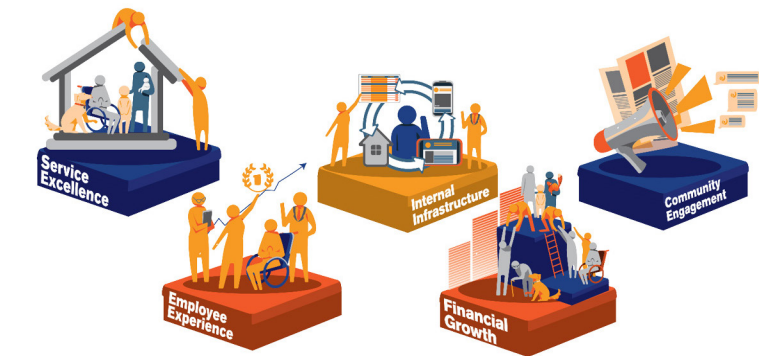


2025/2026 Annual Report

September 2026



#WeAreWesley

On behalf of the Wesley Board of Directors, we are pleased to share this annual report highlighting Wesley’s impact across Hamilton, Halton, and Brantford during the fiscal year April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2026.

This was a year of meaningful progress and important milestones for Wesley. At the heart of our work remained our commitment to supporting people experiencing poverty, homelessness, and other barriers, while creating opportunities for children, youth, families, newcomers, and individuals seeking employment to build more stable and hopeful futures.



This year also brought significant milestones for Wesley. We were honoured to receive the 2025 Hamilton Gives Non-Profit Changemaker Award, recognizing our governance, leadership, and long-term contribution to Hamilton’s well-being. We celebrated the achievements of our people, including long-time Board member and volunteer Shirley Bainbridge, who was named a recipient of the 2025 Order of Hamilton.

We strengthened our ability to serve the community through investments in our operations and infrastructure, including a new Wesley van to support community food delivery. Most significantly, after decades of renting, Wesley officially purchased 467 Main Street East on March 30, 2026, securing a permanent home for programs and services that support thousands of people each year.

We also continued to advance the priorities of our 2025–2028 Strategic Plan, developed through engagement with clients, staff, partners, donors, and community stakeholders. The plan provides a clear path forward focused on service excellence, employee experience, internal infrastructure, financial growth, and community engagement.

These achievements are a reflection of what is possible when people come together around a shared commitment to community. We are grateful to our staff, volunteers, Board of Directors, funders, partners, donors, and supporters—and, most importantly, to the people who trust Wesley to walk alongside them.

Together, we are strengthening communities, creating opportunity, and building a future where everyone has the chance to thrive.



Julie Vernon
Chair, Board of Directors

Rashed Afif
Chief Executive Officer

Wesley Team

Wesley Board of Directors (2025/26 fiscal year)
Julie Vernon, Chair
George Kalopsis, Vice Chair
Jim Parke, Secretary/Treasurer
Shirley Bainbridge
Lita Barrie
Rev. Jim Cairney
Peter Duff
Klim Khomenko
Carla Lasota
Maritza Orozco
Heather Padgett
Kaush Parameswaran (Vice Chair, partial year)
Sharon Wilmot (partial year)

Wesley Leadership Team (as of September 2026)
Rashed Afif,
Chief Executive Officer
Josey Kitson,
Chief Operating Officer
Naseem Shabudeen,
Chief Financial Officer
Melissa Lodge-Rodney,
Chief Human Resources Officer
Celeste Weston,
Chief Development & Communications Officer
Kristyn Bruce,
Sr Director, Housing & Outreach Services
Tariq Ismati,
Sr Director, Newcomer & Employment Services
Denise Scott,
Sr Director, Children, Youth & Family Services
Rosemary Boateng,
Director, Newcomer & Employment Services
Robyn Currie,
Director, Housing & Outreach Services
Jennifer Ryan,
Director, Children & Family Services
Vivien Underdown,
Director, Operations & Property Services

Services & Programs 2025/26 fiscal year

Children, Youth & Family Services:

- EarlyON Child and Family Centres
- Child Care Centres
- Family Home Visitors Program
- Before & After School Programs
- School Break Camps
- Community Outreach Response for Youth
- Youth Housing
- Youth Diversion Program
- Youth Centres
- Youth Outreach Workers – Hamilton & Brantford

Housing & Homelessness Services:

- Housing Services – Halton
- Hoarding Support – Halton
- Housing Services – Hamilton
- Supportive Housing
- Special Care Unit
- Outreach Services

Newcomer & Employment Services:

- Resettlement Assistance Program
- Asylum Seekers Assistance Program
- Client Support Services – Newcomer Services
- Employment Services

Food:

- Client Meal Services
- Catering Services

Children, Youth & Family

Service Highlights 2025/26 fiscal year

Wesley’s Children, Youth & Family Services support children, youth and families from early childhood through young adulthood. Our programs provide opportunities for early learning, parenting support, recreation, outreach and housing, helping young people build confidence, skills and stability.

