



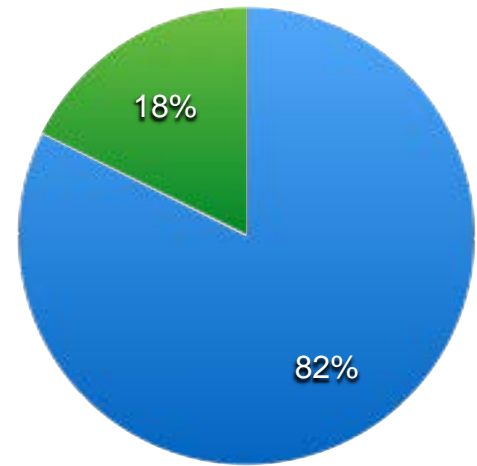
ANNUAL REPORT

2021

2021 IN REVIEW

The Astley Family Foundation made a difference in the lives of youth in Waterloo Region through supporting many local organizations.

Grants totalled \$710,000, a 61% increase compared to the grants made in 2020. This significant increase in grants in 2021 was due to the Foundation recognizing that the current requirement by CRA to disburse 3.5% of total assets is not sufficient and therefore, we significantly increased our grants to just under 6% of total assets. Also, COVID highlighted the inequities across different populations in the Region.



This report highlights the Foundation's activities supporting youth. The Foundation includes a donor-advised fund which is not covered here.

- Mission-related Grants \$585,000
- Racial Equity Grants (also mission-related) \$125,000

Grants totalling \$585,000 were made to organizations which we know well and have supported in the past. The Foundation decided on this approach instead of calling for applications during the pandemic.

We partnered with the Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation on the Racial Equity Fund to grant \$125,000 to groups and organizations working with racialized youth. This collaboration with KWCF and their committee of community members allowed us to support groups and organizations working with racialized youth that we previously haven't supported or known about. More information follows later in this report.

The funds were intended to support those most impacted by the ongoing and systemic racial disparities that exist in our community.

The second to last page of this report shines a spotlight on Langs, an organization in Cambridge. The last page gives a five-year statistical history of Foundation activities supporting vulnerable youth.

We continue to listen and learn from our community to address needs locally so we can be a part of creating an inclusive and equitable community for youth here in Waterloo Region.

Jennifer Astley-Kinsey, Executive Director

Robert Astley, Director

Judith Astley, Director

Derek Astley, Director

SUPPORTING VULNERABLE YOUTH

The Foundation granted \$585,000 to support vulnerable youth in 2021 to the following organizations:



RACIAL EQUITY PARTNERSHIP WITH KWCF

In December 2021, we partnered with the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation on the Racial Equity Fund. The Astley Family Foundation contributed \$125,000 of the approximately \$436,000 that was distributed to local organizations. The funds were used to support those most impacted by the ongoing and systemic racial disparities that exist in our community.

Our funding dollars were provided to charitable organizations supporting racialized youth that the committee of community members who self-identify as Indigenous, Black or as a person of colour recommended. The intention of this granting was to use our collective resources to advance racial equity in Waterloo Region.



This is a youth-led initiative to understand the state of mental health and well-being of racialized Muslim youth in Waterloo Region then identify best practices and gaps in mental health supports for them



A program to bridge the cultural, language and knowledge gap between parents whose children are in school and the school itself



This is a culturally-informed and grounded psychoeducational and social program designed to empower and foster the collective resilience and wellbeing of Black youth in Waterloo Region

KIND MINDS FAMILY WELLNESS:
Culture + Research + Community Engagement



A program to develop young Black leaders and to create communities of belonging with a focus on the townships - Woolwich, Wilmot, Wellesley and Breslau - to address issues of racism, discrimination, lack of diversity, sexism and tokenism that Black / racialized youth face on a day-to-day basis



Neruda Arts

This program is three, two-day workshops for BIPOC youth to introduce them to the arts to help youth discover themselves by exploring theatre, music and writing



Rhythm & Blues
Cambridge

To empower and uplift Black girls in Cambridge with continued support for their mental health and creative expression in a space where they can claim their voice, build friendships and increase self-esteem



A well-being group for Indigenous youth delivering wholistic, culturally-safe prevention and community-based programming that is inspired by local news and priorities by responding to emerging community needs through a weekly two-hour youth group supporting wellness and healing for Indigenous youth



This is a free learn to swim and water safety program offered to local BIPOC youth and adults, focused on teaching a critical life skill by trained aquatic professionals

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

LANGS - YOUTH WELLNESS HUB

The Langs Youth Wellness Hub (YWH) is 2,750 sq. ft. located on the second floor of The HUB@1145. The YWH is a safe, welcoming, inclusive space for youth to access services and programming in Cambridge.

The YWH is the home of many partners including Carizon Family and Community Services, Cambridge Career Connections, Family and Children’s Services, Lutherwood and Waterloo Region Suicide Prevention Council. Youth have the opportunity to engage in STEAM and art programs to enhance life skills, technical abilities and self- expression.

The goal of the YWH is to become a space where youth and their families can access the right service, at the right time, in the right place. Our integrated model of collaboration, innovation, and inclusion will offer easy-to-access, “one-stop-shop” services.

In 2021, 2,192 youth visited the YWH either in person or virtually. Forty four youth accessed counselling with Langs Social Work, 17 youth connected to Employment Services and two youth were hired as Peer Workers.

Impact of the Youth Wellness Hub include:

75% of youth hear about programs from their friend, parent or teacher

95% of youth seeking other programs and services were connected within a week

92% of youth felt a sense of belonging at Langs YWH



93% of youth agreed that programs met or exceeded expectations

93% of youth agreed that programs increased their sense of well-being

To learn more about Langs visit <https://www.langs.org>

A LOOK AT THE PAST FIVE YEARS - KEY METRICS

*excluding assets for donor-advised granting

Year	Total Assets (year end)*	Total Mission-related Grants	Percentage Disbursed for Mission-related Grants
2017	\$10,533,076	\$372,850	3.54%
2018	\$9,614,494	\$426,210	4.43%
2019	\$10,887,213	\$388,658	3.57%
2020	\$11,101,821	\$436,650	3.93%
2021	\$12,240,427	\$710,000	5.80%