

The Halifax Helpers 

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 / 2022



Halifax, NS

Canada



The Halifax Helpers



Letter from our Founder

As our third year in operation comes to a close, I am once again beaming with pride and am excited to share what our team at The Halifax Helpers has accomplished throughout the 2021/22 school year.

Since the publishing of our last impact report we have prioritized creating strong partnerships with organizations in our community. We connected with both SchoolsPlus and The Halifax Center for Regional Education who helped us expand our programming and our reach. By working together we have almost tripled the number of students we were able to support, offering tutoring sessions to over 315 families in Nova Scotia and beyond. In addition, we want to extend our most profound thank you to the 83 volunteer tutors on our team who gave their time to make these sessions possible.

These partnerships not only expanded our reach, but allowed us to better understand the needs of our community. By connecting with frontline educators at SchoolsPlus we were able to develop three new programs which support parents, in regard to their child's academic needs, and students, in relation to their own.

Although we are proud of our rapid growth our team has learnt just how quickly resources can become strained when an organization expands. I am impressed with the way we have adapted and problem solved - this has made us stronger. One of our greatest takeaways, however, is that it is ok to have growing pains. We will use the feedback we have received from our team members, parents, and students to make sure we enter into the 2022/23 school year more prepared than ever.

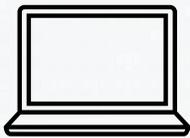
A sincere thank you to all of our donors who believed in THH's mission and the ability of youth to, as my dad would say, "make it happen". Through the 2022/23 school year we are excited to continue to deepen our existing partnerships while simultaneously creating new connections, expanding our reach, and learning how to best support our community.

Rebecca Raphael
Executive Director of The Halifax Helpers



New Developments

This year the Halifax Helpers have launched three new pilot programs:



Laptop Lending

In collaboration with SchoolsPlus, 64 Chromebook laptops and 15 Mifi wifi sticks were distributed to students in need. This expanded accessibility not only to our services, but to online learning as a whole.



EAL conversation groups

A pilot, in-person, weekly conversation group of 8 EAL students was launched at St. Agnes Junior High modelled from our popular online conversation group.



Caregiver tutoring

This program was designed in collaboration with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education to teach caregivers with school-aged children strategies for supporting their child with at home math learning. Five sessions were run by a math coach and 20 caregivers attended.

The Halifax Helpers added three new executives to the board:



Head of Website
Development



Chief Financial
Officer



Head of Training
Development

Our Stats



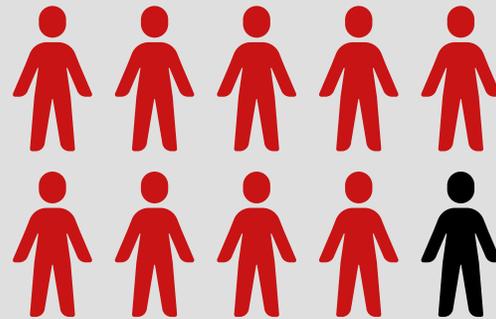
83 TUTORS

3319 HOURS

316 STUDENTS



100% of students agree that tutoring reduced their stress about school



93% agree that tutoring sessions helped their child's grades improve



CONFIDENCE

93% of parents agree that their child feels more confident after participating in tutoring sessions



RECOMMENDATIONS

100% of parents would recommend The Halifax Helpers to other families



The Halifax Helpers



Testimonials

Tutors, parents, and students have provided exceptional feedback about their experience with The Halifax Helpers. See what they had to say below.

Being a tutor with the Halifax Helpers provided me with an amazing opportunity to become involved with my community on a deeper level, and I have gotten to know so many wonderful families!
- Tutor

Working with Halifax Helpers was an extremely enlightening experience, and spending time with all the wonderful children was quite educational for myself as well.
- Mary (Tutor)

I would advise parents to really use this program because it's really very great. It has helped me, as a solo mother of two survive, homework.
- Parent

Our Team



Rebecca Raphael
Executive Director and
Founder

Rebecca is our Director. She is currently studying Nutrition and Health Studies at the University of Toronto. Rebecca is passionate about giving back to the community she was raised in. She is responsible for ensuring that our programming reaches as many students as possible by creating connections and partnerships within our community. She is the point of contact for all students', parents', and tutors' questions! Rebecca is most looking forward to expanding our executive team this year so we can support more students!