For children and families, our Early Years programs include licensed child care, licensed before and after school care, Ontario after school program, school break camps, Family Home Visitors and six EarlyON Child and Family Centres. After extensive renovations, our 1900 Main St. W. EarlyON Centre reopened with a brighter, more welcoming space, new learning materials and dedicated areas for babies, play and creativity.

For youth ages 12–21, Wesley provides outreach, homework support, recreation programs and skill-development opportunities. With the need for youth services at an all-time high, our community-based programs connect young people with support, build confidence and develop skills before challenges escalate.

Wesley Youth Housing provides a safe, supportive home for youth ages 16–21 who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, helping them move toward independence. Recent improvements, including new flooring, a new oven and improved wi-fi, help create a more comfortable and welcoming environment where young people can focus on school, stability and their future.

Across our Children, Youth and Family Services, we strengthen families through parenting support, intervention, reunification assistance and connections to community resources. Together, these services help children and youth feel safe, supported and ready to thrive.



43,388 EarlyON – Children visits

31,361 EarlyON – Adult visits

3,540 Meals served

138 Children attended before and after school programs

84 Summer campers attended our programs

1,816 Home visits by Family Home Visitors team

440 Families Served by Family Home Visitors team

20 Youth housed through Youth Housing and Diversion programs

646 Individuals supported by Youth Outreach Workers

11 Youth completed Life Skills program

125 Youth received intensive short-term counselling

171 Youth supported via Youth Centres

3,372 Visitors to our youth programs

778 Youth engaged with/ who are a part of a priority population through Community Outreach Response for Youth (COR) program

12% more children visits to EarlyON Centres!

35% more summer campers!

Youth engagement among priority populations more than doubled!

Housing & Homelessness

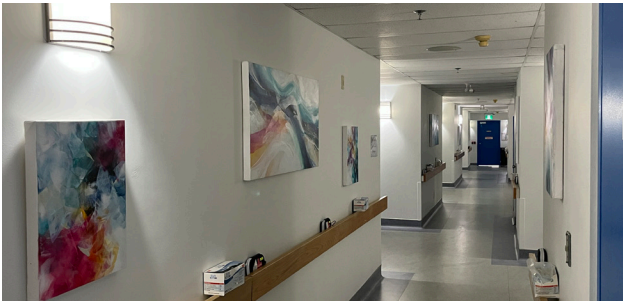
Wesley’s Housing and Homelessness Services support individuals and families facing housing instability in Hamilton and Halton. We provide emergency shelters, transitional housing and outreach services to connect people with the resources they need to secure and maintain stable housing.

This year, we were able to assist more unhoused clients than ever before through our Special Care Unit in Hamilton. The unit supports people experiencing homelessness who have cognitive challenges related to substance use, helping them stabilize and move toward permanent housing.

Our Housing First approach prioritizes finding permanent housing as a foundation for overall well-being, offering support with rental subsidies, landlord mediation and access to essential services such as mental health and addiction support. Our goal is to help people move through the shelter system quickly, making homelessness brief rather than chronic, while providing the supports needed to maintain housing and build stability.

In Halton, Wesley continues to strengthen local housing supports, including through a pilot expansion of our Asylum Seekers Assistance Program. The program provides coordinated intake, transitional housing and intensive case management for asylum seekers and refugee claimants, helping participants access essential community, settlement, health, income and immigration services while working toward stable, permanent housing.

Wesley also continues to respond to local housing needs by working with community partners. On the property, Halton Region installed two modular housing units to provide additional accessible accommodations for individuals with mobility and accessibility needs. The units were purpose-built with enhanced accessibility features to support residents with a range of needs.



