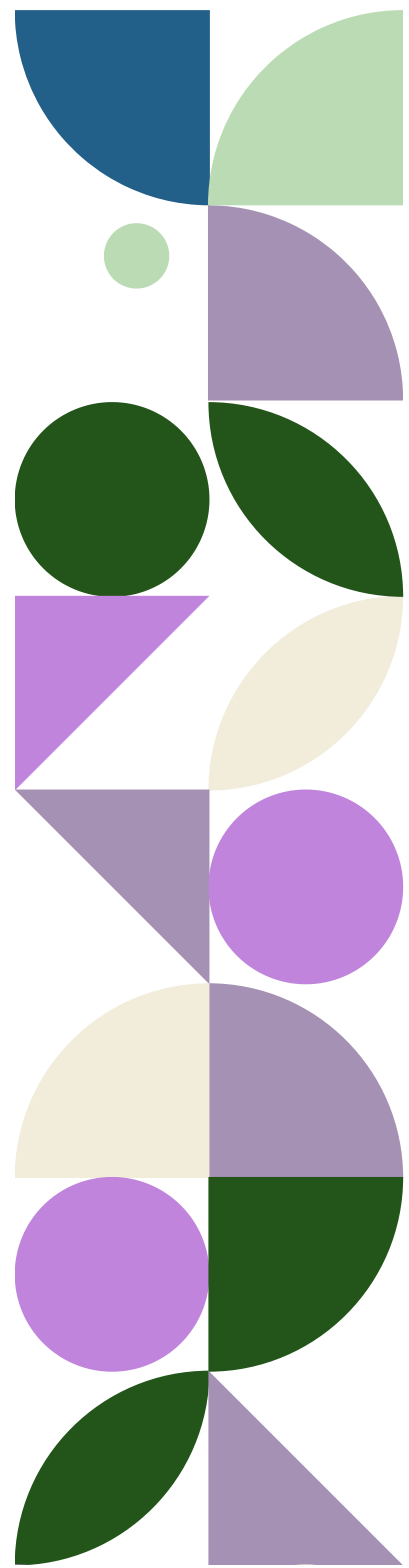
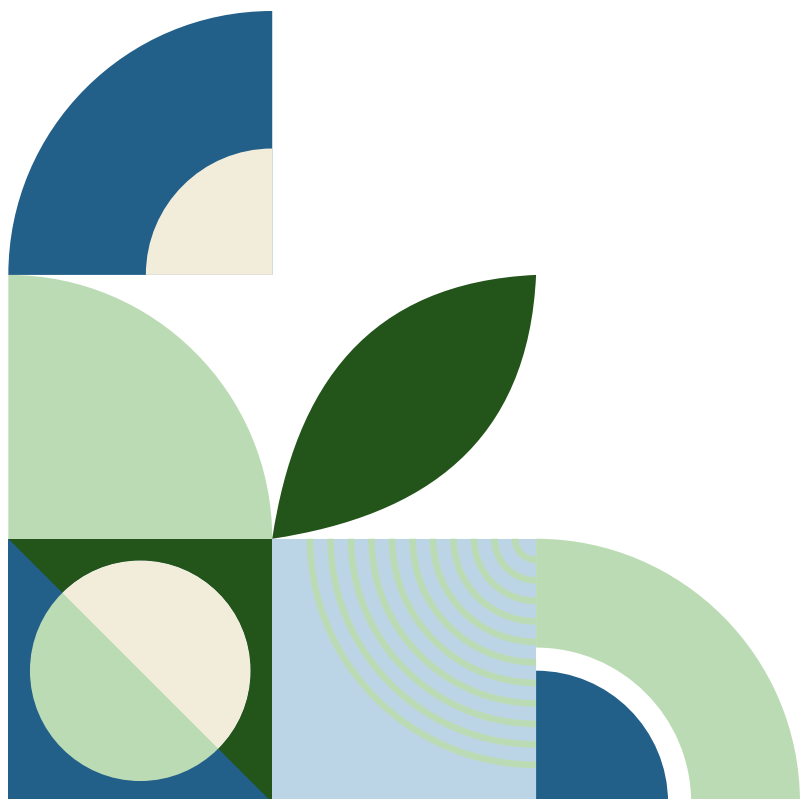




ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025

CHARITY NUMBER 12802-6143-RR0001



Agenda

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Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

