



BRUCE GREY MENTORSHIP

Charitable # 88870 3592 RR0001

517 11th Avenue
Hanover, Ontario N4N 2S3
519-506-5065

Ms. Trish Serratore
Chief Financial Officer
Municipality of Brockton

January 23, 2023

Dear Trish,

Greetings! We would like to submit a letter of request for the Municipality of Brockton to assist us funding again for 2023 as we facilitate various positive mentoring opportunities for local children and youth.

Bruce Grey Mentorship is entering its 6th year of mentoring programs for children and youth in our community. Since we began serving youth in 2017, we have seen nearly 40 kids enter our program. Currently 21 of those are benefiting from weekly group programs with our mentors, being encouraged and guided as they grow.

Over 2022 we used many variations of social mentoring techniques to connect with and support the young people in our program. Social mentoring uses various social activities to create positive interaction opportunities with at-risk young people and our adult mentors. Some examples include art projects, cooking, games, field trips, after school programs and youth nights. Through these initiatives, we create a safe place for our Mentees to learn social and life skills while developing confidence and self-esteem.

Over the past couple of year, the Pandemic has affected many youth in our community in adverse ways. We have seen an increase of mental health issues related to many months of isolation and increased online exposure. Many of the young people we support are struggling with increased anxiety and depression. Some of our teens are struggling with addiction. Throughout the Pandemic, we have worked to support and encourage them through those difficult times.

Research has proven that mentoring children and youth does make a significant impact on their life. The value of mentoring is significant for a community, helping guide young people away from negative behaviours and choices and providing them opportunities to learn positive ways to interact and respond to the community around them.

Bruce Grey Mentorship offers families in need a key support in the lives of their children at absolutely no cost. We primarily serve families where 1 or both biological parent is absent, or there is a demonstrated need for additional support for a child. Many of our young people are from low income families and would not be able to afford other programs or services.

However, funding our program has been a challenge since the onset of the Pandemic. We have seen a significant loss in revenue that greatly restricts our ability to expand our service to young people in need. For the second year in a row we are running a deficit budget as we try to secure new sources of revenue. We hope this year you will consider one of our key sponsorship levels for 2023:

Presenting Partners \$10,000; Leading Partners \$3000; Partners \$1000; Supporters \$500

Thank you for your consideration, we truly appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Greg Dow, Executive Director

Mission:

To match children and youth, who will benefit, with mentors who will help them build confidence and self-esteem.