





# MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

I am excited to be starting my journey as the CEO of Shine Foundation at a time when there is so much opportunity for growth and amplifying our voice across the country.

It is a privilege to do my job every single day. I am constantly inspired by the young people whose lives we touch. Shine lays the foundation for transformative change by empowering these young people living with severe physical disabilities to see a brighter future full of possibility and contribution.

As you will see throughout this community report, there were many exciting changes and accomplishments made in 2023: from the launch of a new brand that impacts the demographic we serve (aged 11-21), to the 61 unique Shine Dreams we fulfilled, to the events, donors, and sponsors who made it all possible!

## Looking forward, 2024 has big plans on the horizon:

- A fundraising goal of just over \$2 Million
- A new signature event, "Come to Sleigh" set to bring in new friends to Shine. We are asking Senior Executives to show their commitment to DEI and accessibility and push themselves outside their comfort zone as they experience firsthand Canada's beloved sport of hockey in a whole new light.
- Radio campaigns targeting new audiences who haven't yet heard of us – but they soon will!
- A corporate giving campaign to rally the industry leaders who, by 2040, will understand and work within the realm of a "Barrier Free Canada."
- Additions of dedicated, connected Board Members to add to the passionate group of the existing Board.
- Individual giving campaigns to third-party community events in support of Shine.

We will fulfill 65 Shine Dreams in 2024, knowing that the positive ripple effect of Shine's program on a Dreamer's family, friends, and community is at times immeasurable.

Without the involvement of Shine, many young people see themselves as having a disability first and

being a societal contributor second. Shine shifts that paradigm so they see themselves differently as someone who can vs. someone who can't. Results of our dreams include an increase in confidence, resilience, a willingness to try new things, and a positive outlook that continues to fuel them through life's challenges.

We know that we can't do this alone. Thanks to you and your support, Shine is excited for all the impactful projects in 2024 and beyond.

Shine bright,



Tiffany Houston  
Chief Executive Officer, Shine Foundation



TIFFANY (RIGHT) WITH SHINE ALUMNUS,  
NATHAN AND STAFF MEMBER, SHEILA

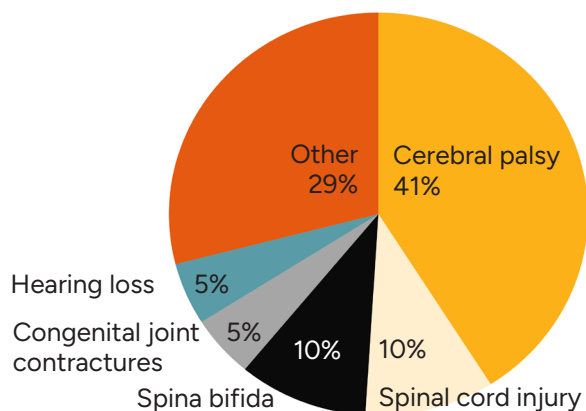
KEN | AGE 15  
CEREBRAL PALSY, VISION LOSS  
TECH GEAR FOR MORE INDEPENDENCE

## SHINE DREAMS OVERVIEW 2023

Shine fulfilled 61 impactful, customized, individual dreams across the country for young people aged 11-21. From adaptive equipment allowing young people greater access to everyday life with their friends and families, adaptive sporting equipment for Paralympic hopefuls, room modifications to encourage independence, tech gear to set our Dreamers up for future success, to family get-aways, **these Shine Dreams brightened their futures and continue to help them Shine!**

Statistics gathered from our 2023 dreams show the diversity of those we serve:

