

# 2024 ANUAL REPORT



#### TABLE OF CONITENITO

CONTE	VIS		PAGE
		LETTER FROM THE CHAIR	3
		CHARITY OVERVIEW	4
		DREAMER STORIES	5
		DREAMS RECAP	8
		2023 MEMBERS LIST	9
COMMITEE SPOTLIGHTS	10		
FINANCIAL REPORT	14		
LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDERS	17		
SPONSOR THANK YOU	19		
COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING	21		
EVENTS  CONTACT US	23		

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

### ONEDAY DREAMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pat Soulliere, Chair

It has been an honour and privilege to serve as Chair of the Board of Directors of Oneday Dreams. Many memorable dreams were completed in 2024 by our organization which would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of our board members and community volunteers. 2024 saw the introduction of the Cars for a Cause car show at the LaSalle Event Centre. Due to the overwhelming success, we will be making this an annual event.

We also held our 3rd annual golf tournament in September again raising funds to support dreams. These events would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors and donors and we thank them for their ongoing support.

Oneday Dreams started from a vision by our Founders, Jason Soulliere and Mike Bennett. Their vision is evident how Oneday Dreams operates throughout the year. Our organization continues to evolve with increased dream applications and refinement of our governing documents.

An organization cannot succeed without strong leadership. The Board of Directors is commended for their commitment, leadership and dedication to Oneday Dreams. Our success is directly linked to the hard work of our Board of Directors and Volunteers. Oneday Dreams does not have staff so granting dreams, raising funds, providing education and mission awareness falls on our board of directors. I thank the Board for the honour to serve as Chair of Oneday Dreams.

One of our founding directors, Joe Bachmeier, will be leaving the board in June 2025. Joe played an instrumental role in establishing Oneday Dreams and provided extraordinary governance advice and direction during his terms on the board. We thank Joe for his contributions to Oneday Dreams

~Pat Soulliere



#### MISSION AND VALUES

Oneday Dreams serves Canadian adults living with a terminal illness by facilitating end-of-life dreams that offer joy, inspiration, and comfort while focusing on life and living.

Our charity strives to reach medically eligible adults in Canada who are at least 18 years of age, have a life expectancy of one year or less, and lack the resources or finances to achieve the dream on their own.

#### DREAMER STORIES



Phillippe's dream was to take an epic family trip to be remembered! Along with his mother, wife, and two children, Phillippe travelled from New Brunswick to Alberta to stay in Lake Louise and take in the incredible views of Banff National Park. Special thanks to the Lake Louise Inn for their generous donation of food vouchers, the Grey Eagle Resort for donating beautiful hotel rooms, and the Banff Visitor Centre for the Xplorer booklets and dog tags for Phillippe and his family!

Following his dream, Phillippe shared the following with us: I'd like to sincerely thank OneDay Dreams, from the bottom of my heart, for granting this amazing opportunity for my kids, wife and mother to have one last meaningful trip with me. I'm very grateful for everything that your organization is doing for adults living with terminal illnesses. It's very noble work and rest assured I'll do everything I can to promote your organization to the fullest of its merits. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

## Oneday Dreams



Shannon always had a love of nature, especially being near the water. Her dream was for a weekend getaway in the Muskoka region with her closest friends, son, and mom. Oneday Dreams arranged for Shannon and her guests to spend a weekend at a beautiful sandy lakefront cottage. They lounged around the fire pit and hot tub, took in incredible views of the scenic landscape, and shared many laughs and memories.

After her dream experience, Shannon said: "I had such a wonderful time at the beachfront cottage! Spending time with my family and friends meant so much to me, especially in such a beautiful and natural environment in Muskoka. Bonds became closer and the love and support touched my heart so deeply. We made great memories that I can take with me and hold forever. I can't thank you angels and your organization enough for making this happen for me. God bless!"



Lily's dream was to attend Taylor Swift's Eras Tour— a dream she's held close to her heart since the tour was first announced. But this dream wasn't just about the music. Lily wanted to share this once-in-a-lifetime experience with her mom, her rock and constant support through countless appointments, long hospital stays, and the toughest days of her cancer journey.

