

# Continuing the journey

2022 / 2023  
**Annual Report**

# Continuing the journey

## A message from Board Chair Steve Bishop

It is truly an honour to be back as Chair, ErinoakKids Board of Directors. After serving on the Board for many years, including a past term as Chair, I feel a deep connection to this organization and this Board.

The clients and families that walk through the doors of ErinoakKids are on a unique and individual path, like Daljeet and Jayden, who you will meet in these pages. We are grateful that they have chosen ErinoakKids to help them along their journey. From diagnosis, to therapy, to learning and growing together, the staff at ErinoakKids walk beside families every step of the way. The impact can be seen, heard and felt in the smiling faces of children in our sunny hallways every day.

I'd like to thank Bridget Fewtrell for the contributions she made throughout her long journey with ErinoakKids. As Chief Executive Officer for the last 14 years, Bridget shaped so much of what makes this organization special, and paved the way for our future growth. We wish her well in her well-deserved retirement, and thank her for the legacy of care in serving our community.

This Annual Report reflects another year of hard work, of dedication and progress and celebrates the continuing journey. We are so incredibly proud to highlight stories from some amazing individuals that have benefitted from our programs, and to give you a glimpse into what we have been up to in 2022/2023.

I am thankful to play even a small part in leading a group of devoted, driven and passionate individuals who care so much about our clients and their families. ErinoakKids will always be a warm and welcoming place for those who need us.

*Steve Bishop*



# Daljeet's Journey

*"My journey at ErinoakKids has taught me that my disability does not define who I am... I would not be where I am today without the support of ErinoakKids staff."*



On April 5, 1991, I was diagnosed with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus and immediately transferred to SickKids where I spent the first six months of my life, undergoing multiple surgeries.

My family was told that my condition was chronic and I would need to be monitored on a yearly basis by a variety of specialists. My parents were at a loss with what next steps to take to help me live my best life.

This all changed when I was referred to ErinoakKids. At ErinoakKids I was followed by the urology and orthopaedics team as well as physical and occupational therapists. They looked after my medical needs, taught me different exercises such as lifting light weights and using a theraband and how to perform activities of daily living.

In July of 2008 I participated in a two week camp called Taking Care of Business. During these two weeks I learned a variety of skills including budgeting and money management, baking and job readiness skills (i.e. how to write a resume, prepare for a job interview). This experience gave me the opportunity to make new friends and meet others who are facing similar challenges as myself.

Furthermore, the skills I learned through this camp have prepared me for life as an adult and have motivated me to work towards my current goal of getting a job and being financially independent.

Since June 2018 I have been involved with ErinoakKids as a volunteer in the Longo's Family Resource Centre and recently reached a five year milestone. I have accumulated over 300 volunteer hours.

My journey at ErinoakKids has taught me that my disability does not define who I am and that I can do anything I put my mind to. I would not be where I am today without the support of ErinoakKids staff.

# 2022-2023 Highlights

The ErinoakKids mission is to help children and youth with physical, developmental, and communications disabilities achieve optimal levels of independence, learning, health and wellbeing. Highlights of 2022/2023 include:

## Infant Hearing Screenings

As the lead agency for the Infant Hearing Program in Halton, Peel, Waterloo, Guelph-Wellington, and Dufferin, an increase in births in Central West meant a 19% increase in Infant Hearing Screenings at ErinoakKids.



## School Based Rehabilitation Services

School Based Rehabilitation Services continued to support student participation in school activities through Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and help with speech through Speech Therapy.

## Digital Health Strategy

The roll out of new privacy audit processes further strengthened and protected sensitive health information. Supported by a fulsome Digital Health Strategy, we took the first steps into a secure, cloud-based productivity platform, which will improve efficiency, strengthen data collection processes and create better connections.



## Reduced Wait Times

Through a streamlined clinic approach, wait times improved for our Botox clinic, Cerebral Palsy Neuromotor clinic, Developmental Consultation and Neuromuscular clinics. There was also a 15% decrease in median days waited for Preschool Speech and Language Services.

## In Person Appointments

In person appointments resumed across all three sites as COVID 19 hospitalizations and infections declined, safely, guided by the expertise of the ErinoakKids infection control team.

## Corporate Orientation

A new Corporate Orientation program and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion policy statement set a foundation grounded in the mission, vision and values of ErinoakKids.

## 2022-2023 Highlights

### Community Partnerships

Participation in community partnerships such as the Peel Autism Collaborative with Peel Police, helped to foster new relationships and will offer new opportunities for collaborative leadership in the future across our sector.