205 Clients supported by Housing Team in Hamilton

57 Clients housed by Housing Team in Hamilton

8 Clients residing at Supportive Housing Program in Hamilton

59 Clients stabilized by Special Care Unit (SCU) in Hamilton

70 Individuals supported by Housing First Program in Halton

296 Clients supported by Emergency Supportive Housing Program in Halton

57 Children supported by Emergency Supportive Housing Program in Halton

98 Clients housed by Emergency Supportive Housing Program in Halton

45 Evictions prevented by Community Support Worker Program in Halton

698 Clients Supported by Rec Therapy Program in Halton

50 Referrals to Hoarding Support Program in Halton

26 Referrals to Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Program in Halton

50% more clients were served in Hamilton!

Recreational Therapy sessions more than doubled this year.

Newcomer & Employment

Service Highlights 2025/26 fiscal year

Wesley’s Newcomer Services support government assisted refugees, asylum seekers, refugee claimants and other newcomers as they settle, integrate and build independent lives in Hamilton, Halton and Brantford. Through the Resettlement Assistance Program, Client Support Services and the Asylum Seekers Assistance Program, clients access coordinated help with housing, health care, income supports, orientation, community connections and pathways to employment.

Wesley’s Employment Services support a broader range of job seekers: youth and adults who are unemployed, underemployed or exploring new career paths, including newcomers and others facing barriers to labour-market participation. Funded by Employment Ontario and delivered under the oversight of Fedcap Canada, services include career planning, job search and readiness support, training referrals, employer connections and work-placement pathways. We help participants build the skills, confidence and experience needed for meaningful, sustainable work while helping employers meet evolving workforce needs.

Beyond direct service delivery, Wesley works with funders, employers, municipalities and community partners to strengthen settlement and workforce systems. This collaboration reduces barriers, advances inclusion and creates stronger pathways to economic independence and community participation. With local partners and support from the City of Hamilton, Wesley’s Collaborative Refugee Housing Model created temporary housing beds and integrated housing, health, employment and settlement supports for asylum seekers. We also started providing case management for asylum seekers in Halton.



727

216

62

1,032

2,455

279

18

31

280

104

Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP)

– total arrivals Hamilton

Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP)

– total arrivals Brantford

Secondary migrants settled

Client Support Services (CSSS)

- total clients served

Community referrals made

Asylum Seekers Assistance Program (ASAP)

- clients from 32 countries served,

with the majority coming from Czech

Republic, Haiti, Kenya, Nigeria.

Asylum Seekers Assistance Program (ASAP) clients

secured employment through Wesley Employment Services.

Seniors Outreach Program for Newcomers – clients served

Employment Program for Newcomers – intakes

Employment Program for Newcomers

– full & part-time jobs.

Full & part-time jobs for newcomers more than doubled!

Wesley’s Food Services brings people together through the power of good food. Last year, we provided more than 135,000 nutritious meals to people in our programs, including children and families, newcomers, seniors and people experiencing homelessness. That was 30,000 more meals than the previous year.

Our culinary team works closely with program staff to understand clients’ cultural backgrounds, dietary preferences and health needs. Using fresh, nutritious ingredients and a wide range of cultural influences, our meals are prepared to be enjoyed by people of diverse backgrounds. Food is delivered to Wesley programs across Hamilton and Halton, where people can share meals with family and friends in a welcoming and dignified environment.

Wesley also provides meals for our women’s and family shelter in Halton, supporting people as they work toward stable housing and a brighter future.

We also deliver First Start Catering, our Hamilton-based catering services for workplaces, corporate functions and community events. Our catering menu features diverse options to suit a range of dietary needs, including halal, gluten-free and vegetarian choices. Prepared by our experienced culinary team from around the world, our meals celebrate cultural traditions while delivering quality and flavour you can count on.

Every plate we serve helps nourish people, strengthen connections and build a healthier, more welcoming community.



Service Highlights 2025/26 fiscal year

Our team prepared 30,000 more meals than the previous year!