Blythe is a Marketing and Neuroscience student at the University of Guelph. She joined the Halifax Helpers in 2020 and is proud to have now completed her second year as the Co-head of Fundraising. Blythe is enthusiastic about enabling the goals of the organization through fundraising and community outreach efforts. She chose The Halifax Helpers to be part of a passionate group of young students and professionals supporting the future generation of learners. Blythe and Caylee lead efforts in raising \$7,000 in the last year.



Blythe O'Connor
Co-Head of Fundraising



Caylee MacDonald
Co-Head of Fundraising

Caylee is currently studying Chemistry and Biology at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, and is originally from Mahone Bay, N.S. Caylee is passionate about making education accessible in Nova Scotia, as her parents are teachers here. On our board Caylee is responsible for applying for grants and making community connections through donations and sponsorships.

Our Team



Jeremy Lara
Head of Website
Development

Jeremy is a recent graduate of the University of Waterloo, although he is originally from California. Jeremy joined the Halifax Helpers because it was an opportunity to help students in need while also expanding web development skills remotely. Jeremy thought the work required would be limited, but found he learned many more skills than anticipated. He has most enjoyed how flexible the work has been while seeing the impact despite the fact that he has not set foot in the city of Halifax. Jeremy describes his experience as follows: "From my home computer, I have been able to help with students accessing tutoring from behind the scenes. I don't always feel the need to be front and centre with the work I'm doing, so this role has been so much fun in that regard."

Elisa is currently studying a Bachelors in Science majoring in Medical Sciences and hoping to get a minor in Bioethics at Dalhousie. She chose The Halifax Helpers because she saw how hard it was to find tutors with financial stress and physical distance. Elisa wanted to help students get support without boundaries and to overcome limitations. Throughout her journey with THH, Elisa has most enjoyed seeing students become motivated and find the material easier. Finding future tutors who would help even more students also played a very positive role her life.



Elisa Kim
Co-Head of Volunteer
Recruitment



Lise Charles
Co-Head of Volunteer
Recruitment

Lise recently graduated from Dalhousie University with honours in International Development Studies and Environment, Sustainability & Society. Lise is passionate about creating interpersonal relationships and brings this passion to her role on the team. She was the point of contact for all incoming volunteers, conducted interviews, and designed volunteer recruitment campaigns.

Our Team



Dania Shikara
Head of Training
Development

Dania is a recent graduate of the Medical Sciences Program at Dalhousie University. Currently she is starting medical school at McMaster University. She is originally from Iraq but has lived in Halifax for the past 12 years. Dania has helped develop the Trauma Informed Training Module, Social Emotional Learning Module, and the Building Bridges with Marginalized Communities Module in collaboration with the Schools Plus program. Dania has most enjoyed connecting with students and utilizing knowledge she gathered over the years of tutoring to optimize the Halifax Helpers' training modules to equip our tutors with as many resources as possible to help facilitate their sessions!

Mariya is the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Halifax Helpers. Mariya graduated from Dalhousie University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and is now working on a Master of Business Administration. Mariya currently resides in Halifax but is originally from New Brunswick. Prior to joining the executive team for The Halifax Helpers, Mariya was a tutor for our organization. As the CFO, Mariya ensures that all sponsorship funds that are received by The Halifax Helpers goes towards supporting for programming and advancement. Mariya is so proud of the organization that The Halifax Helpers has become and is so thrilled so many students can benefit from all the work done. Mariya is looking forward to supporting The Halifax Helpers as they advance to broaden their reach of supportive services for the community!



Mariya Turchin
Chief Financial Officer



Jillian Hayden
Director of Social Media

As our Director of Social Media, Jillian is responsible for social media content creation and managing our Facebook and Instagram accounts. Jillian also developed strategies to engage followers, and posted important announcements to keep the Halifax Helpers community up to date.

Future Goals

NO. 1 - Open a New Chapter

This coming year we aim to launch a new chapter in Ontario as a pilot program for future chapter growth across the country.

NO. 2 - Expand the Executive Team

We are working to expand our executive team adding a coordinator for each program launched this year, a director of outreach, and increasing the number of team members in existing departments.

NO. 3 - Program Development

With several pilot programs seeing success this year, we are now working to make them permanent programs.

NO. 4 - New Website

To improve booking simplicity, this coming year our new website management team will develop a fully automated website.

The Halifax Helpers

Sponsors

The work at The Halifax Helpers would not be possible without the generosity of our donors, partners, and sponsors. Thank You!



EDUCATION AND
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