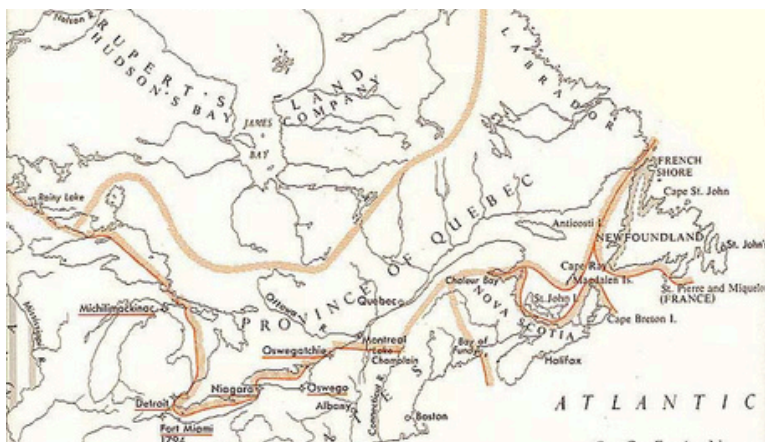
Evergreen Hospice recognizes that we provide care on the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples who have stewarded this land for generations. We honour the **Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, Anishnabeg, Seneca, Chippewa, and the Mississaugas of the Credit peoples**. We are committed to reconciliation and to building relationships rooted in peace, friendship, and trust.

We acknowledge the teachings of the **Dish With One Spoon Wampum**—a shared understanding that we all share responsibility to care for the land and ensure that the "dish" is never empty for future generations. This principle guides our commitment to inclusivity and respect in all aspects of our work.

In 2017, the **City of Markham** signed a landmark **Agreement of Cultural Collaboration** with **Eabametoong First Nation (Fort Hope)**, an Ojibway community in Northern Ontario. This first-of-its-kind partnership between an urban city and a remote First Nation supports cultural exchange, social and economic collaboration, and the promotion of Indigenous knowledge and awareness.

The City also opened the **Aaniin Community Centre and Library**, named after the Ojibwe word for "welcome." The centre serves as a gathering place for learning, dialogue, and community connection.

In 2018, Markham adopted its first **formal land acknowledgment**, which was updated in **2021** to reflect a deeper understanding of Indigenous presence, rights, and contributions. Evergreen Hospice supports and shares in these efforts toward reconciliation and continues to learn from Indigenous communities across the region.



Letters from Leadership



**Laura
Lavallee**

CEO, Evergreen Community Hospice



Dear Members, Supporters, and Community Partners,

This past year at Evergreen Hospice has been one of transformation, growth, and deepened community connection. I'm proud to share some of our key accomplishments and the direction we're heading.

One of our most exciting achievements was securing land to build Canada's first Hospice located within a national park. This visionary project reflects our commitment to creating compassionate, healing environments. We also received new bed allocations funded by the Ministry of Health—an important milestone in meeting the growing demand for hospice care.

To extend our reach, we opened two new satellite offices and launched a multigenerational support initiative for children and families in partnership with EarlyON Centres. We also strengthened our network through new collaborations with long-term care homes and five academic institutions, supporting both workforce development and knowledge sharing.

In a climate of limited government funding, we have maintained financial stability through donor generosity and careful resource management. This has allowed us to continue offering our services at no cost to clients—a model rooted in dignity and compassion.

Looking ahead, our focus remains on expanding digital services, strengthening outreach, and ensuring equitable access to care for all communities we serve. To our dedicated staff, volunteers, donors, and community partners—thank you. Your continued support enables us to turn our mission into meaningful impact.

With gratitude,

Laura Lavallee

CEO, Evergreen Hospice

Letters from Leadership



**Chris
Collucci**

Chairman, Board of Director



Dear Members, Supporters, and Community Partners,

At Evergreen, we measure progress not just in milestones, but in moments of courage and clarity. Over the past year, the organization has experienced a meaningful shift—one marked by bold decisions, renewed momentum, and forward-looking care. At the heart of that transformation is our CEO Laura Lavallée, whose leadership over the past eighteen months has been catalytic and deeply aligned with our mission and community.

Under Laura's guidance, Evergreen has taken decisive steps toward a future we've long envisioned. From securing land for Canada's first hospice within a national park to the successful allocation of Ministry-funded beds, these breakthroughs were years in the waiting—yet realized under her steady and determined leadership.

The Board has been proud to support these initiatives while maintaining focus on strong governance, ethical oversight, and long-term sustainability. We've seen Evergreen extend its reach through new satellite offices, new partnerships, and a deeper commitment to equity—ensuring more communities have access to care that is both compassionate and culturally attuned.

As always, our role includes stewarding financial health, assessing risk, and protecting the values that define us. In a healthcare landscape that evolves by the day, it's essential we remain grounded in purpose even as we adapt in practice. To our staff, volunteers, donors, and partners—thank you! Your belief in Evergreen's mission makes this work possible. Your daily support has empowered a CEO and leadership team to turn vision into reality.

