



GRIT

Passion, perseverance, and motivation



We salute our HIPPY parents who demonstrate GRIT as they work to prepare their children for success in kindergarten and beyond!

It is said that if you educate a mother, you educate a family. At HIPPY Halton, we add “a father” to that quote. This year we salute our parents who have worked with us to develop their children’s knowledge and skills. They have truly demonstrated their “GRIT” – the passion, motivation, perseverance, and the stamina to work for long term goals.

“Every day do something that will inch you closer to a better tomorrow.”

COVID kept us isolated again in 2021/2022 and made life difficult and challenging for our families and our Home Visitors. We all missed seeing each other in person and being able to celebrate life’s ups and downs with hugs and smiles – online meetings can’t emulate the same warmth.

HIPPY’s 169 families continued working in their homes (see a few of their stories in this report!) with the help and support of their hard-working Home Visitors. They shared their opportunities and their vision when recommending HIPPY to other families. And, when our annual Reading Campaign began, many invited their friends to enjoy the love of words – 810 books were shared amongst 270 families.

Our collective pride was enormous over the summer, celebrating all the hard work of parents and children as well as the graduation of the 49 five-year-old children who confidently started school in September.

We thank all of those whose dedication and support of so many in our community makes all this possible:

- Our Home Visitors who managed yet again this year to turn their days around to accommodate families’ schedules. They also planned and executed a wonderful online Celebration of Learning which demonstrated how much we value the hard work of both the parents and their children.
- Our principal funders – Immigration Refugees Canadian Citizenship, the United Way of Halton and Hamilton and the Halton Community Investment Fund.
- And of course, YOU, the Friends of HIPPY Halton and our Board for your generous support and interest.



Lesley Mansfield
Board Chair



June Cockwell
Executive Director

HIPPY & SMART Program

Creating opportunities for families to thrive

Our Program provides trained Home Visitors to empower mothers to be their child's first and best teacher.

- The HIPPY Program is a 30-week literacy program to prepare your child for success in Kindergarten
- We provide toys, picture books, activity packages and children's program supplies
- We provide opportunities for qualified families to connect, develop and refine learning skills
- Peer Home Visitors teach mothers in their own home
- Group meetings offer workshops and child care
- Peer support for vulnerable and newcomer mothers

Outcomes

Shared Learning

Opportunities at Home Visits & Group Meetings

Family Connections

Develop a strong bond between mother and child

Social Connections

Reduce Isolation and develop parenting skills

Employment

Home Visitor's first job and workplace skills

All families deserve an opportunity to learn and thrive.

"A mother is a school. Empower her and you
empower a great nation."
– Hafez Ibrahim

04

Comments and messages from our parents and home visitors

HIPPY has helped me a lot during the pandemic as well as before it. It has helped my children improve in their reading, writing, science and math skills. And it has helped them in a fun and easy way. It also has helped me understand my children's learning process better to help them overcome struggles. Not only it has supported my girls that are in the program but also the activities make my other children get involved too.

The tablets have been an amazing resource for having more efficiency at home since I have a lot of children and there weren't enough devices for all of them to work on different skills, like math or for reading online books that come in the program. For me listening to the books has helped me improve my English.

HIPPY always rhymes with happy at our home. We have been following the program with our three children for almost six years and each time we find it engaging, age appropriate and stimulating for the kids. The activities are always fun and educational at the same time.

My two-and-a-half-year-old son is following a new program HIPPY offers: SMART. We have been overwhelmed with the generosity of this program. All the activities are very well crafted and all the high-quality educational materials provided! Now my boy has his own SMART toys and this gives him a sense of ownership and pride. We love the short story books provided with the SMART program. They are clearly designed for this tender age with stories full of learning-related content portrayed in an easy-to-understand manner.

Our home visitor is always well prepared, kind and understanding. The kids are so excited to meet her over the video meetings that we hold weekly. In fact I have always found them excited to explore the story and related activities. Thank you once again for the help and considering my family for the learning.

My 3-year-old loves the books and all the activities, she gets very involved and especially enjoys the gross motor skills activities.

The inspiring stories, activities, games enhanced the bond between me and my kid. I also found it interesting that many knowledge points align with the public education. My kid and I are better prepared to engage more in public education with the HIPPY Program's support.

HV: I'm grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to work in your organization. I will forever be grateful for the knowledge and skills that I have gained while working with HIPPY.

HV: And this is something that I have noticed with this beautiful job that I have, it is amazing what a mom or dad can do for their kids, it is only a matter of putting some effort, make yourself capable and gaining that confidence as parent to take your kids one step ahead.

Because of you, parents were empowered to be their child's first and best teachers:

05

Our HIPPY Halton families came from 31 countries and collectively spoke 22 languages

160

children and their families benefited from our programs this year

2879

hours of
HIPPY
Home
Visits

1836

hours of
SMART
Home
Visits

83%

of the children
completed their
program

49

age 5
children have
successfully
completed their
program

Because of you, families had opportunities to thrive:

18,568

hours that parents and children spent working together

96%

of parents read to their children a minimum of 4 days a week

3,571

referrals and/or actions taken to support families

94%

parents reported they felt less isolated

Because of you, 7 Home Visitors who come from 6 countries:

Improved their employment and English skills

Received **1,492** hours of training in their first job in Canada

Delivered **4,715** hours of Home Visits

We come from 31 countries

Afghanistan

Bulgaria

Canada

China

Colombia

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Egypt

France

Guyana

Honduras

India

Iraq

Jordan

Korea

Libya

Mexico

Nigeria

Pakistan

Palestine

Peru

Philippines

Russia

South Korea

Spain

Sri Lanka

Sudan

Syria

Taiwan

Turkey

Venezuela

Our operating costs

We are a lean operation!

HIPPY Halton is a registered charity, and its financial statements are audited annually. Our financial statements can be found on the CRA website.

HIPPY strives to stay in compliance with our policy of having enough resources to cover a minimum of two years of programme costs for each child enrolled.



Friends of HIPPY

07

We thank you for your ongoing generosity, interest, and support.
You are helping HIPPY Halton families to thrive!



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Red Cross



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Excellence in Literacy Foundation



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*denotes fund held at
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THANK YOU

www.hippyhalton.org