We flew Lily and her mom to Vancouver to watch the final show of the tour together. They were able to enjoy the magic of the show - a memory they'll each hold dear forever.

"This weekend, I didn't have to think about my illness, hospitals, or anything but getting to see my favorite singer," Lily shared. "It's hard to pick one favourite moment because the entire concert was like nothing I had ever experienced before. Hearing Taylor sing "Enchanted" live and looking over at my mom singing and dancing to every song absolutely warmed my heart. I'll cherish this memory and every friendship bracelet from the night forever."

Lily's favourite part of the experience was the way every moment came together—the music, the energy, and sharing it all with her mom. We're all enchanted by her story.

## Oneday Dreams

## 2024 ONEDAY DREAMS RECAP

DREAMS CAME TRUE!

15 EXPERIENCE DREAMS

20 FAMILY DREAMS



5 OTHER DREAMS

5 CELEBRITY DREAMS



#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2023 - 2024)**

#### **FOUNDERS**

Dr. Mike Bennett Jason Soulliere

CHAIR VICE CHAIR TREASURER SECRETARY

Pat Soulliere Susan Taylor Janice Cohoe Tamerra Paterson

**DIRECTORS** 

Joe Bachmeier Katrina Blanchard Linda Sabatini Shawn Stewart Janet Twining Phil Danelon

Sally Bennett-Olczak

#### **COMMITTEES**

#### **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

Shawn Stewart - Chair Pat Soulliere
Joseph Bachmeier Susan Taylor
Janet Twining Jason Soulliere

Dr. Mike Bennett

#### **FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Janice Cohoe - Chair Phil Danelon
Pat Soulliere Jessica Ritchie

#### **FUNDRAISING AND MARKETING COMMITTEE**

Susan Taylor - Chair Halle Coulson Phil Danelon Dr. Mike Bennett

Jason Souillere

#### **PUBLIC RELATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE**

**MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE** 

DREAM FULFILLMENT COMMITTEE

Katrina Blanchard - Chair

Chelsea Janisse Thibodeau

Siobhan Paquin, NP

Linda Sabatini - Chair

Dr. Hollis Roth

**Linda Crowley** 

Connor Ryan

Lauren Saba

Jason Soulliere

Susan Taylor - Chair Sally Bennett-Olczak Marlene Corey

Dr. Allie Rosen

Marica Bear

Janet Twining

Tamerra Paterson

Dr. Mike Bennett

Lyndsay Eagleson

Dr. Wilson Kwong

Dr. Nicole Freeman

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Pat Soulliere - Chair Janice Cohoe Susan Taylor Jason Soulliere Dr. Mike Bennett Tamerra Paterson

## **COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHTS**

#### DREAM FULFILLMENT COMMITTEE

Linda Sabatini, Chair

I am filled with an immense sense of gratitude and pride for the remarkable work our committees have accomplished. This past year has been one of both significant challenges and tremendous growth.

In 2024 Oneday Dreams partnered with "Give a Mile" a registered charity in Canada and the US offering flights to connect people in palliative or critical care with their loved ones. Together we granted four dreams with Give a Mile covering the costs of six flights,

- Danny's Newfoundland Homecoming: Danny dreamed of returning to Newfoundland with his wife and family to spend quality time with his extended family and friends once more.
- ·Eva's New Brunswick Homecoming; Eva's wish to return home with her husband and daughter for a final goodbye to her father and return home with her mother's ashes to scatter them.
- ·David's reunion with his sister: David wished for his sister from Newfoundland to travel to Hamilton for a final goodbye. David's son and stepdaughter also made a surprise trip from Sault Ste. Marie to also meet their aunt for the first time; turning this visit into an unforgettable family reunion.
- ·Al's Nova Scotia Homecoming: Al wish was to return home and see his daughter, whom he hasn't seen in four years, and to hold his newborn granddaughter.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated Dream Fulfilment team. Your contributions and belief in our mission are what make our dreamer's wishes possible.

To our Board of Directors for their leadership, guidance, and tireless work in helping to achieve our goals. Looking forward to making more dreams come true in 2025.