### CONDITIONS OF THE PEOPLE WE SERVED IN 2023

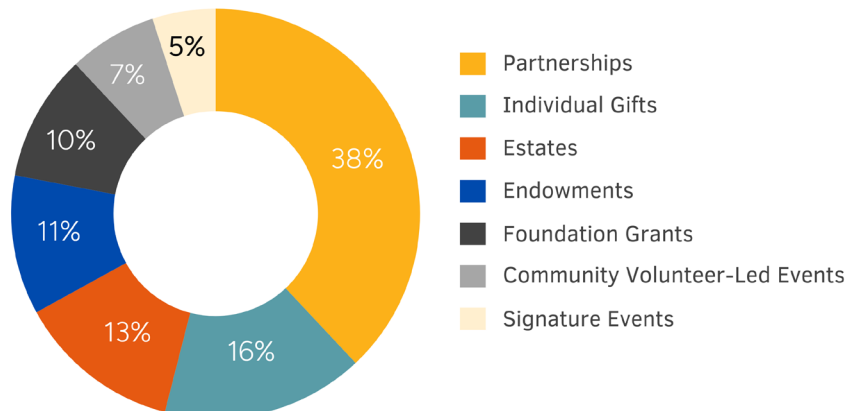


72% are wheelchair users

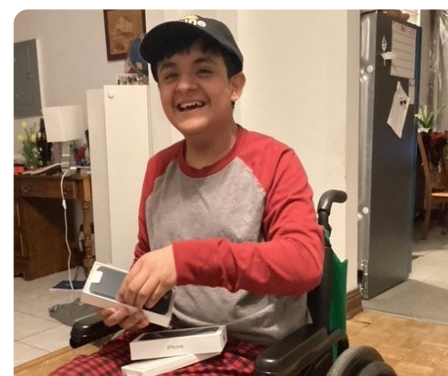


ASHLIN | AGE 12  
CEREBRAL PALSY  
FAMILY STAYCATION

### HOW FUNDS WERE RAISED IN 2023



We rely on our generous donors as Shine does not receive government or United Way funding.



JUAN | AGE 14  
OSTEOGENESIS IMPERFECTA  
IPHONE FOR SAFER TRAVELS

To view the audited financial statements, visit [www.shinefoundation.ca](http://www.shinefoundation.ca)

# SHINE DREAM STORIES

Shine Dreams help young people gain confidence and see themselves differently as someone **who can vs. someone who can't**. We are changing lives by empowering young people living with severe physical disabilities to see a future full of possibility and contribution.

Greater than the sum of its parts, a Shine Dream helps young people think differently about their future, imagine new possibilities, and develop a sense of purpose that can last a lifetime.

The stories told below mark just the start of a brighter future for our Dreamers.

## ERIK'S ACTIVE FUTURE IN HIS COMMUNITY



ERIK | AGE 18  
PROGRESSIVE MYOCLONIC EPILEPSY  
RCMP TOUR & E-TRIKE

As a kid, Erik dreamed of becoming an RCMP officer, but he didn't think a future in policing would be possible as his condition began to decline. Instead, he focused on another interest, bike riding, to improve his fitness and explore his city.

Erik worked with Shine on a customized experience that included an e-trike equipped just for him. As a surprise, he was presented his e-trike at the RCMP headquarters where he received a personalized tour.

On his tour, Erik explored various divisions, rode in an armoured truck, and received an introduction to law enforcement that helped him explore opportunities that suited his abilities. His sights are now set on an active future behind the wheel of his e-trike and volunteering in his community.

"Very often when there's a difficult conversation, he turns to me to say the words. But this time, he took control and got his message out there. For me it was a very powerful moment because he found his voice and now I know he can use it and he's been using it more in other places since. So for building confidence, it was very very powerful." - Erik's mom.

## JOCELYNE TUNES INTO GREATER SELF-ACCEPTANCE

Jocelyne found solace in her passion for timeless rock music like Elvis, The Beach Boys, and Motley Crue, a music taste she shares with her dad. Beyond the immediate delight of her new audio entertainment system, the process of receiving her Shine Dream sparked a positive transformation within Jocelyne.

Jocelyne now embraces her disability and feels more open to share details of living with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome with her new friends. She is more confident and accepting of her identity as a person with a disability and looks forward to turning her passion for music into a successful future in the industry.



JOCELYNE | AGE 15  
EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROME  
AUDIO EQUIPMENT



## MAGGIE'S RECORD-BREAKING HOT PINK RACING CHAIR



Maggie, a determined para-athlete with a passion for speed, faced a hurdle in her racing career due to the lack of a custom-fit chair. Despite her dedication and skill, the borrowed chair strained her body, hindering her goal of competing in the Paralympics.



MAGGIE | AGE 19  
CEREBRAL PALSY  
RACING WHEELCHAIR

Maggie's new customized hot-pink racing chair (her favourite colour) was presented on the track at the University of Alberta, her regular training spot.

Overwhelmed with the realization that a new chair was no longer a barrier, Maggie couldn't help but feel emotional: **"It just makes me feel important and seen, and that people want to see me succeed out there, and that just means the world to me."**

Maggie has since broken two personal best records! Not only is she riding faster, but she can now train longer free of pain.