135,944 Meals prepared and served for our clients

2,590 Meals prepared as part of our catering services for external clients

Funding Partners 2025/26 fiscal year

Appleby United Church	Kelly Family Fund
ArcelorMittal Dofasco Inc.	Kiwanis Club of Hamilton East Inc.
Barton Stone-Mount Hope United Church	Ladies Auxilary Branch #163
Bayshore Foundation	Lawrie Insurance Group
Benefaction Foundation	Link Charity Canada Inc.
Binbrook United Church	Loyal True Blue Orange Home
Brian and Catherine Warry Family Foundation	Mackesy Smye Lawyers
Burlington Community Foundation	Marshall Truck & Trailer Repair Ltd
Canada Life	Marshall Memorial United Church
Canadian Red Cross Community Services Recovery Fund	Medical Arts Pharmacy
Case United Church	Melrose United Church
CBM Chartered Professional Accountants LLP	Meridian Credit Union
CCXIT Computer Services	Nancy & George Ruttle Foundation
Church of God Hamilton	Northbridge Insurance
City of Hamilton	Oakridge Landscaping
Club 9 Burlington	Ontario REALTORS Care Foundation
Coke Canada Hamilton	Peter Martin Appliances, Heating & Cooling
Colborne Village United Church	Plooto Inc.
Cowan Foundation	PooranLaw
Delta United Church	Port Nelson United Church
Don & Diane Woods Family Foundation	Province of Ontario
Dr. Ken and Irene Tse Fund	PuroClean Restoration
East Plains United Church	RBC Life Insurance Company
Economical Insurance Group	Region of Halton
Emmanuel United Church	Ron & Nancy Clark Foundation
Erion Insurance Group	Rotary Club of Ancaster A.M.
Estate of Erna Ridley	Rotary Club of Hamilton
Estate of Hazel Broker	Samuel, Son & Co. Ltd.
Evergreen Crematorium	SimpsonWigle Law LLP
Fairmount Foundation	SLG Family Foundation
Faith United Church	Smile Design Dental Care
Fedcap Canada	Smithville United Church
Fifty United Church	St. Andrew's United Church
First Pilgrim United Church	St. John United Church
Freelton Strabane Pastoral Charge	St. Mark's United Church
Gift Funds Canada	St. Paul's United Church Dundas
Government of Canada	St. Paul's United Church
Grace - St. Stephen Endowment Fund	Steelworkers Humanity Fund Inc.
Hamilton #1 L.O.B.A	Taylor Steel Inc.
Hamilton Community Foundation	The Chisholm Family Foundation
-Dufresne-Ray Family Fund	The Pod Group
-Hamilton Spectator Summer Camp Fund	The Roger and Edith Davis Foundation
-Samaritans Tithe Fund	Trinity United Church
-Turkstra Lumber Foundation	Triumph Tool Ltd
-WL Carpenter Memorial Fund	United Church of Canada - Horseshoe Falls Regional Council
Hamilton Japanese United Church	United Church of Canada Foundation
Hamilton Police Service	United Steelworkers - Local 9563
Hammond Metal Systems	United Way Golden Horseshoe
Heart Lake United Church	University Bible Fellowship of Hamilton
Highland Hills Faith Community	Victoria Park Community Homes
In The Spirit Giving Foundation	Walton Memorial United Church
Jaden Printing Services	Walzak Family Wealth Management
Janco Steel Ltd.	West Plains United Church
JLY Electric	Westdale United Church
	Wise Riddell Financial Group

Leading Donors 2025/26 fiscal year

We sincerely thank our funding partners and leading donors for their outstanding generosity, trust, and commitment to Wesley. In particular, we acknowledge Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, the City of Hamilton, the Region of Halton, and the Province of Ontario for their vital support and partnership.

Your contributions make it possible for us to deliver essential programs and services to newcomers and vulnerable community members, helping to build a stronger, more inclusive, and supportive community for everyone.

We are equally grateful to our leading donors, whose generosity is a cornerstone of our work, inspiring us every day as we work together to create lasting change.

This generosity was especially evident through our signature fundraising events. Our 34th Annual Case for Kids event raised more than \$88,000 in support of Children, Youth & Family programs, thanks to the incredible support of donors, sponsors, volunteers, staff, and participants who made this success possible.

Our 33rd Annual Wesley Open Golf Tournament was also a record-breaking success, raising more than \$89,000 to support Youth Housing programs and help young people facing homelessness build stability and a brighter future.

