



MEDIA RELEASE

2026-2027 QUICK ACTION GRANT ROUND 1

In partnership with the United Way Greater Toronto Area, the Georgina Community Action Table (Georgina CAT) is pleased to announce the recipients of 2026 Round 1 Quick Action Grants. The purpose of the Quick Action Grants is to provide residents with resources to implement their ideas to address two critical issues – Mental Well-Being and Employment/Income Generation in our community. Congratulations to our grant recipients!

RESIDENT LED GRANTS

Crafting Wellbeing: A New Role for the Inner Critic (\$4000)

This resident-led program has been awarded \$4000 to support a mental well-being initiative. This one-day workshop will provide local adults and seniors with a welcoming space for creativity, conversation, and connection. Through a guided craft activity, participants will explore self-critical thought patterns, learn practical strategies to build resilience, and create a personalized take-home tool to support ongoing well-being. The program is anticipated to take place in July 2026. To learn more, email lauren@laurenhelmkay.com.

Mermaid Mania – Mermaid Make-Over (\$4000)

“The Mermaid Mania program will engage 8-14 youth in a day full of hands-on activities that hope to exercise mental and physical ability, as well as encourage mental and emotional wellbeing among peers. Participants will make mermaid accessories and immerse themselves in mermaid themed activities held at a pool. This project will create a positive, inclusive, and social space for children which will support mental well-being. This one-day project will take place in June. For more information and to apply, email mermaidnerenity88@gmail.com”

Death Over Donuts (\$3000)

The resident-led Death Over Donut program has been awarded \$3000 to provide a safe space for residents to share their experiences of grief with their peers to normalize conversations of life after a death. Participants will learn about grief and the body mind connection, alongside shared group discussion and desserts or donuts. During the 6-8 sessions across the community, participants will have access to a non-judgmental outlet to express their emotions surrounding death which may not be present in other areas of their life. The sessions will increase the ability to cope with difficult experiences and promote mental well-being. For more information, please contact ivyhenriksen@gmail.com

ACENGY LED GRANTS

The Grief Education Program

The Grief Education Program (GEP) is an agency-led grant that has been awarded \$7500 and is designed to support residents of Georgina who are experiencing grief and loss. Through in-person and virtually accessible sessions at Hospice Georgina, participants will be able to access timely support and education surrounding the process of loss. The program will provide activities for coping strategies, emotional literacy, resilience, and peer connection. This social program will help participants build a support system, improve mental well-being, and build resilience through loss. The project will run for 12 sessions from July 2026 through February 2027. To learn more about the project, email grief@hospicegeorgina.com



GEORGINA COMMUNITY ACTION TABLE



Pride in Place: Safer Spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth

This agency-led grant has been awarded \$7500 and will address the need for safe, inclusive, and affirming spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth. Participants aged 13 to 24 will engage in 7 activity sessions throughout 4-6 months that aim to foster belonging, connection, and resilience. Events will be held like a Pride game night, creative expression workshop, outdoor gathering, and Youth Pride showcase, and activities surrounding mental health, self-care, identity, confidence, self-advocacy, and resource navigation. By the end of the program, participants are expected to have a better understanding of accessible support, an increased sense of belonging with peers, and improved mental health awareness and coping strategies. For more information, please email rrobinson@cayrcc.org

For more information about the grant projects, please contact Karen at karenw@routescc.org or Sandra at sandra@routescc.org.

The Georgina CAT is a community based round table comprised of residents and agencies that want to make a difference in Georgina. Our primary focus is in the areas of Mental Well-Being and Employment and Income Generation. For more information on the Georgina CAT initiatives, Please contact sandra@routescc.org



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