



BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF BELONGING
THROUGH *Planned Giving*



OUR WORK, *Our Mission*

Founded in 1965, Christian Horizons is a non-profit, faith-based charitable organization serving persons with exceptional needs in Ontario, and in developing countries around the world through Christian Horizons Global (CH Global).

With more than 200 residences, as well as respite care and independent living locations in Ontario, Christian Horizons supports nearly 2,000 people with developmental disabilities and their families through residential and ancillary programs such as participation supports, employment supports, and supported vacation opportunities. Christian Horizons empowers persons with exceptional needs, enabling them to embrace their God-given potential and enjoy hope and opportunity in everyday living.

CH Global was established in 1990 to work in partnership with local organizations to promote the inclusion and rights of people living in exceptional circumstances in seven developing countries around the world.

We believe everyone has a unique purpose and unique gifts to share. We support people with exceptional needs and help them to realize their gifts and abilities. We strive to foster a fulfilling and meaningful life immersed in community for the people who participate in our services.



OUR HISTORY OF GIVING

Christian Horizons' early work focused on a camping ministry for children with exceptional needs. As the ministry grew and the children from camp became adults, Jim Reese, the founder of Christian Horizons, felt called to begin a residential program. In 1974, the board decided to purchase a home to launch the residential program and set the ambitious goal to operate five homes within five years. Horizon House 1, in Waterloo, was purchased in 1975 and soon the 10 female residents began creating their own community of belonging.

In purchasing the Waterloo home and launching the residential program, Jim and the board trusted that once they took the necessary steps in faith, God would provide the needed funds. Early in 1975, Jim met with Stan and Helen Kerr to tell them about Christian Horizons' plans for establishing group homes. Stan and Helen were getting older and knew they would soon not be able to care for their son Philip, who had exceptional needs. The Kerrs gave a generous donation to Christian Horizons, but also shared the vision with their 92-year-old Aunt Lillian. After hearing of the work Christian Horizons was doing, Lillian Kerr felt led to change her will and make Christian Horizons the sole beneficiary. When Lillian passed away in August of the same year, she left nearly a half million dollars to the ministry. With that extraordinary gift, Christian Horizons was not only able to finance its first home, but also open residential programs in other communities as well.

AFTER HEARING OF THE WORK CHRISTIAN HORIZONS *was doing*, LILLIAN KERR FELT LED TO *change her will* AND MAKE CHRISTIAN HORIZONS THE *sole beneficiary*.



Mission: Serving the person with exceptional needs.

Vision: People with exceptional needs belong to communities in which their God-given gifts are valued and respected.

Values: We will honour God and value people in all we do and with all our resources.



OUR WORK, *Your Support*

For 50 years, family members, donors and partners have invested in the ministry of Christian Horizons. We are very grateful for this faithful support that has enabled our organization to grow and provide programs and services to people with exceptional needs and their families.

These programs, many funded solely by our donors, give people with exceptional needs education, employment skills, leadership training, respite care and spiritual development, as well as opportunity to attend camp or a Family Retreat. We believe in the intrinsic value and dignity of all people. Our goal is to be imitators of Jesus Christ and be His hands and feet as we serve people with exceptional needs in Canada, Africa, Central America and Haiti.

CH GLOBAL

Funded entirely through generous donations, CH Global serves persons with intellectual or physical disabilities, children at risk (orphaned, abandoned, affected by poverty, war or illness), people affected by HIV/AIDS and marginalized communities in seven developing countries around the world. Your gift makes a significant difference in the lives of people living in exceptional circumstances.

SUPPORTED VACATIONS AND RESPITE

Generous donations from our partners help provide the opportunity for supported vacations, camp experiences and excursions for people with exceptional needs. Vacation services provides supported vacations for 600 people annually, 60 summer work opportunities for students and respite to many families. For nearly 50 years, Christian Horizons has been able to provide opportunities for new friendships, diverse experiences and fun destinations.

FAMILY RETREAT

Family Retreat gives families affected by disability the opportunity to connect with other families, enjoy much needed respite time, experience spiritual refreshment and make meaningful family memories together. Families enjoy fully-accessible and age-appropriate fun activities, and benefit from meaningful connections and fellowship with other families who understand the challenges of living with disability. Volunteer Short Term Missionaries serve as support to families throughout their stay. Donations help offset the cost of the retreat and also provide sponsorship to families who otherwise could not attend.



BEING THE HANDS AND FEET *of Jesus*

HOPE IN ETHIOPIA

Tariku is a child with a tragic beginning, but a hopeful future. No one knows who his parents are. He lived out in the open like an animal in a small Ethiopian town. The people in his town said he was a smart survivor because he slept in ditches with wild dogs as protection from hyenas. When CH Global was asked to intervene to save this boy, they found him in absolute misery, with blood shot eyes and tattered clothing. They took him in, loved him, clothed him and gave him comfort. Today, Tariku bunks in a clean room with two other boys, attends school regularly and is learning English. Tariku's life has experienced a transformation due to the generous support of donors. Three years ago... he was sleeping in the ditch with the dogs, but Tariku has now found new hope.



YOUR PLANNED GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Donating to Christian Horizons through a Planned Giving opportunity, is a significant way that you can invest in our organization, allowing us to continue our vital ministry in future years. A Planned Gift is created from the financial resources we accumulate over our lives. There are many types of gifts that can be planned – each type having its own benefits to you, the donor, and to Christian Horizons.

Through our partnership with Christian Stewardship Services, you can receive free financial and estate or gift planning services from a professional representative.

Ways of giving beyond one-time gifts, sponsorships or annual giving include:

- Bequests through your Last Will and Testament
- Gifts of Appreciated Securities
- Revocable Deposit Agreements
- RRSP or Life Insurance Designations
- Donor Advised Funds
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Endowment Gifts

If you would like more information about how to make a Planned Gift or would like to connect with a Christian Stewardship consultant, call 1-800-276-8890 or visit www.CSservices.ca.

FAMILY RETREAT: A MOTHER'S STORY

"As a single mom with two children who have special needs, I have never considered venturing off to camp. But the incentive of voluntary Short Term Missionary (STM) support was the factor that made it possible for us to come. For this I am incredibly grateful. Our STMs were such a blessing. Their willingness to spend time with my girls gave me time for myself that was refreshing and encouraging. Because I knew they were safe and having fun, I was free to truly reconnect with the beautiful children they are.

There are so many things that the girls are typically excluded from, but at the retreat, there were lots of activities offered and all could engage. I wouldn't have believed that we would have gone tubing, but we did for the first time and we can't wait to do it again. My girls loved campfire, singing, s'mores, performing on stage, waterslides, the motorcycle rides, daily chapel, the amazing food and desserts, the many crafts, swimming, and everything offered at Family Retreat.

It was an amazing week and I came back feeling closer to God. I have never felt so loved by Christ as we were at Christian Horizon's Family Retreat."





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