### Urgent Response Service

The Urgent Response Service (URS) was accessed by 350 Ontario Autism Program (OAP) families experiencing an urgent need to stabilize a potentially escalating situation where there was risk of harm to either the child or youth themselves, others and/or property. Families reported significant improvement in their quality of life.

*“The URS program and everyone who helped us along the way [at ErinoakKids] and the support we received, was truly a gift. Everyone I interacted with was responsive, gentle, informative and non-judgmental and helped to guide me through the process so that it wasn't so overwhelming. The sessions were one-on-one, in our home and personalized. I felt heard, seen and understood.” —URS parent*

### Smart Start Hub

The successful launch of the Smart Start Hub at ErinoakKids established an additional entry point for families in Peel, Halton and Dufferin to access services and supports.

### Entry To School Program

Response from families to the ErinoakKids Entry to School (ETS) program has been overwhelmingly positive. More than 700 children with autism from Peel, Halton and Dufferin attended the program in advance of their transition to kindergarten or grade one for the first time.

*“Entry to School Program is such a blessing to my son and our whole family. My son started to recognize all his classmates and even memorizing their names which he has never done before...The quality of his teachers is out of this world. I truly see them caring for our children. We are just forever grateful on the changes this program has brought to our child and for giving him a chance to a fresh start at life and to start thriving in this crazy world we live in.” — ETS parent*

# Ready for Residence: Jayden's Independent Living Program Journey



*“Living in the dorm rooms at U of T Mississauga showed me what it was like to live alone.”*

Seventeen-year-old Jayden had no idea how self-sufficient he truly was until he spent 10 days in ErinoakKids' Independent Living Program (ILP).

The ILP offers our clients ages 16-19 an opportunity to learn life skills while living in an accessible dorm room at the University of Toronto Mississauga. During their time in this program, they can make friends and gain independence. Through skills like cooking, partaking in independent activities and navigating the public transportation system, just to name a few, young adults like Jayden leave this program with skills they can implement to live a more independent life.

“The ILP helped me so much. I got to learn new skills that I had no idea how to do, like cooking different kinds of meals and taking GO buses and trains to fun places,” says Jayden. “Living in the dorm rooms at U of T Mississauga also showed me what it was like to live alone.”

This independence-focused program not only benefits teens like Jayden, but their families as well.

“It was really hard on us at first, but I knew he would gain a lot out of it,” says Jayden's dad. “If it's anything this program taught us, it's that we need to push him more. To be more independent, to trust him to do things on his own. He's at that age.”

And the timing could not be more perfect, as Jayden is attending Mohawk College's Career Pathways program in the Fall of 2023.

"I'm ready for residence now!" says Jayden with a huge smile on his face. "I feel so prepared."

Jayden's dad says that the skills taught in the Independent Living Program have set his son up for success in the next chapter of his life. His sister on the other hand, was just happy to see him connecting with others.

"I think Jayden has a hard time connecting with people at school," she says. "It was so nice hearing that he made friends in the ILP. Since some of them are all going through similar things, he found it really easy to make friends, communicate about everything and have really meaningful conversations."

Jayden wholeheartedly recommends this program to any ErinoakKids teen client who thinks they can be a bit more independent. And his mom approves, too.

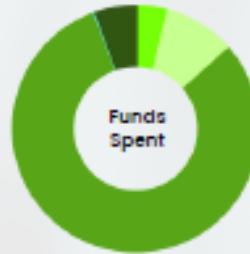
"I was definitely scared when I didn't hear from him for two days. But it wasn't because he was ignoring me, he was just having way too much fun keeping busy and learning new things. He is not a natural self-advocate, so it was amazing to watch how this program helped him improve his self advocacy and confidence. He's going to do so well at Mohawk this Fall."



# Financials



- 83.8% Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS)
- 14% Other Revenue & Deferred Capital Contribution
- 1.4% Regional Municipality of Peel
- 0.8% Donations & Fundraising



- 80.7% Programs & Services
- 9.5% Administration
- 5.7% Other
- 3.9% Building & Grounds
- 0.2% Fundraising

## ErinoakKids by the Numbers

### Clients by Region

Peel	19,122
Halton	8,541
Dufferin	760
Other	588

### Clients by age

0-2	12,214
3-5	5,198
6-13	10,130
14-18	1,301
19+	168

### Clients by Service

ADRS	640
Autism	3,563
Blind/Low Vision Services	32
Hearing & Audiology Services	982
Infant Hearing Screenings*	7,250
Medical Services	1,219
Specialty Clinics	610
Occupational Therapy	1,552
Out-of-Home Respite Support	157
Physiotherapy	1,888
Recreation Therapy	465
Speech Services	7,205
Family Support Services	2,149
School Based Rehabilitation Services	12,000
Consultations to schools/childcare	6,620



