



epilepsy
south central ontario

Not All
Disabilities
Are Visible...



2022 / 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

*dedicated to improving
the quality of life
for persons living with epilepsy*

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Epilepsy South Central Ontario's Annual

FAMILY & YOUTH CONFERENCE *September 2022*

*Bringing families together to share
experiences & stories
and to learn & educate.*



A Message from our CEO

ESCO Family,

The past year has been laden with challenges. We have had a consistent increase in our client base along with the amount of care that we are providing. Our fundraising initiatives took a hit this past year as we slowly began the post-Covid-era. Throughout all of this, I can honestly say how proud I am of our staff and their ability and drive to provide an ever-increasing level of support to our clients, both established and new. This support is continuously being achieved despite our ongoing funding challenges.



Complete financial recovery is the goal for this upcoming year. Our main source of income is from Fundraising Events, Donors, Supporters, and General donations from the public. I continue to work along our staff who additionally volunteer their time going above and beyond their weekly workload. As we plan for our future, we continually address the challenges at hand, but we will, with the help of our epilepsy family, find additional support from new sources of funding.

I am grateful for all the work and support from our ESCO family – the clients, the staff, the board of directors, and the community who embrace our cause and give our work purpose. Like the phoenix, we will rise not from the ashes, but the flames of success building a bigger, brighter, better and bolder future together.

May our flame always burn bright,

David Charchalis

ESCO Family Programming

Family & Youth Conference

Our Family & Youth Conference has become an integral part of education, support and advocacy for our clients and their families. Adults and Young Adults participate in educational seminars, Team Building and Life Skills activities. Youth participate in educational and Life Skills activities, and the Children participate in Team Building activities. Our conference adapts to the needs of the families and community.

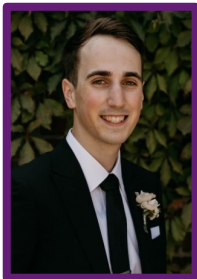
Sunny Days Camp for Kids

Our Sunny Days Camp program allows our kids and their siblings the opportunity to experience a true “summer camp ritual”. Our counsellors work hard to provide a fun and safe space for the kids. Once a week we take the kids on an adventure. Past adventures included Medieval Times, Centre Island, Ripley’s Aquarium, Adventure Village, the Royal Ontario Museum, Dragon Boating, African Lion Safar, Wet and Wild Water Park to name a few.

Youth and Young Adult Empowerment Program

Our Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) is a place for Youth and Young Adults to come together to support each other, and to have a social outing once a month. As we move forward with the program, we have split the program into two groups: Youth ages 16 to 19 and Young Adults ages 20 to 30.

A Message from our Board President



2022-2023 was another challenging year for your organization as the effects of the pandemic are still being felt today.

Consistent funding of services is a persistent threat to the organization and the services provided to people living with epilepsy and their family and friends in South Central Ontario, across Ontario and Canada. Now, more than ever, we require support from the government, community and you. If you have the means and the time, you can: Donate, Advocate to your MPP for epilepsy support and education Participate in the activities of the organization.

Your team at Epilepsy South Central Ontario have shown true commitment, passion, and determination to provide record service to your community. The youth and adult programs experienced double and triple growth over the past year, respectively. This amazing achievement would not have been possible without all the hard work from the staff and volunteers. Their efforts do not go unnoticed.

At the beginning of 2023, Cynthia Millburn retired from her position as CEO of your organization. I would like to thank Cynthia for all of her support and dedication over the many years she has held the role of CEO. Luckily, Cynthia is not leaving us as she has joined the Board and will bring her vast experience and knowledge to help guide the agency.

David Charchalis replaced Cynthia as CEO of Epilepsy South Central Ontario. He has been heavily involved with the organization over the past 11 years and most recently as COO for the past 6 years. The transition between David and Cynthia has been very smooth as they have jointly guided the organization through another difficult year. It has been a pleasure to work closer with David over the past several months and I look forward to seeing David's impact on the organization in the future.

We have to say goodbye to Michael McHugh, Dr. Tejal Patel and Chloe Gallagher who have resigned from your Board. Their contributions to the Board will be deeply missed. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your contributions to the agency.

Lastly, I would like to thank all our donors and funders for their continued support.

Chris Still

Code of Ethics

Epilepsy South Central Ontario recognizes that the region is vast and rich in diversity. EpilepsySCO strives to ensure all programs and services are accessible to all.

We help to eliminate barriers within the community we serve, and uphold a high standard of positive race relations and attitude within the association at all times.

Dedicated to improving the quality of life for people living with seizure disorders.

