



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **BMVF Grant Supports Local Charities with Funds to Meet Immediate Social Challenges**

Blue Mountains, ON, February 3, 2021 --- COVID-19 continues to impact our South Georgian Bay Community, increasing the demands on families, health care teams, essential workers, businesses and our local charitable organizations. Blue Mountain Village Foundation (BMVF) has identified 5 key social challenges that need immediate attention: mental health, food access & security, job loss & financial stress, housing access and diversity, inclusion & anti-racism education. As such, BMVF launched our Accelerated Winter Grant Program with streamlined criteria and a desire to donate funds to organizations that are working hard to address these key challenges.

We asked local organizations to send us one-page grant requests that included how they were mobilizing to address these key issues, creative approaches used to meet the challenges, and collaborations and partnerships they were implementing to magnify impact. As a result of applications received, we are proud to announce the granting of \$15,000 split evenly among the following 15 successful agencies:

- Theatre Collingwood
- Beaver Valley Outreach
- Home Horizon – Barbara Weider House
- Meaford Food Bank
- Community Connection – Out of the Cold Program
- Canadian Mental Health Association Grey-Bruce
- Elephant Thoughts
- Trinity Community Dinner
- Living Wish Foundation
- Environment Network
- Breaking Down Barriers
- Meaford Community Gardens
- Georgian Triangle Humane Society
- St. George's Anglican Church
- Hospice Georgian Triangle

As a team, these successful grant recipients are addressing the 5 key social challenges BMVF identified and much more. "A common theme among all grant applications was sharp increases in demand for



assistance following the second Province-wide shutdown and unprecedented associated financial hardship across the South Georgian Bay Region” says BMVF President Andrew Siegart.

**About Blue Mountain Village Foundation:**

The Blue Mountain Village Foundation exists to close social gaps in our community, supporting local charitable organizations located in South Georgian Bay (including Collingwood, Wasaga Beach, Stayner, Town of the Blue Mountains, Meaford, Duntroon, Singhampton, Kimberley & Creemore). Since inception over 15 years ago, BMVF has raised more than 1.57 million dollars that has been invested back into the community through meaningful and necessary programs and support services.

Funding and bursaries information can be obtained via BMVF’s website at:

[www.bluemountainvillage.ca/foundation](http://www.bluemountainvillage.ca/foundation)

Direct donations can be made to support the Blue Mountain Village Foundation at:

<https://bluemountainvillage.ca/foundation/donate> Reg. Charity #84842 0949

BMVF is governed by a local volunteer Board of Directors, including:

- Andrew Siegart, President
- Graeme Dugale
- Lynn Hynd
- Rosalyn Morrison
- Bev Philp
- Thomas Vincent