

Annual Misis Report 2023-2024

Extraordinary care for everyone.



We are you. You are Acclaim Health. This is us. This is

Let's celebrate some of the spectacular people and events that make extraordinary community care come to life.



Staff bowling night - sometimes you need to have fun!



Creative club members and staff at our Mississauga Club!



"Acclaim Health has given me the opportunity to have 25 years of feeling

Ruth Lee, Nurse, 25 Years of **Extraordinary Care**



fulfilled every day with the care I provide."



Al and JoAnne Oatridge, 30 Years of Supporting **Extraordinary Care**

"We came to know about the quality and dedication of Acclaim Health through friends and the stories of "friends of friends" who shared how well they were treated (body and soul). Little did I know just how valuable those services would be when dementia struck our personal world."

The busy bees at Acclaim Health pull a plane to raise money for the United Way!





Our Bereavement Walking Group enjoying the sunshine in Bronte.

The Sanci Family, 30 Years of Supporting Extraordinary Care



Len and Pat Sanci with Cathy Sanci

"We've received so much help over the years. Every time we needed you, you've been there. You've made the difficult times bearable."



Artists at work at Patty's Place!

Carole La Tour, Bereavement and Hospice Counsellor, 25 Years of Extraordinary Care

"I have watched Acclaim Health grow exponentially and I have grown as well both personally and professionally. Supporting and validating clients and colleagues is both fulfilling and a privilege."

June and Glenn Richardson, 25 Years of Supporting Extraordinary Care



"We supported you after you cared for my father many years ago. Now we give because we've seen you care for so many of our family and friends."

The Dine In dinner packing crew!



Angela Brewer was nominated for a Woman of Distinction award!



Nelly Boyle, Volunteer, 30 Years of Extraordinary Care

> "Volunteering for Acclaim Health during the past 30 years has been a real privilege. It has given me a sense of satisfaction, knowing that I made a difference in someone else's life."



Rhonda Roberts, PSW, 25 Years of Extraordinary Care

> "I love my clients and Acclaim Health is a great company to work for – that's why I've been so dedicated for 25 years."

Zella Bonin, 30 Years of Supporting Extraordinary Care



"Acclaim Health is friendly and has a neighbourly way of helping. I found it touching that Acclaim Health reaches out to many people in the community, especially those that are isolated and provides support to others in need."

Julie Picott, Nurse, Home Care Hero Award Winner



"Nursing to me means caring for others in their most vulnerable time, listening without judgment and trying to improve their daily lives."



Jan Raymond, Volunteer, 30 Years of Extraordinary Care

"Acclaim Health provides an opportunity to serve my local community with individual care. My encounters lead to many instructive and inspirational moments with follow-up for some to be personal friends."

You say goodbye, and I say hello.



Angela: The Nurse, The CEO, The Legend



"Being CEO of Acclaim Health has truly been one of the great honours of my life. Although I am leaving this exceptional organization, Acclaim Health and its people will forever hold a special place in my heart."

It's hard to say goodbye!

This is our thanks to you, Angela, for everything you've done for this community.

Thank you for finding ways to get people the care they needed most.

Thank you for empowering our team to do the right thing for the people we help.

Thank you for fighting for fair wages for home and community care heroes.

Thank you for creating a culture of kindness.

Thank you for leading the way through an ever-changing healthcare system.

Thank you for inspiring all of us to reach for the stars.

Thank you for 32 incredible years of extraordinary care.

Angela's Greatest Hits

- Almost a million patients, club members, clients and their families have benefited from Acclaim Health's extraordinary care under her leadership.
- A long list of new programs has been created to meet community needs, including: Tele-Touch, Home Support Exercise Program, Bereavement Support, Private Care (our social enterprise), Wellness Support, Child and Youth Bereavement.
- Annual operating budget has grown from \$8.9M in 2004 to \$38.2M today.
- Patty's Place was created!
- Awarded the Queen's Platinum Jublilee Award for service to the community.
- Advocated for systemic change as Home Care Ontario Board Chair.

Welcome Kelly, our Shiny New CEO!



And the pom pom has been passed to...Kelly McWilliams! Her warmth, compassion for clients, extensive expertise, and unflappable attitude has earned her the respect of industry partners and team members alike. As a registered nurse and MBA, she's got what it takes to build on Acclaim Health's incredible legacy of home and community care by the people, for the people. Cheers to Kelly!

"I want to ensure that everyone – patients, clients, staff members, volunteers, donors, supporters, partners and our community – feels they are a part of our team. This is the only way Acclaim Health will continue to thrive, innovate and provide extraordinary community care long into the future."



This is how we're improving care in our community right now.