With deep appreciation,

Chris Collucci

Chair, Board of Directors

Evergreen Hospice

Board of Directors



Executive Committee Members



Chris Collucci
President and Chair



Andrew Salo
Treasurer



Ray Lai
Secretary

Committee Members



Dr. Andrew Patterson
Family Physician



Jake Mitten
**Owner of Home
Instead Markham**



Rev. Nicola Skinner
**Grace Anglican
Church**



Jessica Competiello
**Senior Funeral
Director, Highland
Funeral Home**



Raymond Chan
**Government Relations
Professional**

About Evergreen Hospice



Our Mission

At Evergreen Hospice, our mission is to provide supportive services and education for people impacted by life-threatening illnesses or grief, promoting quality of life through compassionate support, in a safe, non-judgmental space and meeting them where they are and enabling them to move forward in their journey.

We strive to meet individuals where they are—physically, emotionally, and spiritually—offering a safe, inclusive, and non-judgmental space. Whether someone is navigating a diagnosis, caring for a loved one, or coping with loss, our services are designed to provide comfort, dignity, and hope. Through personalized support and meaningful connections, we empower people to move forward at their own pace, with care that is both compassionate and deeply human.

Our Vision

Evergreen Hospice is committed to being integral in providing access to supportive services and compassionate care to people impacted by life-threatening illnesses or grief across our diverse communities. Evergreen Hospice will continue to be recognized as an innovative leader in the palliative field.

Evergreen is a non-profit, charitable organization which depends on donations and limited government funding in order to provide support at no charge to the client.

In April 2014, Evergreen Hospice of Markham Stouffville and Hospice Thornhill, organizations that have both served their communities for more than 25 years, joined to become one stronger agency serving all three communities: Markham, Stouffville and Thornhill. Operational integration was completed at the end of 2013 with the governance and legal changes approved as of March 31, 2014. The new organization is now called "Evergreen".

We are here to make sure that those living with a serious illness, and their caregivers and families, get the vital care and support they need. We help provide individuals with dignity, personal choice, and quality of life, helping clients and their families to make the most of their precious time together. Support doesn't end at end-of-life - we are here to support every step of the way along the journey, from the point of diagnosis, through treatment, end-of-life care and on into bereavement.

Organizational Overview



Overview of 2024-25

At Evergreen Hospice, our mission is to offer comfort, connection, and compassionate care to individuals and families navigating serious illness, caregiving, and loss. Serving the communities of Markham, Stouffville, and Thornhill, we provide **FREE** community-based support that meets people where they are—emotionally and geographically.

The 2024–2025 fiscal year marked a time of exceptional progress and renewal. We began the year facing financial uncertainty but ended it on solid ground, with a healthy bank balance and several new, reliable funding streams. This turnaround reflects the strength of our strategic direction, the commitment of our team, and the trust of our community.

We expanded our footprint by opening two new satellite offices and acquiring a property on parkland for our future hospice facility—laying the foundation for a space that will serve generations to come. We also achieved a historic milestone by securing three fully funded hospice beds from the Ministry of Health and enhancing our capacity to deliver end-of-life care close to home. These advancements were accompanied by a \$90,000 increase in annualized Ministry funding and new program development to meet new and existing community needs.

Our dedicated staff, alongside a core of trained volunteers, provide one-on-one and group-based support that includes grief counselling, wellness programs, caregiver respite, and children's services. Each member of our team plays a critical role in delivering care that is personalized, inclusive, and rooted in dignity.

As we look ahead, Evergreen remains focused on deepening our impact and reaching more people in need. Through strong partnerships, thoughtful leadership, and a clear vision for growth, we are building a future where no one faces serious illness or loss alone.

Impact at Glance



13,839

Visits To The Clients.



984

Clients & Their Families Supported.



2,510

Supported by Groups or Seminars



101

Children & Teenagers Supported



1,176

Bereavement Mailings Sent To Grieving Families.



142

Caregiver Support Mailings Sent.

The page features four decorative corner elements composed of various geometric shapes like circles, triangles, and semi-circles in shades of green, purple, blue, and yellow. The central text is positioned in the middle of the page.

Hospice Residence Project

Overview of project



HOSPICE RESIDENCE PROJECT

*A community's promise,
35 years in the making*

The FIRST hospice residence for our community



"For over 35 years, Evergreen has been dedicated to supporting individuals experiencing life limiting illness and their loved ones in Markham, Stouffville and Thornhill. During this time we've fought tirelessly for residential hospice care to meet the critical end of life needs of our clients. Today, we are finally realizing that vision—thanks to the dedication and advocacy of our supporters. This is a community collective win; we've come a long way, together." - *Laura Lavallee, CEO Evergreen*

Mission

To provide a serene and home-like environment where individuals can receive professional and compassionate end-of-life care around the clock, so that they and loved ones can focus on making meaningful memories during life's final journey.