~	Linda	Sal	bitir	٦i
---	-------	-----	-------	----

#### A special thank you to

#### **Families**First

for their generous support, assistance, and use of their beautiful facility for our monthly board meetings as well as sign printing for fundraising events.

#### MEDICAL COMMITTEE

Katrina Blanchard, Chair

After a year of development, 2024 quickly declared itself to be the Medical Advisory Committee's year of efficiency. With volumes increasing drastically, MAC completed 107 medical reviews in 2024 with an average month seeing 9 requests.

Dream requests undergo both an initial medical review followed by a final sign off just prior to fulfillment. Medical reviews consist of the following:

- -Ensuring dreamers meet medical eligibility criteria
- -Reviewing provided medical documentation and dream requests
- -Synthesizing patient profiles without the ability to see or assess the patient
- -Analyzing risk of the requested dream versus patient profile
- -Calling health care providers (across different time zones) for additional health information
- -Formulating safety plans, advising on dream alterations and providing recommended time frames of completion to our dream fulfillment committee

Our MAC team knows the urgency behind all dream requests and our initial medical reviews had an average processing time of 3.5 days in 2024. For context, how long does it take you to get a response from your family doctor or specialist? Even more impressive is that 63% of dreams are processed within one day, with 47% having the same day turn around. We also were able to expedite 14 dreams by eliminating their need for a final medical review and fast tracking them to fulfillment.

A huge thank you to our small but mighty MAC team. All of our current members are active practicing health care providers and review files at night, in the morning and on lunch breaks. Thank you for adding one more call schedule to your calendar and helping facilitate these moments of joy for our dreamers and their families.

~Katrina Blanchard

## FUNDRAISING AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

Susan Taylor, Chair

As Chair of the Fundraising and Marketing Committee, I am proud to reflect on a year marked by meaningful progress, deepened community engagement, and increasing national awareness of Oneday Dreams' mission—to fulfill dreams for Canadian adults facing a terminal diagnosis.

In 2024, our focus remained on strengthening the connection between our supporters and the stories that define us. Through impactful campaigns, signature fundraising events, and enhanced digital strategy, we not only exceeded several key targets but also reaffirmed the importance of compassion-driven giving.

Two standout events this year were the **Cars for a Cause** fundraiser and our annual **Oneday For Dreams Golf Tournament**. Cars for a Cause brought together automotive enthusiasts and supporters from across the region, transforming a shared passion for cars into real impact for the individuals we serve. With generous participation from local car clubs, vendors, and sponsors, the event raised critical funds and broadened awareness through grassroots outreach and vibrant social media coverage. A special shout out to Paul Sulja and his amazing team for everything they do for this spectacular event.

Meanwhile, our annual Oneday For Dreams Golf Tournament continues to grow as both a major fundraising initiative and a powerful day of community connection. This year's tournament not only exceeded our fundraising goal but also brought together longtime supporters, new donors, and several families who have been directly impacted by our work. The event showcased what makes Oneday Dreams so special: a shared belief in dignity, hope, and joy—especially in life's most challenging moments.

We also saw strong growth in our digital outreach, expanding our monthly donor program and improving our engagement metrics across platforms. By sharing dream stories with authenticity and care, we continue to create meaningful moments that inspire giving and deepen trust.

None of this success would be possible without the remarkable generosity of our donors, the dedication of our volunteers, and the passion of our small but mighty team. I offer heartfelt thanks to everyone who has shared, supported, or stood with us this year.

Looking forward, the committee is committed to continuing this momentum—innovating in how we fundraise, growing our reach, and ensuring that every Canadian facing the end of life knows that their dream still matters.

~Sue Taylor



#### GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

#### Shawn Stewart, Chair

The Board of Directors, while maintaining general oversight, has delegated certain activities to standing or permanent committees of the board. In addition to its primary functions, each standing committee may have one or more sub and/or ad-hoc committees which fall under the authority of its parent committee.

Each committee is responsible to maintain its own 'terms of reference' specific to its function and that of its sub and ad-hoc committees. A subcommittee is a semi-permanent body intended to handle a specific aspect of its parent committee such as a volunteer bylaws subcommittee. An ad-hoc committee is usually of a much shorter duration and is intended to be deactivated upon completion of its work (e.g. an annual golf tournament committee). Sub and ad-hoc committees do not require set terms of reference since by their nature they are function or event specific.

