many is something we should stand up and cheer about – this is good work!

I step into the footprints of two amazing women who have gone before me with leading Michael House and I know that these are large shoes to fill. I am grateful for the life, love and energy they have given so abundantly to this work. I am confident that God has BIG plans for us and I humbly ask for your prayers as we begin to step into new opportunities in the coming year. I look forward to meeting you, getting to know you and having the opportunity to thank you for being such an integral part of the Michael House family!

With Love and Respect,



Karen Kamphuis

Executive Director

MICHAEL HOUSE UPDATES

The Residence

Thank you to each and every one of our supporters! An incredible difference was made in the lives of many young families in the Guelph area through your generous giving to Michael House in 2019. Your donations this past year included financial support, new mattresses for the Residence, kitchen ware, baby items, food donations and many more.

Throughout 2019, 14 women entered the program. The Residential Program supported an exceptionally high number of women experiencing complex mental health and many were at risk of homelessness. Michael House cultivated partnerships with community facilitators, enabling us to extend our programs on parenting, healthy relationships, and life skills groups. We thank all our dedicated volunteers who offer their time as invaluable child minders. Our partnership with colleges and universities brought skilled students who ran in house programs meeting specific needs for the women at the Residence. The Residential Program would not be possible without our amazing staff team. Through every new experience, each staff member rises to the demands. Their passion, empathy, and creativity shines through their work. Through your ongoing support, Michael House will continue meeting the needs of our vulnerable families.

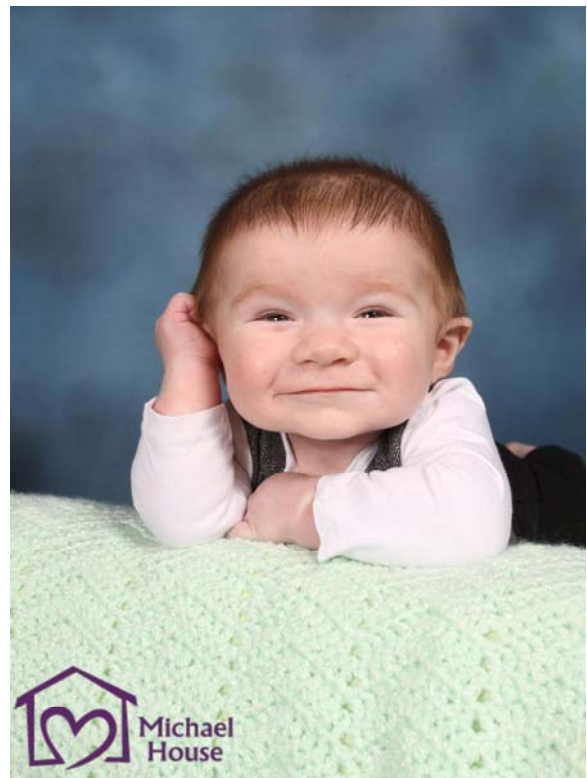


Emily's Place

By the end of 2019, our Supportive Housing program had been at capacity for a few months with all 8 of our 2 bedroom apartments occupied. The program housed 13 mothers and 17 children over the course of the year. Many of the residents moved to Emily's Place from the Residential Program as they graduated and continued to work on their goals with ongoing guidance and support from staff.

Michael House is blessed to have the facilities at Emily's Place to host programming and events. Families in all of our programs appreciated the comfort of in-house programming including: Drop-in, Life Skills education, Parent Chats, and cooking classes. We also held a church group in our atrium and kitchen every weekend. None of these programs would be possible without the dedication of our volunteers who help with child minding and staff support.

A unique role at Supportive Housing is our Intentional Neighbours. Two young women from the community lived at Emily's Place to offer support to our residents with problem solving, cooking questions, or just lending a listening ear.



MICHAEL HOUSE UPDATES

Aftercare Program

An Aftercare success story! Krystal* and her 6-month old son with special needs stayed with us in our Residential Program for a year, which is longer than most. She went through some huge ups and downs in her time with us and there were certainly times when it seemed like she was not going to be able to achieve the goal of all Michael House clients: to live independently in the community in a healthy family. Michael House provided her with education in parenting and life skills, and helped her to make new, healthy connections in the community. We refused to give up on her, even when she wanted to give up on herself. After a few months and with lots of support, she has overcome many things including addiction, an abusive partner, and an unstable upbringing. Now, Krystal and her son are in their own basement apartment living independently in a healthy family! She stays closely connected to the Aftercare support offered by Michael House. With many thanks to Michael House, she is much better equipped for her future.