## More Highlights

Community Off-Site Visits  
50,540

On-Site Visits  
88,934

Staff  
763

Infant Hearing Screenings through partnerships  
21,814

Virtual Visits  
67,734

Clients  
29,011

Appointments Booked  
263,126

Volunteers  
72



# 2022-2023 Fundraising Highlights

2022 – 2023 was an exciting year for the ErinoakKids Development team. Thank you to everyone who donated their time, energy and funds to our cause!

## Domino's Pizza Day

On August 24, 2022, we teamed up with Domino's and staff, families and our community ate pizza for a good cause! With your help, we raised over \$8,750 in support of ErinoakKids' Respite Program. A huge thank you to participating local Domino's restaurants hosting this initiative!



## Rhea Rides a Bike

Late September 2022, an amazing young girl named Rhea took on a bike challenge in support of our Respite Program. She completed her journey successfully and raised \$1,100!

## Movin' for ErinoakKids

Between October 8 and 22, 2022, 71 participants walked, rolled and ran 5km for the ErinoakKids Respite Program, which offers parents and caregivers much needed downtime to focus on taking care of themselves while their children are cared for in a safe and nurturing environment. This year's event raised over \$13,800!



## 2022-2023 Fundraising Highlights



### Party of Seven

This incredible community group held a fundraiser for ErinoakKids on December 1, 2022. They raised \$7,700 for our Respite Program. The fundraiser originally raised an impressive \$3,800, but an anonymous donor came forward to double the amount donated!

### Longo Family Foundation Match

At the end of December, we teamed up with the Longo Family for our holiday campaign. The Longo Family Foundation matched donations dollar for dollar, and we raised over \$25,000 in support of our Respite Program.



### Malton Masjid

In February 2023, Ibrahim Hanslod from the Malton Masjid presented us with a cheque for \$5,150 for our Respite Program! Respite clients and staff enjoyed a pizza party to celebrate.

# Our Donors

## Annual Donors

A very special thank you to the following donors who have made generous donations between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023.

### \$50,000+

- The Waugh Family Foundation

### \$25,000+

- Rosanne and Frank Maiirro
- The KPMG Foundation

### \$10,000+

- James & Brenda Sutherland
- Anjuman-E Anwarul Islam of Malton (Malton Masjid)
- CGOV Foundation
- Goodyear Canada Inc.
- Marni Przybylski
- Mississauga Real Estate Board
- The Canadian Progress Club of Brampton
- The Community Foundation of Oakville

### \$1,000+

- Abneet Birk
- Carson-Thornhill Family
- Constantinos Sirmis & Dr. Maria Sirounis
- Craig Bethune and Family
- Danny Costa
- Daryl M Potter
- David Beer
- David E. Elliott
- Domino's Pizza (Teams Empire & Tenfold Inc.)
- Edenshaw Management Ltd
- George Marr
- Gunsimarbir Paintal
- Hyundai Auto Canada Corp.
- Ian and June Cockwell
- Jasvinder Kalra
- John Mundy
- Karen Brannon
- Linda M. Rothney
- Manulife
- Meridian Credit Union Limited
- Michael Jezerinac
- Mike Harmer
- Mississauga Firefighters Benevolent Fund
- Nancy Shannon
- Ontario Realtors Care Foundation
- Parkin Architects Ltd
- Party Of Seven
- PhotoOps.At Inc.
- Procor Limited
- RBC Foundation
- Ronald G. Rogers
- Sanjeev Gupta
- Silcotech North America Inc.
- Sole Sisterhood of Mississauga
- Stephen Bishop Professional Corporation
- Steven R Irvine
- The Community Foundation of Mississauga
- The Lions Club of Mississauga Central
- The Mitchell Family Foundation
- Vinod Maheshwari
- Yvette Regueiro



# Our Donors

## Pledge Commitments

We are so grateful to our wonderful supporters who have made pledge commitments!

### \$2,000,000+

- The Giampaolo Foundation
- The WB Family Foundation

### \$500,000+

- The Longo Family Foundation

### \$100,000+

- Rick & Alison Campbell
- Ernst & Moni Kuechmeister
- The Mariano Elia Foundation

### \$25,000+

- Patrick & Naomi Bartlett

### \$1,000

- Matt & Rose Horan
- Judith Pascoe-Wong
- Margaret Western