To ensure the operation of each or its committees remains on track and function as the Board intended, there is a need for specific oversight and compliance. That role is assigned to the Governance & Human Resources Committee ('Governance').

Governance committee members will advise and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the following:

- •Provide oversight of Oneday Dreams human resources policies for staff and volunteers.
- •Annual review of the composition of the Board and its Committees.
- •Ensure the bylaws remain current and in compliance with relevant law and legislation.
- •Employment of Executive Director(s) and staff (if applicable) and aprove human resource policies.
- •Review job descriptions, remuneration policy (if applicable), and key performance indicators.
- •Receive nominations and/or identify potential new Board members, establish volunteer candidate interviewing panels, coordinate volunteer assignments, nominate committee members for approval by the Board, and succession planning.
- •Board member and volunteer orientation and Board performance evaluation.
- •Be responsible for vetting all other committee policies and procedures and ensure standardized formatting and content of committee 'terms of reference' and operational policies and procedures is maintained.
- •Periodic reviews of the organization's by-laws, policies, and procedures, as directed by the Board.
- •Any other task as delegated by the Board.

Since the last General Membership Meeting held in June of 2024, the Governance & Human Resources Committee has:

- Reviewed the bylaws and made recommendations to the Board for revisions which will be brought to the membership in June of 2025.
- ·Made recommendations to the Board and held several interviews for the appointment of non-board member volunteers to various committees and appointed new board members.
- ·Worked with the Medical and Dream Fulfillment Committees to develop policies and procedures for dreamer vetting and dream fulfillment parameters.
- ·Created new policies and procedures centered around emergency situations, dream interruptions and protocols for dealing with novel situations during a dream.
- ·Created timelines and procedures for hiring new committee members.
- ·Created Letters of Understandings to bring to the board for Travel Dreams
- ·Vetted policies and related documents related to University placement programs.
- -Shawn Stewart

## FINANCIAL REPORT

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Janice Cohoe, Chair

The year 2024 proved that Oneday Dreams was in a strong financial position and continued to experience growth and awareness across Canada.

Although donation revenues remained relatively the same as the prior year, our sponsorship and event revenues increased by 19% with the addition of our Car For a Cause event. As such, Fundraising revenue was able to cover the cost of 83% of our Dreams this year. We also saw an increase of 20% in the cost of dream fulfillment, however, this was a direct result of granting more dreams this year, including an increase in those involving travel, in Canada. We met all budget projections this year, and appreciate the hard working members of the Dream Fulfillment and Fundraising and Marketing committees in meeting these goals. They have continued to keep costs and spending within budgeted expectations while facing, at times, extremely challenging Dream requests and inflationary issues beyond their control. Kudos to these teams! We continue to also assist our Founders in completing grant applications and securing new donors throughout Canada. Their hard work and tenacity is reflected in our success!

The Finance Committee welcomed two additional members this year; Phil Danelon and Jessica Ritchie, who were a welcome addition to our previous Committee of three. Thank you to Phil, Jessica, Michelle Vandereerden and Pat Soulliere, for your hard work and dedication in all financial matters for this charity, especially as we continue to grow. We continue to operate solely with volunteers, with all funds raised used to support the granting of Dreams. Therefore, the diverse knowledge and expertise of our Committee members assures our strong financial support to this charitable organization.

We also thank Hawkins & Co for their continued assistance and support.

2024 was a great year for us, and we look forward to being able to fund even more Dreams through all of our hard working teams!