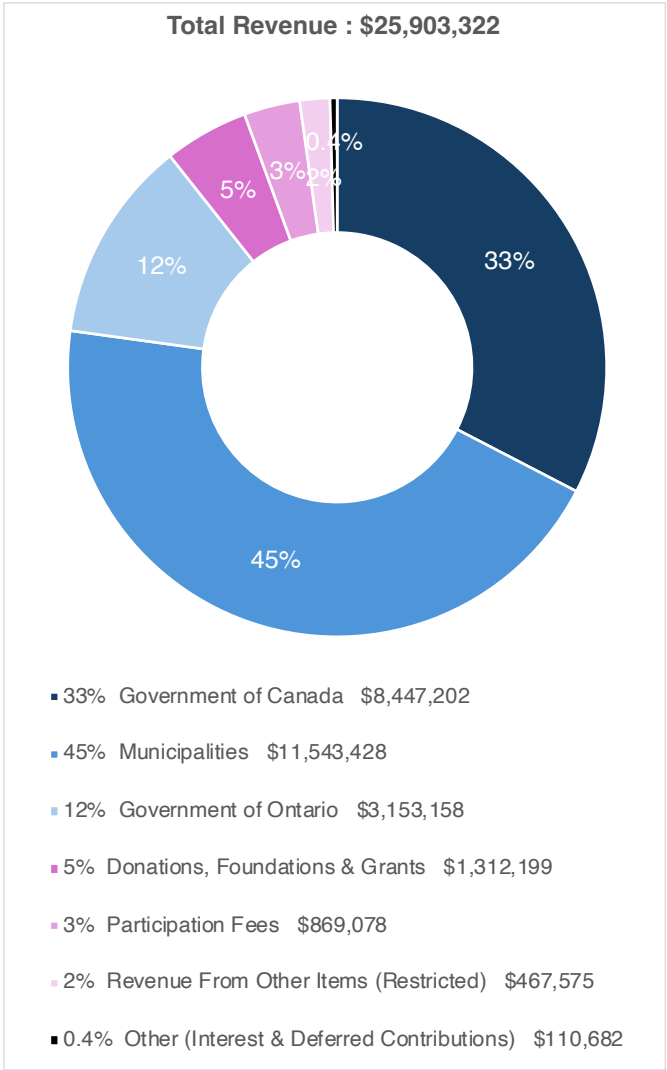
We extend a special thank-you to our 2025 Golf Fundraising Committee, whose dedication and leadership helped make this record-breaking tournament possible.

The spirit of giving also shone through during our 2025 Holiday Drive, which supported Wesley clients and families across multiple programs. Thanks to the generosity of donors, volunteers, clients received gift cards, socks, sheets, gloves, and other essential household goods. We are profoundly grateful for the compassion, dedication, and partnership of all those who help us bring hope and brighter futures to individuals and families in our community.

Mrs. Margaret Ashfield
Mr. Jamie Bethune
Barbara J. Borthwick
Ms. Monica Brecht-Yendt
Rev. Jim Cairney
Mr. Rick Clark and Mrs. Judy Clark
Mr. Michael Conway and Mrs. Claire Conway
Mrs. Jean Crowe
Ms. Pamela Fisher
Mrs. Judith Goodings and Mr. David A. Goodings
Mr. Gordon I. Hadaller and Mrs. Lorraine Hadaller
Mr. Craig Hambly and Mrs. Jennifer Hambly
Mr. Aaron Hamm
Dr. William Harris and Dr. Gretchen Harris
Faye Hewlett
Warren and Judith Johnson
Mr. Paul Johnson
Ms. Diane Knyf and Mr. Martin Knyf
Mr. Bob Lawrie
Ms. Karen Logan
Mr. Jonathan P. Lowry and Mrs. Lori Jenson-Lowry
Mr. Richard Madter and Mrs. Elizabeth Madter
Mr. Wayne Marshall
Mr. James McCallum and Ms. Janet Bard
Mrs. Doreen McKerracher
Mr. Ian McLeod
Mr. Tosh Nanba
Mrs. Kathleen Ouellette
Jim and Valerie Parke
Mr. Jay and Mrs. Mary Ellen Parlar
Mr. Robert Pond
Mr. Martin Renters and Mrs. Ruth Renters
Dianne Richards
Mr. and Mrs. James Robb
Lou Saunders and Jen Saunders
Mr. Robert C. Stacy
Mr. Wayne Taylor
Ms. Julie M. Thomson
Ms. Darlene Trow and Mr. Robert Trow
Mrs. K. Celeste Weston
The Whaddies
Mr. John Wheeler
Dr. David S. Wilkinson
Mr. John Zinkie and Mrs. Susanne Zinkie