AFTERCARE CLIENTS -2019		
Frequency of Visits	Total # of Clients	% Clients Visited YTD
High	15	100.0%
Moderate	12	100.0%
Low	17	95.0%
Long Dist.	10	100%
Total	54	98%



Volunteers

Michael House is incredibly grateful for the continued support of our volunteers who do so much for the mothers and children in our programs. Volunteers watched children, worked 1:1 with our mothers, supported staff at events and functions, and did administrative and maintenance work at both our Supportive Housing and Residential locations. We have specialty volunteers such as photographers, We thank our volunteers for the support they offer to Michael House mothers, children and staff!

MICHAEL HOUSE EVENTS

Baby Bottle Campaign

The 2019 Baby Bottle Campaign was once again a great success. Since 2005, the Baby Bottle Campaign has been fundraising between Mother's Day and Father's Day. In 2019 we distributed over 1200 bottles to 30 churches and local businesses. This event raised over \$30,000.

Christmas Joy

Generous donors commit to matching donations received throughout December 2019. After matching, Michael House received \$44,800. This campaign has been a great success every year!



Golf Tournament

Michael House hosted our 10th Annual Golf Tournament on June 11th, 2019 at Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club. We had over 80 golfers and introduced new features at the event such as Taste Test Challenge, Play all Day with RBC and a 50/50 Draw. Golfers also donated generously to purchase new mattresses for our Residential Program. Together, we raised approximately \$27,431.



Celebrate Spring

On April 6th 2019 Michael House held our second annual Celebrate Spring - Ladies Day Out Event. This was an inspiring day of workshops, marketplace vendors and creativity. Workshop topics included interior decor, health and wellness, and gardening and floral. Celebrate Spring 2019 raised \$5,045.



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

All of our donors, especially our monthly and annual Angel Donors

Churches and Church Groups

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Hamilton
Parkwood Gardens Community Church
Calvary Baptist
Church of the City
Mount Carmel Zion United Church
Diaspora
Koinonia Christian Fellowship
Crestwicke Baptist Church
Barrie Hill United Church Women
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Guelph
Basilica of Our Lady CWL
Sacred Heart, CWL
St. Joseph's Fergus, CWL
St. Mary's Church, CWL
St. Joseph's Acton, CWL
St. Joseph's Guelph, CWL
St. Mary's of the Visitation, CWL
Knights of Columbus Council 15333 St. Mary's and St. Joseph's
School Sisters of Notre Dame
Generalate of The Sisters of The Precious Blood
Central Pentecostal Church

Our Baby Bottle Drive Participants and Event Sponsors!

Our heartfelt gratitude for all who were generous with Gifts-in-Kind!

We are so grateful to our supporters - we are sorry if we've somehow missed you!

Foundations

Moridomi Charitable Fund
Enterprise Rent A Car Foundation
Zonta Club of Guelph Charitable Foundation
Raftis Family Foundation

Service Clubs

Red Chevron Club and Associates
Rotary Club of Guelph-Trillium
Royal City Lions Club
Royal Canadian Legion, Fergus Branch
Beyond Borders

Corporations

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Bell Canada
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Golf Sponsors

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RBC Dominion Securities, Clayson Wealth Management

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Sleeman Breweries Ltd
Barry Cullen Chevrolet Cadillac
Richard Van Dyke Insurance Group
Cheyson Business Services Inc.
RWDI Rowan Williams Davies & Irwin Inc.
Rick and Heather DeJonge
RLB Chartered Professional Accountants

Third Party Events

100+ Men Who Give
Strom's Farm and Bakery
Zion Evangelical Missionary Church
Reno Demaren Car show
Royal LePage Royal City Realty
Bishop Mac Catholic School
Concourse Media
JOY'nUs Events
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BMO Global Asset Management
Arbour Trails Knitting Group
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic High School
CSL Silicones

County of Wellington
City of Guelph Wellbeing Grant

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Michael House Provides Shelter & Support to Pregnant and Parenting Women in Our Community
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