## JOSH'S HOME GYM TRANSFORMATION

Josh finds comfort and strength in daily exercise, crucial for both his physical and mental well-being, but working out in a shared gym had been frustrating and intimidating. With a new custom home gym, he can now work out on his own terms, free from all barriers.

Josh shared, **"This has impacted my life in a gigantic way and given me so many opportunities for what I can do with my life and the space. I'm excited about my future, and where I can go with it."**

Josh's ever-growing strength and confidence is motivating him to pursue new fitness goals. He plans on exploring a career as a personal trainer as a result of the positive experience he's had in his new space.



JOSHUA | AGE 18  
CEREBRAL PALSY  
CUSTOM HOME GYM



SOONI | AGE 17  
CEREBRAL PALSY  
APP DEVELOPMENT

## SOONI'S APP BECOMES A 'DISHFUL' OF NEW SKILLS

Sooni is a brilliant Grade 12 student who loves coding, reading, and app development. He began learning how to code and build apps during the pandemic to fuel his curiosity for tech. Sooni was inspired to create a new recipe app called "Dishful" for his mom, to make it easier for her to save all his favourite comfort foods that she cooks for him and they enjoy eating together.

Shine partnered Sooni with an app development company, where throughout his Shine Dream, he has gained new skills while learning from professional app consultants how to better develop "Dishful." Sooni's goal is to be able to pay for his university studies based on the income from "Dishful" and explore a career in app development.

# COMMUNITIES GET INVOLVED

Community fundraisers and partners have organized various events to support Shine Dreams throughout the year. Featured below are some of the fundraisers and community partnerships that have helped us SHINE:



AMCOH GOLF TOURNAMENT

- Amanda Marascio Circle of Hope Golf Tournament
- Balpex Supplier Summit
- Conestoga College Police Foundation's Dodgeball for Danny
- LiUNA Local 1089 Golf Tournament
- Lucan Lion's Club Car Raffle
- Moparfest
- New Hamburg Optimist Club Vehicle Raffle
- Play Away Indoor Park
- Rival Office Solutions Golf Tournament
- Sebringville Fire Station's Fill the Boot
- Shred & Shake Fitness Challenge
- Sudbury Comedy Gala
- Digital Extremes Tennobaum 2023

Learn how you can create your own community event. Contact us at [events@shinefoundation.ca](mailto:events@shinefoundation.ca)

## BREAKING BARRIERS

Shine introduced a new peer-to-peer fundraiser to encourage participants across Canada to break barriers just like the Dreamers we serve.

Some people tried new foods (presenting sponsor, Windley Ely, challenged their office to try dried crickets), several others took part in distance challenges, **Shine alumnus Nathan (pictured right)** was in the drivers seat for the first time, racing in a go-kart, and a brave staff member who overcame her fear of birds by holding a frightening bird of prey.

Together, Shine alumni, sponsors, and 192 donors raised almost \$55,000 to help young people break their own barriers with a Shine Dream in 2024.



## SHINE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shine Foundation is governed by a volunteer-based, national Board of Directors comprised of highly regarded representatives from health care, finance, and community/public service who meet regularly to establish our strategic direction and monitor legal and financial matters.

Thank you to our board members who continued to support and provide guidance in 2023: Sarah Brouwer, Jim Cassidy, Lisa Gibson, Brian Henderson, Gillian Mandich, Michele Mannering, Dr. Michelle McNeill, Subtej Nijjar, Cathal O'Looney, Catherine Parsons-Dhamija, Marco Pasqua, Dan Pompilii, and Michelle Saba.





JOSH | AGE 19  
CHARCOT-MARIE-TOOTH SYNDROME  
WATER THERAPY SPA



## ORGANIZATIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUP SUPPORTERS

The following partners, organizations, foundations, community events, and endowments have supported Shine between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023. Thank you!

### PARTNER

\$50,000 - \$99,999



FONDATION  
AIR CANADA  
FOUNDATION



### BUILDER

\$25,000 - \$49,999



APP GUARDIANS  
A division of App Growth Network

THE TENAQUIP FOUNDATION

### SUPPORTER

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Circle K 61575

&

Circle K 65057

Erin Express Variety



GERDAU  
Shape the future

Jay's Piston Broke Pub



Ontario Charitable  
Gaming Association



The Windsor  
Foundation



Windley Ely Inc.  
ACRISURE PARTNER

### FRIEND

Gifts of \$1,000+

731607 Ontario Limited  
Active Mobility Products  
All Elite Wrestling (AEW)  
Amanda Marascio Circle of Hope  
Amico Infrastructures Inc.  
Ashley HomeStore Regina  
Balpex Inc.  
Beneva  
Best Buy - South Store, London ON  
Big Bear Food Mart  
BlueStone Properties Inc.  
Bruce Power  
Canadian Spa Company  
Carbonbike-USA  
Carr's Delivery Service  
Certa Pro Painters of Nova Scotia  
Chamandy Fund at the Jewish  
Community Foundation of  
Greater Montreal  
Chapter One  
CIBC Foundation  
Circle K 1294  
Circle K 1521  
Circle K 64068  
Circle K 65066  
Conestoga College Police  
Foundations Program  
Cozey  
Daisy Mart

