



# New Lawyers Update

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## LAWYERS WHO CARE

In 2017, the New Lawyers' Subcommittee started its first annual Lawyers Who Care initiative. "New" lawyers were asked to donate \$100.00, nominate a charity, and a recipient was chosen at a reception held on March 9, 2017. With the addition of some generous donations from more senior members of the bar, we raised a total of \$10,400.00.

Last year's recipient was the organization Food4Kids. While school lunch programs provide food to children during the week, there was a growing realization that at-risk children in Hamilton and Halton were going hungry on weekends. In Hamilton alone, it was assessed that 1,500 children were going without food each weekend. Food4Kids was created to tackle the issue of childhood hunger by providing food packages to children to take home over the weekend. The program's mission is to provide healthy food to elementary school students from at-risk, low-income or disadvantaged homes with limited or no food during weekend periods or during the summer months. They focus on providing enough healthy food for each child in the home and put the food packages into students' backpacks during class to avoid stigma. The program runs in 54 Hamilton schools, and distributes 35,000 food packages annually to the 1,200 child participants in Hamilton. Food4Kids also has a Summer Feeding Program,

which provides weekly food bins and recipes to children during the summer months. This program is 100% funded through community donations. It costs \$400.00 to provide a full week's supply of healthy food for the eight week summer break.

When the New Lawyers' Subcommittee contacted Food4Kids last year to advise them they had been nominated, the organization had 500 children on their waiting list. Through community support, the waiting list has been reduced to 300, with 200 students being added to the program. An additional 50 children have also been added to the Summer Feeding Program, and because these bins are delivered directly to the family's door, additional items such as milk, yogurt, eggs and cheese can be included, along with staples and a variety of fresh produce items. The organization is currently working on the pilot of a high school program, with food packages to be delivered through the guidance office.

As a result of donation from the Lawyers Who Care initiative, 25 children are receiving healthy food each week for an entire school year.

The New Lawyers' Subcommittee's second annual Lawyers Who Care initiative is now well under way. The New Lawyers' Subcommittee is asking "new" lawyers (up to 15 years of call) for minimum donations of \$50.00. With your donation, you are invited

to a reception to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the Lawyers Lounge of the John Sopinka Court House to vote on this year's recipient charity. Light refreshments and drinks will be served.

Those who donate before the early bird deadline of April 3, 2018, may nominate a registered charity. Three charities will be chosen at random and will be invited to present at the reception, where each donor present may cast one vote. The charity with the most votes will receive 80% of the funds collected, with the other two charities each receiving 10%. Donors will receive a charitable receipt from one of the three charities. Donations will be accepted until May 8, 2018, and cheques can be made payable to The Hamilton Law Association.

For more information, or to obtain a Donation Form, please contact a member of the New Lawyers' Subcommittee or Rebecca Lane at The Hamilton Law Association ([rlane@hamiltonlaw.on.ca](mailto:rlane@hamiltonlaw.on.ca) or 905-522-1563).

On behalf of the New Lawyers' Subcommittee, we hope all of the "new" lawyers will continue the Hamilton legal community's long legacy of giving back and I look forward to seeing many of you on May 8th! ■

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