



Office:
484 Kerr Street
Oakville, Ontario L6K 3C5

July 19, 2022

RE: St. Jude's OTF application

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this as a letter of support for St. Jude's Capital Grant application through the Ontario Trillium Foundation to renovate their kitchen facilities.

In my capacity as the Executive Director of Home Suite Hope, I have witnessed first-hand the impact that St. Jude's have, not only on their congregation, but on the entire community. Home Suite Hope is a not-for-profit that wraps services around homeless single mother-led families. Our four-year program offers a housing subsidy, life skills and professional development workshops, a two-year college diploma and employment supports to facilitate the families' growth to self-sufficiency. This program is made possible through partnerships with community partners like St. Jude's Anglican Church.

St. Jude's has graciously supported many families at Home Suite Hope. Families have been supported through back-to-school scholarships, the purchase of school supplies including technology supports, having their homes furnished, grocery and food supports, harvesting our community garden and facilitating many one-off donations to meet families' needs. For the past two years St. Jude's has been a Partner in Change at Home Suite Hope; sponsoring one family through the first two years of their programming.

I cannot adequately underscore the impact that this organization could have if they were able to expand their food security programming. With the inflation in cost of housing (making Oakville the third most expensive city to live within Canada), gas, and food continuing to rise, many of our clients and others within the community will be forced to make the choice between paying rent and feeding their families. Programs like those that St. Jude's offer in collaboration with other community partners help us to prevent homelessness and food insecurity. The impact of this grant will be felt by all not-for-profits in the community who are attempting to keep their families housed and food secure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sara Cumming", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Sara Cumming, PhD

Executive Director

☎ 289.213.5787

✉ sarac@homesuitehope.org

🌐 www.homesuitehope.org

Helping single parent families end the cycle of poverty and homelessness