



OUR CHILDREN & YOUTH ARE BACK! SUMMER CAMP 2021

It is wonderful to have the children and youth back at Shelldale Family Gateway after such a challenging time for all of us! Summer Camp was enjoyed by all!

This year we implemented a 7-week Summer Camp with 4 groups running each day. Each group had 20 participants, needless to say, it was a very busy, fun summer! There were arts, crafts, sports, games and more! and a BBQ every Friday to end off their week.

In addition to our full-time staff, we were able to hire 13 additional staff thanks to Employment and Social Development – Canada Summer Jobs Program and 2nd Chance Employment. The Summer Camp Team were all double vaccinated and worked extremely hard planning and implementing a safe and fun Summer Camp experience to 190 children & youth in the Onward Willow neighbourhood.

We were so fortunate to have the support of our community and would like to thank each and every one of you! Families in the neighbourhood generously made financial donations and purchased food for snacks for the children, Well.ca kindly donated supplies to help keep the youth safe during camp and The Salvation Army was so thoughtful and dropped off diapers that we handed out to our families when they picked up their kids from camp.

A special thank you to Eric Chea, for producing amazing weekly videos of our Summer Camp this year. The videos were posted to our social media accounts and no doubt helped to spread the word of the amazing things we do here at Shelldale Family Gateway! Go to shelldale.ca/youth-programs/ and see for yourself.



Our Family-Fun Raiser was a huge success!

Shelldale Family Gateway is excited to announce that our Family Fun-Raiser held from July 1st to August 2nd was an overwhelming success, raising \$14,000 for our Youth and Community Programs! Through generous sponsorships, prize donations and media support, it was clear from the start that our community believes in the great work Shelldale Family Gateway does for children, youth, and families in the Onward Willow neighbourhood. We are incredibly grateful for our sponsors' support and can't thank them enough for helping us almost double our fundraising goal.

We'd also like to thank the many families who took part in the fitness challenge. Your enthusiasm was evident, and we are happy that children, youth, and adults equally enjoyed the exercises. We wish you great success in continuing your fitness journeys!

Thanks to all of the local businesses, organizations, and leaders for supporting our Family Fun-Raiser.



Rishan and Leanne Sathasivam



The Greg Parsson Family



LOWE'S HEROES CAMPAIGN!

For the month of September, customers of participating stores were invited to make donations at the cash register in support of the local cause selected by their store – and **RONA Guelph chose us for the 2nd year in a row!**

Rona Guelph is located in the Onward Willow Neighbourhood and has been a long-time friend and supporter – Thank you!

To find out more about the campaign click [here](#) or look up the hashtag [#HeroesCampaign](#) on twitter.



Shelldale Family Gateway 30th Annual General Meeting

This is quite a momentous occasion as we celebrate all the years of good work done on behalf of the children, youth, and families of the Onward Willow neighbourhood. Shelldale Family Gateway has grown in leaps and bounds over the years, and even through COVID, we have managed to provide excellent service to all of our community. To keep everyone safe again this year we have decided to host a virtual Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 10:00 am.

At this year's AGM, we will be celebrating older relationships and brand-new ones too! Last year we welcomed several new Board members, who along with those who have been with us a while, all have made an outstanding contribution to the governance and fundraising capacity of the organization. SFG is fortunate in that our whole Board makes such a positive difference in the way Shelldale Family Gateway runs.

This year we are saying goodbye to some long-standing Board members: Ed Burchell, Brian Smith, Dana Nuttley, and our wonderful Treasurer Grant Ward are all stepping down to continue on with new adventures, along with Heena Mistry. We will greatly miss their input, expertise and knowledge that has helped us so much in the past.

We also celebrate our Volunteers: corporate, partner and individual. Our Community Volunteers of the Year are Dan Barendregt, who is our Breakfast Club "rock star", and Jason Ashdown of the Skyline Group. We also celebrate and thank the Guelph Community Health Centre as our Partner Volunteer and SR-P Creations Catering as our Corporate Volunteer.

