# Give The Gift of Opportunity To Children and Youth in Grand Erie



My name is Maxx, and I would like to share my journey...

I am a 20 year old young woman and after years of struggle, I have finally made it to post-secondary school - something I once thought might never be possible.

My story started when I was 13. I grew up in a home where I felt unsafe and powerless. For years, I endured harsh treatment that no child should have had to experience: living under strict control, facing punishments that took away my joy, and shouldering responsibilities beyond my years. I spent much of my childhood caring for my younger sibling while managing household tasks, all while trying to keep up with school. The turning point came when I realized that my situation would never change unless I took action. With the help of a friend, I found the courage to leave, which resulted in me being connected with CFSGE. That day was a blur, but I remember the overwhelming feeling of taking back control. For the first time, I felt safe. I felt free and I believed that my life could be different.

In the years that followed, I moved through multiple foster homes, struggling to find a true sense of belonging. I faced challenges at school and often felt like an outsider. When I eventually reconnected with my mother, I had hope that things would improve - but the same circumstances led me to be on my own again. At just 17, I was facing the overwhelming reality of finding stability without the financial means to support myself.

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That's when the CFSGE Foundation stepped in. With their help, I was able to secure my first apartment, find stability, and focus on what mattered most - me. Throughout everything, school remained my anchor. Thanks to the Foundation's support, I had the resources to continue my studies, connect with peers, and even receive a scholarship that has helped me pursue my dream of becoming a Social Worker. The Foundation filled in the gaps where other support systems fell short, providing not just financial assistance but also opportunities that made me feel seen, valued, and capable of building a better future.

Your generosity makes stories like mine possible. Your support provides young people like me with the opportunities we need to succeed - helping us feel connected, hopeful, and empowered.

#### Thank you for believing in us kids, and for making a difference.

The opportunities I've received have changed my life, and I am committed to paying that kindness forward.

With gratitude,





## Give The Gift of **Opportunity**

#### Join the NEW Donor Wall at

Child and Family Services of Grand Erie's New Location: 221 Henry St, Brantford **Grand Opening: Fall 2025** 

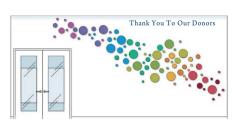
## New Building. New Chapter. Same Mission.

## The Opportunity

We're inviting businesses, organizations, and community leaders to become a permanent part of our new space through a beautifully designed Donor Wall. This art piece celebrates those who give to our General Fund, which supports life-enriching programs and services for children, youth, and families.

#### **Programs and Services Include:**

- Summer Camp
- Extra-curriculars
- **Urgent Needs**
- Youth Skills Development
- Cultural Enrichment Post-Secondary Education
  - Early-Intervention Programs
  - Program/Service Innovations



Together, we can make a beautiful difference

Category	Gift Amount	Size
Growth	\$20,000+	12"
Diversity	\$10,000 - \$19,999	8"
Community	\$5,000 - \$9,999	6"

Every Donor. Every Circle. Helping Kids.

### Your Name. Your Impact. Displayed Permanently

Each donor will be recognized with an engraved acrylic plaque affixed to a coloured wooden circle. The art installation signifies growth, diversity and community, creating an inspiring display that celebrates the community leaders, organizations and businesses that:

- Invest in Children
- Empower Youth
- Enrich Lives

#### Contact: Laura Gauthier



Giving@cfsge.ca (519) 717-4612

### Act By October 31, 2025

To be included in the Fall Grand Opening!



Scan Here to Donate Now!