Over Half a Million Home Care Visits



The sheer volume of care provided by our amazing PSWs and nurses is astounding. Our PSWs made 384,273 home visits last year, up 11% from the previous year. Our incredible nurses provided 138,776 patient visits, up 2.5% from the previous year – that's over half a million care visits in total last year. Home care is the key to helping people live at home for as long as possible!

"Since I returned home from the hospital, my nursing care from Acclaim Health has been excellent. My nurses just want me to get better. They share in my happiness when they see I'm recovering."

-Saraswathy, Nursing Care Client

Caregivers Need More Help

Once again, there was a huge leap in demand for dementia related caregiver support. We helped 740 people this year - up 23% over last year - through 3,215 family consultations, support group sessions, workshops and events. More Because You Care funding will be invested in this area this coming year to better meet demand.



Our caregivers and their loved ones enjoyed a social picnic at Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre.

This Is Caregiving

I'm caring for my wife of 53 years – a second marriage for both of us. My wife's first marriage was to an abusive person, which severely traumatized her. Now, with the progression of her dementia, she sometimes confuses me with her abusive husband from the past. She doesn't recognize me at times, waking up in the middle of the night attacking me to protect herself, running towards strangers in the parking lot or apartment building to ask for help. I didn't know how to handle these situations so I reached out to Acclaim Health for help. It was a relief to learn about therapeutic fibs and how to handle these situations when she didn't know who I was. I developed coping strategies for when she was feeling unsafe, like walking away to give her physical space, using Acclaim Health's caregiver cards that I can discreetly hand to strangers to let them know what's going on. I've also used JIM's Suites because she feels very safe there and it gives me a break. I was getting so burnt out, but joining the support groups, getting help, attending the education sessions has kept me going.

The Music Mind Connection



Our music therapy capacity has doubled in the last year thanks to the support of our incredible donors and funders - but we're not stopping there! Acclaim Health is working towards becoming Music Care Certified™ (a two-year process), so that we're able to infuse music into much of the care we provide. The benefits are enormous for our clients, patients and club members − including reduced stress, anxiety and frustration, and an increased sense of connection − AND JOY!

Fun Fact

Everyone's favourite instrument to play is the djembe – a West African drum!



Private Care That Provides... More Community Care!

Private care saw a 14% increase in volumes year over year, partly due to our popular foot care service. This increase in volume has an extra wonderful side effect – it generates more care for the community. All of the surplus from our private care social enterprise is reinvested in our other community programs. Private care clients get the care they need, while helping others in their community. It's a beautiful thing!



"It means I don't have to go out to have my toenails cut. I don't have to get a taxi or get my daughter from work. It's so convenient for me."

Reducing Social Isolation One iPad At a Time



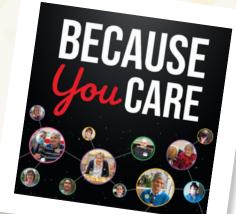
Older adults who can't use technology are getting left behind and are often lonelier than their peers. Our Technology Accessibility pilot ran this year to address the issue, and had such strong results that it will now become a full-fledged program thanks to an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant. Older adults will learn how to access the internet, send emails, join video calls, play games, send text messages and more alongside their very own volunteer.

"I am communicating more with my daughters, I have a contact email for the doctor now, I can look up services, I feel more at ease with technology and I'm participating more in life. I don't feel scared of the future!"

-Beverley (pictured left), Pilot Program Participant

The BIG Impact of Because You Care

Your support for the Because You Care campaign had a HUGE impact this past year. We targeted funds where the community needed it most: increasing dementia care capacity, reducing social isolation through increased volunteer capacity, improving physical activity, expanding music therapy, and supporting our Client Assistance Fund. Phew! That was a lot! The secret ingredient to this success is the flexibility of the funding allowing us to quickly, easily direct it right where it needed to go.





"I was in a bad place. Acclaim Health pulled me out of it."

-Marie, Friendly Visiting, Tele-Touch and Home Support Exercise Program Client

Burlington Club Improves Accessibility



Renovations to our Burlington Club were celebrated with - what else!? - a Summer Patio Party! Washrooms and the front entrance were improved to make the club more accessible with help from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

"My wife uses a walker. The changes to the curb make it so much easier to help her in and out of the building. It's important to make it easier for everyone to use this amazing program." -Errol, Caregiver

Patty's Place Celebrates Its 2nd Birthday





Hard to believe it's been 2 years since Patty's Place opened its doors! It's a community success story that has provided care for hundreds of club members and their families. But here are the REALLY important statistics:



- 71,298 coffees shared amongst friends
- 950,640 leg lifts in exercise classes (you read that right, it's not a typo - you gotta balance out the cookies somehow!)
- 733 works of art created by talented club member artists
- Sweet Caroline has been joyfully sung **1,339 times** (bah, bah, bah!)
- 8,302 immersion room experiences
- Most popular game: BINGO! (so the team has created a wild number of variations to keep things fresh, including: TV Theme Song Bingo, Trivia Bingo, Jackpot Bingo, Dice Bingo, Music Bingo, Sound Bingo.... there are a lot of ways to BINGO!)





