

A TOUGH YEAR COMING OUT
OF THE PANDEMIC



In 2022 the foundation raised close to \$135,000 with major donations coming from la Fondation Bromis, la Fondation Jetté-Bergeron & Operation Enfant Soleil of Quebec City. At the same time, administrative expenses remained very low at 7.2% of gross assets, owing to the high reliance on volunteers for solicitation. In fact, the Butters Foundation has no employees and relies on consulting contractors to meet its normal admin requirements. Over this period, grants went to our longstanding public partner to support activities & equipment for disabled & autistic children, support for respite at our farm service in Rougemont, the adaptation of activity facilities at Camp Garagona in Frelighsburg, and bursaries for secondary school and CEGEP students in the area.

Since 2010, the Rougemont farm on Rt. 112 just outside of the village of St-Césaire, has provided challenging farm-related activities to autistic & disabled adolescents & adults. We constantly receive donations, large & small, from appreciative foundations and community supporters that help maintain this vital service. Clients come from as far away as the Island of Montreal to spend a weekend or a week in a working farm environment. Activities include animal care (over 25 small animals & one very spoiled horse), seasonal activities such as sugaring off, wood collection, and corral & stable maintenance. This is a unique experience in the Province of Quebec with a very high rate of client return.



BUTTERS FOUNDATION & ITS PARTNER:
BUTTERS HOMES

Over the years many donors & supporters have asked us why we have 2 organizations with essentially the same mandate & same history, working closely together. This is a good question since the activities of many other charities in this field are in fact integrated under one roof. However, in 1986, the Butters Foundation, burdened with a federal charter, wanted to apply for newly minted Quebec Government low income (CMHC) housing grants, but couldn't because it had a federal & not a provincial charter. Thus, the decision was made to create a sister organization with a provincial charter. The decision has indeed been a good one, leading to full compensation for housing expenses in 5 long-term community properties and mortgage relief in others.

However, as the public rehab center, (formerly The Butters Centre), gradually reduced the number of its properties and moved its clients into substitute family arrangements, questions began to be asked as to the pertinence of having 2 distinct organizations with separate administrations. Eventually this led to a decision to seriously explore the possibilities of a merger. Issues remain to be resolved but progress has been made. 2023 looks to be the make-or-break year.

BURSARIES & SCHOLARSHIPS

The Butters Foundation has been awarding bursaries for over 35 years. It started in 1985 with a decision to award scholarships to secondary school graduates of Massey-Vanier in Cowansville and to graduate students in the Faculty of Education at McGill University, (the alma mater of our charter president). At McGill, eight years ago, the capital in the fund was donated outright to the Education Faculty and they continue to use the revenue from the capital to support needy graduate students. In principle, this fund should remain perpetual. The Massey-Vanier fund at the foundation has been set aside to sponsor scholarships for graduating seniors well into the future. And a similar arrangement has been established with the Doris Mildred Parsons fund for the bursary programme at le CEGEP de Granby in Special Education. These bursaries have targeted students mainly going into the health & education programmes. Many bursars have established careers in these areas and crossed paths with us since.

“In closing, thanks for your past support & please help us continue our important work for intellectually disabled & autistic people & their families during these difficult times. Your donation will be a big help.”
-- Ron Creary, Executive Director

DONATION FORM

Name: _____ Amount: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone (optional) _____ Date: _____

Email address: _____

Send cheque to: The Butters Foundation, 127, rue Principale, suite 105, Cowansville, QC, J2K 1J3,

Or by credit card at: www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/butters-foundation

Indicate here if donation is for a specific project: _____