Charitable Registration Number: 80288 6218 RR0001

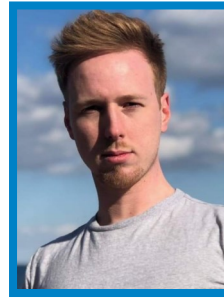
2022 / 2023 Office Staff



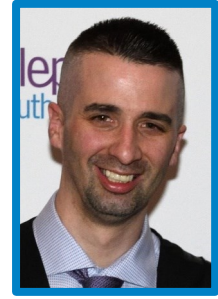
David Charchalis
Chief Executive
Officer



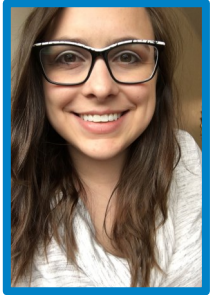
Carly Smith
Youth and Young Adult
Services



Josh Gieg
Adult and Family
Services
Life Skills Educator



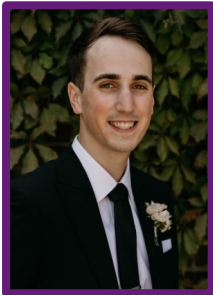
Trevor Gordon
Community Engagement
Media



Makayla Fancy
Adult Support
Group



2022/ 2023 Board of Directors



Christopher Still
Acting President
Treasurer



Jim Cheesman
Past President



David Charchalis
Secretary



Dr. Eduard Bercovici
Director



Cynthia Milburn
Director



Jodi Baxter
Director



Valerie Rother
Director



Chloe Gallagher
Retired 2023



Michael McHugh
Retired 2023



Tejal Petal
Retired 2023

The 2022-2023 H.O.P.E Award

Cynthia Milburn

The H.O.P.E. Award is presented to an individual or group who has made an outstanding commitment to improving the quality of life for people with Epilepsy in our community.

We were thrilled to announce that this year's recipient of the HOPE Award is Cynthia L. Milburn.

Cynthia has been instrumental in building this agency to the level of excellence that the staff provides to our clients.

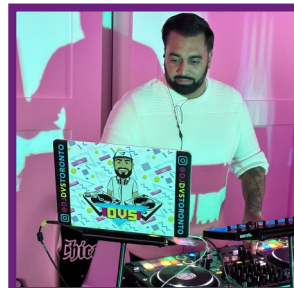
She has always been involved in leading the charge for change and acceptance in society. Cynthia has championed many people and causes over the years including but no limited to equality in employment, education, policy making, governmental relationships and overall health quality.

Her passion and dedication encourages the staff to persevere, has guided the staff to grow and become who they are today...better people with a drive and passion that reflects back to our clients and all that they meet in their day to day operations. Her commitment to increase the quality of life for people living with epilepsy has lead to increasing our programs, allowing us to continue as a viable agency relying on the success of our fundraising endeavours to continue to serve our population.



The 2023 Purple Gala - DISCO INFERNO

If you did not attend this season's Purple Gala...you missed out on an amazing night filled with dancing, singing, amazing food and great company. The Purple Gala is our signature event during Epilepsy Awareness month. This year, we had a great mix of old friends, new friends and supporting friends. You had to be there to experience it.



2022-2023 Statement of Operations

Melissa L. Coulson CPA, CA, LPA

Epilepsy South Central Ontario

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

Year ended April 30

	2023 \$	2022 \$
REVENUE		
Fundraising	497,179	464,885
Grant income (<i>note 6</i>)	317,914	279,624
Donations	56,321	33,521
Sundry and other miscellaneous income	4,555	-
	875,969	778,030
EXPENSES BY PROGRAM		
Fundraising	441,730	405,358
General administration	95,606	51,916
Public awareness and advocacy	77,410	94,090
Sunny days camp	57,016	23,029
Counselling & support	53,160	55,175
Youth programming	52,039	60,964
Clinic 2 community	44,189	109,141
Community education & training	21,406	18,757
Volunteer recruitment and retention	20,553	22,128
Seniors programming	777	-
School programming	512	-
	864,398	840,558
Excess (shortfall) of revenue over expenses	11,571	(62,528)
Fund balance (shortfall), beginning of year	(56,734)	5,794
Fund balance, end of year	(45,163)	(56,734)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

MISSISSAUGA LOCATION:

250A Lakeshore Road East
Mississauga , ON L5G 1G9

KITCHENER LOCATION:

28 Weber Street West, Suite #2
Kitchener, ON N2H 3Z2

Our Mission

Epilepsy South Central Ontario is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people living with seizure disorders through counseling and support services.

Our Vision

Increasing public awareness via outreach, individual/family counseling and working with select forums, Epilepsy South Central Ontario strives to educate and encourage understanding within our community.

Our Values

- Equality and mutual respect of all individuals,
- Fostering successful, fulfilling lives for families and persons living with epilepsy,
- To encourage everyone to attain positive solutions when challenged,
- To conduct ourselves in a supportive, non-judgmental manner with all members and participants.

Special thanks to...



Experience. The Difference.™



**...for their continued support
from
April 2022 - March 2023.**