This is how we care for each other.

Cheers to these caring volunteers for achieving incredible milestones this year!



Nelly Boyle

Jan Raymond

20 Years

Sandy Amodio Anna Armstrong Bonita Head

David Hutchison Ken Moxey

15 Years

Vicky Craig Clara Fernandes Susan Flack Ellie McCarthy



10 Years

Amad Awan
Colleen Clairmont
Linda Gallow
Jacqueline Maria Hahn
Susan Lewis

Grace Maharaj Mary Clare Moore Pamela Roach Ruth Stockdale

5 Years

Diane Bergamin Nora Cameron Milica Culum Jacqui Gardner Eileen Hamilton Mitchell La Tour Tracy McIver
Asha Patel
Linda Pinkney
Brett Prior
Juliette Silva
Hannah Song

and several other awesome volunteers who prefer to remain anonymous!



This is how we create extraordinary care together.



Thank you to you, our incredible donors, for choosing to support extraordinary care in our community.

This list includes donors who gave between April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. We have made every effort to make sure this list is accurate. Like seriously, we looked at spreadsheets for days. If we missed you, we are so sorry and we will make it up to you with a visit from the pom pom squad!

A.W.B. Charitable Foundation

Access Abilities

Paula and Andy Aicklen

AlayaCare Tom Alton

Anita Anand and John Knowlton

Lvnn Anderson

Margaret Ann Andrews

Ardis Archer

Kevin Arjoon

Sarah Arjoon

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Irene Murray and Family

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Fave Neville

Sue and Paul Newman

Kazuo Nishimura

Ross Nishimura

Ana Nunes

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Onex

Ontario Trillium Foundation

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Suzanne Young

Larry Zavitz Cathy Zuraw

and hundreds of wonderful anonymous donors!

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^{*}Funds held within the Oakville Community Foundation **Funds held within the Burlington Foundation

^{*}

This is how we're working to secure extraordinary care for the future.



A Battle Won, The War Wages (ha!) On

Finally, after years of advocacy at the provincial level, Acclaim Health employees received permanent raises this year unhampered by Bill 124. The raises fell short of addressing the pay gap between home care and other healthcare settings, and did not mitigate the cost of living increases we have seen over the last few years – but it was a meaningful step in the right direction.

The Promise of Ontario Health Teams (OHTs)

Cool stuff is starting to happen! Community Wellness Hubs are spreading across our region, and deep collaboration across sector partners is developing best practices for wrap around care. Acclaim Health is a big part of this work to shape the future of healthcare through the Connected Care Halton OHT, the Burlington OHT and the Mississauga OHT.

Inclusive Care for Everyone



To do that, we need to do better. Acclaim Health is intentionally and tangibly working towards a more equitable and inclusive community – starting with ourselves. This year all Acclaim Health team members participated in learning opportunities, started to tackle painful issues like workplace harassment, and celebrated the unique lived experiences of our team. This is only the beginning! Addressing social justice issues – within our organization and in our community – is the only way to provide extraordinary care for EVERYONE.



Financial Highlights



Total Revenues \$39,633,451

- Home Care Contracts and Fees for Service \$30,833,695
- Community Programs Gov't Funding \$6,328,086
- Amortized Donation Revenue \$287,111
- Donations & Community Grants \$1,559,772
- Other \$206,151
- Investments \$418,636

Total Expenditures \$38,230,113

- Home Care Contracts and Fees for Service \$25,966,618
- Community Programs \$8,265,974
- Management and Administration \$3,615,523
- Fundraising \$381,998

Want to know more?

Full audited financial statements and a link to our charity tax returns (T3010s) are available at www.acclaimhealth.ca/about-us/.

Board and CEO



Cindy Lee Heinz, Chair



Stuart Du Kamp, Secretary



Lawrence Benjamin



Dwania Peele



Mukul Asthana



Debra Deakin

Cathi Mietkiewicz



Angela Brewer, CEO (ex officio)



Accreditation Perfection

Did we get 100% perfect on our recent Accreditation Canada assessment? Why, yes. Yes we did. All 804 quality standards were met earning us Exemplary Standing – the highest standing possible. Mic drop.





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Funded in part by:









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