For details, to register and the Zoom link for the AGM go to <http://www.shelldale.ca/annual-general-meeting/>

See you October 26th at 10 am!

"When we learn together and work together as partners, we build a stronger community."



Children's Program Update

Providing opportunities for children from birth to 6 years of age to participate in play and inquiry-based programs,

EarlyON had a very active spring and summer! We ended our spring with a Virtual Mother's Day celebration and began summer by celebrating Fathers and that male role model in the child's life.

The mothers had so much fun playing games and making self-care recipes for themselves. It was an afternoon of storytelling and listening to the families talk about their mothers. In our celebration for fathers, we had a "Copycat Picture Challenge". It was so great to see the children connecting with their dads in such a fun way. The staff also delivered over 100 sunflower growing kits to their families and the challenge is on to see who grows the tallest sunflower. The photos we have seen and the stories that we have heard about the experience have been so exciting.

At the start of July, we received the news that EarlyON could start to offer Single Household Programming and Outdoor Programming. The families were hesitant at first, but as families came to enjoy our space and spend time with our amazing staff word got around and the weeks started to fill up. Each family has a one-hour play time every 14 days with screening done before each visit. We discovered that booking online was a barrier to our families who struggle with English and technology, so every morning we had a staff who spoke their language outside the Centre to sign up families. As Summer Camp was in full swing and many of our families have children in camp they came and spread the word to the community.

Our virtual programs are continuing, with lots of choices weekly and the EarlyON staff will continue to support families with their needs and resources.

Thank you [Well.ca](https://www.well.ca) and [Salvation Army](https://www.salvationarmy.ca) for your amazing wet wipes and diaper donations. Our families were very happy to receive this gift. Since the Community Donation table ended in June these have been the most requested items. There are a lot of very happy families, thanks to you!



OUR WISH LIST

- **Computers/laptops** for our families to participate in our virtual EarlyON children's programs and parent support and education,
- **Diapers** of all sizes and wipes



SHELLDALE
FAMILY GATEWAY

Youth and Community Program Update

We offer several programs for youth living in the Shelldale Family Gateway neighbourhood.

Our Community Programs are responsive to the needs of the community and are created and sustained based on expressed needs from community members themselves.



BREAKFAST CLUB was a go for September!

We began serving a nutritious Breakfast before school on **September 14th**. Typically, 60 children and youth are registered in our Breakfast Club Program.

Your donation of \$20 per month can help feed children a nutritious breakfast before school on an ongoing, regular basis. We are fortunate to receive funds from Food & Friends of the Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington, however, it does not cover all our costs.

YOU can help with a small monthly donation that would mean the world of difference to our Breakfast Club Program! Go to [our donation page](#) and donate today!

After a very busy Summer Camp program, our Youth & Community staff took a well-deserved break and now they are back in full swing again, planning for what is sure to be popular and fun - our Afterschool and Teen Programs. Registration was held on September 28th for Junior Roots, Mighty Willows, Friendship Circle, Royal Lead and Teen Programs and youth will begin their program the week of October 4th. We look forward to the Centre being full of activity and laughter!

Over 400 children and youth attend our programs each year and we receive no sustainable funding. Each year we apply for grants and fundraise to be able to provide the programs and supports that are so essential to our children and youth. Watch our final [Summer Camp video](#) and hear from our Youth and staff just how important our programs are to this community.

Are You A Rock Star?

If you would like to become part of our fundraising subcommittee, or be on our mailing list or just drop us a line, please connect with Diana at dboal@shelldale.ca

OUR WISH LIST

- **Grocery Gift Cards** to support our Youth Programs such as After School programs and Breakfast Club, where youth are provided with a nutritious snack as well as support to any families in need during time of crisis.
- **Non-perishable food & snack items** for Breakfast Club and Afterschool Programs
- **Arts & Craft Supplies**
- **Sports Equipment**



Shelldale Family Gateway
20 Shelldale Cres.
Guelph, ON N1H 1C8
519-824-8498

www.shelldale.ca

