



Media Release

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\$23,000 OTF Resilient Communities Grant Helps Local Charity Improve 2021 Revenue

Uxbridge, ON – On Friday, MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy and Mayor Dave Barton met with representatives from Precious Minds Support Services to hear how a \$23,000 Resilient Communities Fund grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) has made a difference. The grant program was developed by OTF to help non-profits rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19.

“Precious Minds is a valued part of our community, supporting families during difficult times and helping us to build a strong and safe Ontario,” said Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP for Pickering-Uxbridge. “This funding provided through the Ontario Trillium Foundation has helped them expand their programming for youth and adopt new approaches so that members of our community can continue to access the services they rely on during the pandemic and in the future.”

Precious Minds used part of the grant to hire a part-time Fund Development Coordinator to review fundraising and grant initiatives.

“Precious Minds helps our community’s children and young adults with special needs, and they rely on fundraising,” stated Mayor Barton. “This grant helped Precious Minds to pivot and develop new fundraising strategies during COVID. As a result of this Provincial support, the group’s most recent fundraising campaign exceed expectations. Thank-you to the Province for supporting the important work to help our Community’s most vulnerable residents and their caregivers. Thanks also to our community for continuing to support our charitable organizations.”

Funds were also used to research, develop and adapt processes for generating revenue in response to the pandemic. This helped develop new partnerships with individuals, businesses and organizations, improve community awareness and disseminate charity information using social media and community involvement, and connect with various new grantors. These changes helped exceed Precious Minds’ projected 2021 revenue.

“The addition of a Fund Development Coordinator to our Precious Minds Staff team had tremendous impact on our ability to generate the revenue we require to offer our programs,” said Chas Harding, Executive Director, Precious Minds Support Services. “Thankfully, we will continue to be able to keep our program fees low for our families, we never want finances to be a barrier to participation.”

Since 1999, Precious Minds has been providing CARE, SUPPORT and HOPE to children, youth, and adults with developmental disabilities in rural North Durham. Our aim to offer meaningful, unique programming that will engage, inspire, and develop skills for life. We provide adapted programming with individualized levels of support to ensure that each participant has the best experience possible. Our programs explore a variety of educational, physical, recreational, and creative skill building activities in a positive and safe environment. We provide support for the entire family including educational resources, respite, and family events. For more information visit: <http://www.preciousminds.com>

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada’s leading granting foundations. Last year, nearly \$112M was invested into 1,384 community projects and partnerships to build healthy and vibrant communities and strengthen the impact of Ontario’s non-profit sector. In 2020/21, OTF supported Ontario’s economic recovery by helping non-profit organizations rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Visit otf.ca to learn more.

Organization Contact for Media Inquiries: Heather Goldsmith, Administrative Coordinator, Precious Minds / (905) 982-0882 / admin@preciousminds.com