

# STRONGER TOGETHER



**Bill Sinclair**  
President & Chief  
Executive Officer



**Cathy Hennessey**  
Co-Chair  
Board of Directors



**Samira Viswanathan**  
Co-Chair  
Board of Directors

*“Stronger Together”. These words have never been more reflective of our values. This year we faced unprecedented challenges and have come together to continue building thriving neighbourhoods welcoming to all.*

We are so amazed at the commitment of our staff and are grateful to our volunteers, Board members, peer leaders, donors and friends who have risen to the challenge during the pandemic to provide incredible care with heart, resilience and creativity. There are so many heroic stories, and we are so proud that we prevented COVID outbreaks in our housing or homecare services due to the excellent care provided by our Personal Support Workers and staff crossing the city daily to keep our senior citizens and tenants safe.

This year, the addition of St. Stephen’s Community House to The Neighbourhood Group has made us a stronger organization reaching farther across the City of Toronto to fight poverty and social injustice. We offer much thanks and farewell to our retiring, visionary CEO Elizabeth Forestell and are pleased to welcome Bill Sinclair as our new CEO.

We invite you to read this Report and the many impactful stories of Gini, Helena, Wendy, Samira, Anneka, Jason, Yang Yu, Wenjing, Sharol, Jazmin and more. They are only a handful of the more than 60,000 neighbours of all ages that access our life-changing services. Please join us today in supporting this vital work!

## Our Mission

**The Neighbourhood Group serves people at every stage of their lives, promotes independence and dignity, and engages the skills and talents of our neighbours to build a vibrant community.**



# REFLECTIONS FROM ...

**Elizabeth Forestell** *outgoing President & Chief Executive Officer*

*Two points in time stand out in my mind when I think of the years I spent at Central Neighbourhood House (CNH) and The Neighbourhood Group. The first was my journey through the history of CNH, in preparation for our 100th anniversary in 2011.*

As I looked through hundred-year-old reports, letters and photographs, the vision of our founders and those early workers and volunteers came alive for me: the vision of a community where people are valued, respected and care for one another, where people come together in their commitment to build a healthy, vibrant city.

I saw this promise lived out again and again in the work of our staff and volunteers, but I was particularly struck by how it came alive just a few years ago when a group of those staff and volunteers came together with a pledge to bring a family of Syrian Refugees to safety in Canada. So overwhelming was their commitment and the support of our community that we soon had the resources to sponsor not one but three families; 19 people in all whose lives would be changed forever, and who would forever change and enrich those of us who know them.

It’s been 12 action-packed years culminating in a merge, wrapped in a global pandemic. As challenging as the past few months have been, I am so thankful for the time I have had here, and excited to see how The Neighbourhood Group in its latest form takes on the future. I know The Neighbourhood Group will continue to strive for that vision of our founders, and continue to make Toronto a better place for all.

## Our Vision

**A resilient, just and caring society where inclusion and diversity are nurtured and celebrated.**



Read our commitment to fight against Anti-Black Racism and Oppression  
[www.theneighbourhoodgroup.org/ourcommitment/](http://www.theneighbourhoodgroup.org/ourcommitment/)