Dietrich Metal Products  
Dillon Consulting  
Dinner Optimist Club of Edmonton  
Don and Hazel Williams Charitable  
Foundation  
Douglas A. Smith Family Foundation  
Dr. Leonard Reeves Foundation  
Eco Medical Equipment  
Ely's Glass  
Esso/Circle K 52261  
Fairmont Royal York  
Fidelity Investments Canada  
FM Audio Video  
Goodlife Fitness  
Gowling WLG  
Great Lakes Copper Ltd.  
Hi Way Variety  
Honda Canada Foundation  
Hunter Family Foundation  
iA Financial Group  
IG Wealth Management  
Igloo Software  
Ineos Styrolution Canada Limited  
JAD Soundproofing  
JWW-8 Family Foundation  
KPMG  
Leon's Furniture Fredericton  
Lerners LLP Barristers & Solicitors  
Lions Club of Land O'Lakes

LiUNA Local 1089  
LiUNA Local 1059  
Lohn Foundation  
London Police Association  
Lucan District Lions Club  
Manz Contracting Services Inc.  
Matrix Fitness  
Microsoft Canada  
Mississauga Central Lions  
Moparfest  
Motion  
New Hamburg Optimist Club  
Nexus Mechanical Group Inc.  
Nicolaas and Regina Veenboer  
Foundation  
Ontario Association for Mathematics  
Education  
Oshawa Family Convenience  
PCR Constructors Inc.  
Polykar  
Port Stanley Lions Club  
Rand Kildare Charitable Foundation  
RBC Phillips, Hager & North  
Investment Counsel Inc.  
RBC Wealth Management  
Rival Office Solutions Inc.  
Rockland Variety  
Rotary Club of Watford  
Royal Canadian Legion Cloverdale 01-006

Sebringville Firefighters  
Shred & Shake  
SOWA Tool & Machine Co. Ltd.  
St. Thomas Lodge 76  
Stan Clark Financial Team,  
CIBC Wood Gundy  
Stephen Smith & Dorothy  
Woltz Foundation  
Stinson/Glen Walter C-Store  
StockX  
Sudbury Comedy Gala  
Super 8 by Wyndham St.John's  
Tepperman's  
The Bourassa Savaria Foundation  
The Charles and Ethel Cohen  
Family Foundation  
The Greygates Foundation  
The Hamber Foundation  
The Henry White Kinnear Foundation  
The John C. and Sally Horsfall  
Eaton Foundation  
The Roger & Edith Davis Foundation  
The Village General Store  
The Walter J. Blackburn Foundation  
Travel Buggy  
United Steelworkers Local Union 2251  
VersaBank  
Via Rail Canada  
Wilf and Jean Bell Foundation

### LEGACY GIFTS

Bill White Memorial  
Dream Endowment  
Fund

County Heritage /  
Stevenson Hunt  
Endowment Fund

Mio / Manz  
Sunshine  
Endowment Fund

For a full list of Shine's caring family of supporters, visit [shinefoundation.ca](https://shinefoundation.ca)



# SHINE-BRITE

In September 2023, Shine successfully launched our new brand with an interactive lite-brite installation at Nuit Blanche Toronto. The event was attended by 200,000 people. Each person that placed a lite-brite peg in our Shine-Brite board received a take home postcard that featured the story of one of our Shine Alumni and the positive impact that their Shine Dream has had on their life. Our installation was one of the most visited that night.

Our new brand speaks directly to our mission - helping build brighter futures for young people living with severe physical disabilities.



A brighter future  
for youth with  
disabilities

#### GET IN TOUCH

Phone: 519-642-0990

Email: [info@shinefoundation.ca](mailto:info@shinefoundation.ca)



[shinefoundation.ca](https://www.shinefoundation.ca)

Charitable Registration #129954822RR0001