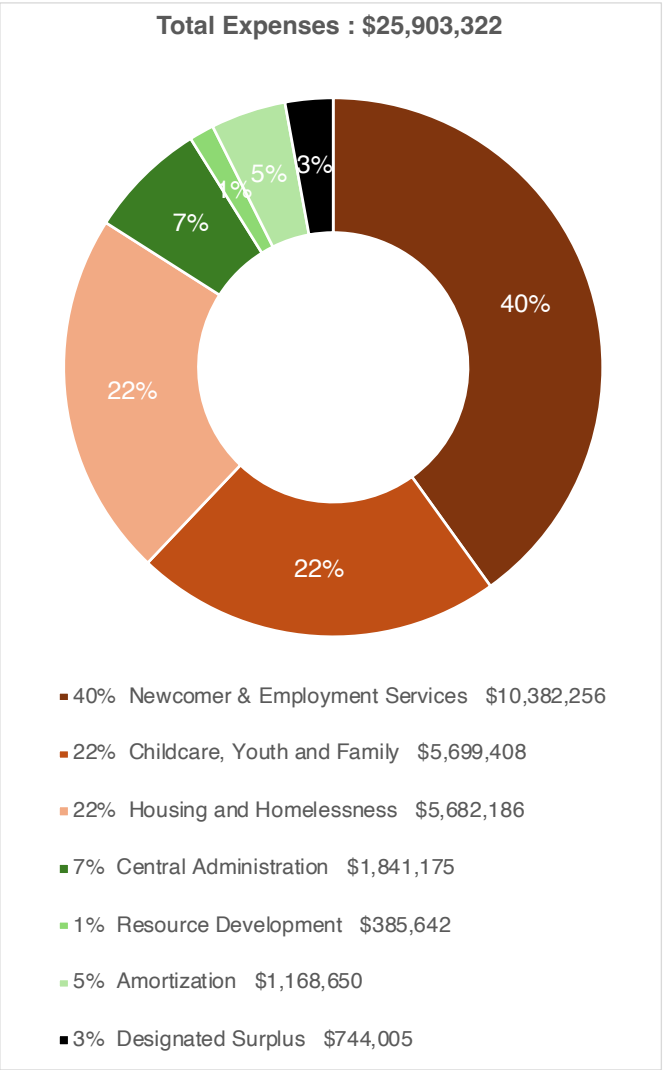
Financial Information

For the year that ended March 31, 2026



Financial transparency is crucial for Wesley as we foster trust and accountability within our community.

By openly sharing our financial practices and performance, we ensure that our stakeholders—donors, funders, and the public—can see how their contributions are making a difference.



You can view Wesley’s annual reports and financial statements here:
<https://wesley.ca/financials>

Wesley’s charitable return, on the CRA charities directorate, is here:
<https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/hacc/srch/pub/dsplyCptchFrm>

Charitable Registration Number :
119291946RR0001

Purchase of 467 Main St E

Hamilton, ON

A Home for Wesley’s Community Services

Since 1955, Wesley has grown from a small outreach program in a church basement into a multi-service organization supporting individuals and families across Hamilton, Halton, and Brantford. Today, Wesley delivers more than 25 programs across 17 locations, providing housing support, services for children and families, and assistance for newcomers to Canada.

Despite this growth, all of Wesley’s programs have historically operated from rented spaces, resulting in several relocations over the past decade. Each move created challenges for staff and disrupted clients’ access to services who depend on consistent support.

Owning the property is allowing Wesley to create a stable, long-term home for programs and services, ensuring that the people we serve can continue to access support in a familiar, accessible location.

Since leasing the building in 2023, the site has already become an important hub for community services. In the past year alone, programs operating from this location have supported thousands of people.

The building at 467 Main Street East is ideally located, close to public transit and essential services. Wesley has worked closely with the City of Hamilton to ensure the site can support current programming and future growth.

Gifts from very generous donors including the Fairmount Foundation, Robert Wright and other generous donors as well as a bank loan helped us to purchase this building in March 2026. We are still seeking philanthropic support from our community to help minimize debt so we can focus our limited resources on helping people.



Owning this building means more than acquiring real estate. It means:

- Stability for programs that support vulnerable community members.
- Reliable access to services for thousands of clients each year.
- More resources supporting people and services, rather than interest payments.
- A permanent home for Wesley’s mission for decades to come.

The purchase of this building in 2026 is a major milestone for Wesley and we wholeheartedly thank each and every person who has given what they can to help us continue to serve our community.



Wesley is one of the longest-standing non-profits in the region, serving Hamilton, Halton and Brantford.

To make a donation please visit wesley.ca or contact Resource Development at (905) 528-5629 ext 285 or giving@wesley.ca

Gifts of any size, including estate gifts and gifts of securities, are gratefully accepted.

For general questions about Wesley, please contact info@wesley.ca

467 Main St E. Hamilton, ON, L8N 1K1, Canada

wesley.ca