~Janice Cohoe

#### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Jan 2024 - Dec 2024

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

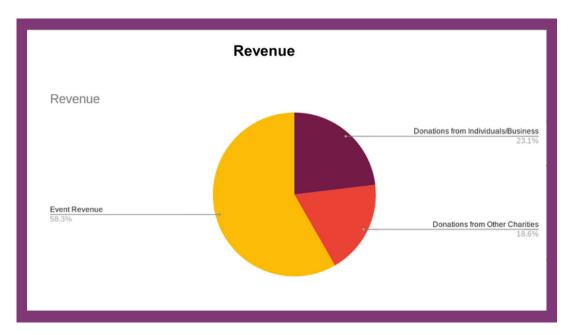
			2024			2023
ASSETS	Cash Accounts Receivable and Other	s	49,709 7,507 57,216		\$	67,508 6,437 73,945
LIABILITIES	Current Liabilities Deferred Income		3,000 20,000			3,400 20,000
	Net Assets		34,216			50,545
		\$	57,216		\$	73,945
SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES						
REVENUES	Donations		52,572			51,613
	Fundraising Other		44,768 374			27,021 87
	Other	s	97,714		\$	78,721
EXPENSES	Direct Cost of Dream Fulfillment		88,668			43,179
	Office, Travel, Insurance and Bank Charges Professional Fees		7,215 9,360			8,279 9,000
	Other		8,801			4,288
		S	114,044		\$	64,746
	EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE					
	OVER EXPENSES	-\$	16,330		\$	13,975

#### PLEASE NOTE:

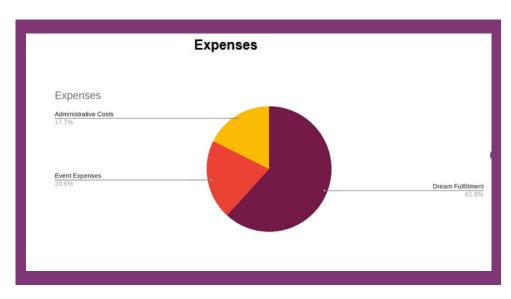
The financial summary and statement of operations presented here have been extracted from our organization's financial statements reviewed (not audited) by Hawkins & Co. and as such, do not contain all disclosed information required under Canadian Accounting Standards for Non-Profit organizations.

Our complete financial statements with Review Engagement Report are available on our website at: http://www.onedaydreams.ca/

#### **REVENUE/EXPENSES**



\*\*please note that some funds have restrictions for use Over 41% of funds raised were used in Dream Fulfillment



Insurance and accounting fees comprise over 50% of our administrative costs

#### LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDERS

#### DR. MIKE BENNETT & JASON SOULLIERE

Co-Founders



This past year has been our most exciting one yet, marked by deepening connections, expanding impact, and the continued nurturing dreams. It was also the year we surpassed 100 dreams - an incredible milestone that is indicative of our commitment to improving lives at the end of life.

We've made significant strides in strengthening relationships with foundations, donors, corporate partners, and fellow charitable organizations. These growing partnerships have not only enhanced our sustainability but have helped us build a more vibrant ecosystem of care for terminally ill Canadians. Together, we are creating a stronger, more compassionate network that ensures no dream is too small and no life goes uncelebrated.

We also welcomed our first Master of Social Work student to complete their advanced placement with us. This step forward reflects our commitment to shaping the next generation of social workers with an understanding of hope-centred, person-driven care at the end of life.

Across the country, we have continued to raise awareness about our work and to equip end-of-life care providers with tools and language to speak more openly and tenderly about the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of terminally ill adults. These conversations are powerful. They are reminders that even as life nears its end, there is space for joy, meaning, and the pursuit of long-held wishes.

At the heart of everything we do is a belief in the transformative power of dreaming. We encourage every applicant to dream big, and as we look ahead, we hold ourselves to the same standard. We will continue to explore new partnerships, strengthen our foundation, and chart a bold path forward so that we can bring more light, dignity, and fulfillment to the lives of Canadians facing the end of life.

With gratitude and hope,

Michael Bennett, PhD Jason Soulliere Co-founders



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 MAJOR SPONSORS





THE STEPHANIE ZEKELMAN

& BARRY FOUNDATION













## THANK YOU TO OUR DREAM PARTNERS

Oneday Dreams is grateful to the following Partners who donated in-kind services for multiple dreams in 2024....







Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment

#### COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING EVENTS





All Proceeds Help Make Dreams Come True for Canadian Adults Living With a Terminal Illness



1:00PM
SHOTGUN START
THURSDAY
SEPT 11, 2025
SCRAMBLE
FORMAT

ENTRY \$175 PER PLAYER

**REGISTER TODAY!** 

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

#### CONTACT US

