

Media Release

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Grants awarded to organizations and individuals who have made an impact on the vitality of Toronto

21 grants awarded at the second annual Vital Toronto event.

The Toronto Community Foundation (TFC) today hosted the second annual VITAL TORONTO event in CBC's Glenn Gould Studio to celebrate the impact of 21 organizations and people that are helping to make Toronto the best place to live, work, learn and grow.

"As an organization whose focus is the vitality of our community, the Toronto Community Foundation is in a unique position to build partnerships to tackle tough community issues," remarked Rahul Bhardwaj, the President and CEO of the Toronto Community Foundation. "By helping these organizations build their capacity and reach, we are building a stronger Toronto".

All recipients were selected based on the challenges identified in Toronto's Vital Signs®, the Toronto Community Foundation's annual report on the health and quality of life in Toronto. Toronto's Vital Signs® guides the Toronto Community Foundation and gives clear direction on where funding and program support are needed most; all grants are focused on organizations delivering "solutions" for the challenges identified in the report.

The grants celebrated on Tuesday morning come from the Vital Toronto Fund, a high impact community endowment fund, and are directed to organizations and people that are having a positive impact in Toronto. The Vital Toronto Fund supports the following 3 grant programs: Vital People, Vital Ideas and Growing Active Kids:

1. **Vital People:** provides development grants to community leaders working and volunteering in various fields within the not-for-profit sector. The grants are used to build the skills and capacity of the leaders so that they can continue benefiting the community.
2. **Vital Ideas:** provides capacity-building grants for organizations that implement high-impact community programs with a proven track-record of success in improving the lives of Torontonians. The grants aim is to help these programs grow, become more sustainable or be replicated by others to further expand their impact.

- 3. Growing Active Kids:** supports groups in Toronto that are working to increase access to high quality sports and recreational activities for children and youth. The priority of the Growing Active Kids grant is to support recreational programs that: enable participation by children and youth who otherwise might not have access due to cost or other barriers.

As one of Canada's largest foundations with assets close to \$ 200 million, the Toronto Community Foundation is home to over 400 individual and family foundations; community vitality is our purpose and every year the Community Foundation works with its family of foundations to invest millions of dollars to impactful organizations in our community. Toronto's Vital Signs®, the Community Foundation's annual study on the health of the city, identifies key areas of community need and helps inform and guide our granting priorities in developing solutions. The Toronto Community Foundation is dedicated to making Toronto the best place to live, work, learn and grow; we exist for Toronto - for now and for always.

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