Did you know?

Care in a hospice residence is offered at **no cost** to the patient or family. Funding is provided in part by the province and in part from fundraising and charitable donations.

Key Steps

- ☒ Operational license acquired from Ontario Ministry of Health
- ☒ Lease signed with Parks Canada
- ☒ Architectural design complete
- ☐ Capital fundraising campaign
- ☐ Build and begin operations!

Location

- 7672 Elgin Mills Road East in Markham
- 1.5 acres of land within Rouge National Urban Park

Evergreen's project will be a pioneering first hospice residence to be built inside a Canadian national park!

Features

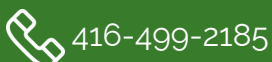
- Retrofit of an existing house to accommodate private residence rooms, shared kitchen and gathering area, meditation space, resource library and nursing station.
- Modern prefabricated pods for loved ones to have their own place to stay on-site.
- Peaceful outdoor pollinator garden and gazebo.
- Incorporation of sustainable technology, including solar power, heat pumps and grey water recycling.

Services

- On-site palliative care nursing around the clock
- Palliative physician visits and 24/7 on-call support
- Interprofessional team support to address the psychosocial, physical, practical and spiritual needs of the individual and their loved ones

Goal: \$5 million to build, furnish and start operating the hospice residence in 2026.

For more information and to find out how you can help, contact us



Financial Report



As we reflect on the fiscal year 2024-2025, it is with both pride and gratitude that we acknowledge the incredible resilience and progress Evergreen Community Hospice has shown despite the challenges we faced. When we entered the year, we were confronted with a first draft budget projecting a best-case deficit of \$11,000. In the first two months into the fiscal, we had to withdraw \$70,000 from savings to cover payroll. However, through strategic action and tireless effort, we have successfully reversed this situation. We are ending the year with \$112,000 in the bank, having not only recovered the \$70,000 taken from savings but also secured additional funding, key partnerships, and program expansions.

→ Expenditures

\$648,300

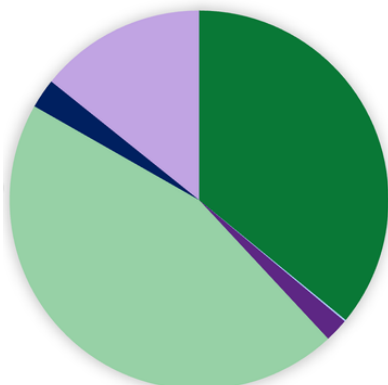
→ Assets

\$786,243

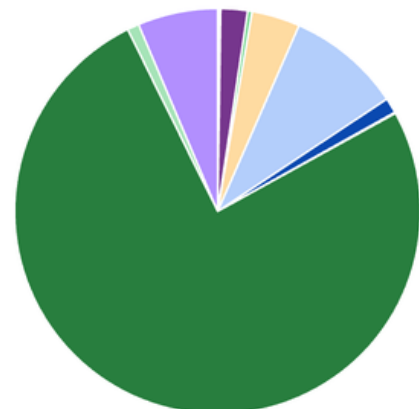
→ Total Assets

\$856,146

Revenue



Expenditures



Key Achievements

- Pioneered the establishment of the first-ever hospice within a Canadian national park, securing land and property for this landmark initiative.
- Achieved a historic milestone by securing three Ministry of Health-funded hospice beds — the first in our 35-year history.
- Expanded regional presence through the successful launch of two new satellite offices, significantly increasing access to palliative care and community outreach.
- Introduced a groundbreaking multigenerational children's initiative in collaboration with EarlyON Centres, enhancing family-centered support services.
- Forged strategic partnerships with five post-secondary institutions, strengthening research, training, and student engagement in hospice care.
- Established formal partnerships with local long-term care homes, ensuring continuity of compassionate care across systems.
- Secured a \$90,000 increase in annualized Ministry baseline funding, representing new, ongoing investment in service capacity.
- Launched the innovative Support Doll Program and Knitters' Corner, promoting therapeutic engagement and volunteer involvement.
- Initiated the Mothers Without Mothers peer support program, creating a vital community for women navigating grief and motherhood.
- A record-breaking direct mail campaign featuring Mayor Lovatt.
- Introduction of new programs enhancing community services.

Despite the initial financial challenges, this year has been a complete turnaround. We are ending the year strong with a renewed financial foundation, a positive outlook, and key partnerships to sustain growth. However, maintaining this momentum requires continued investment in leadership, staffing, and resources, especially for capital fundraising, infrastructure expansion, and scaling operations.



*meeting them where they are and enabling them
to move forward in their journey.*



For more information regarding our charitable status and financial reporting to the Charities division of the Canada Revenue Agency please visit our listing on the CRA website

Our charitable business number is 12802 6143 RR0001

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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