

What is City Kidz?

OUR VALUES:

We are a people of **FAITH**
We are a community of **HOPE**
We are servants of **LOVE**

OUR MISSION:

We exist to increase resiliency and inspire big dreams for Canadian children living in low-income communities by providing inspirational experiences and nurturing personal relationships, one child at a time.

OUR DREAM:

It is big, it is important, it is audacious! We are committed to searching for every last child in Ottawa who needs to know that someone cares and they have a place in this world, so they will know that they are loved, that they matter and that someone believes in them.

Become a Child Sponsor!

HERE'S HOW:

A monthly gift of only **\$27.50** provides a child living in the inner city with the opportunity to get involved at City Kidz! It's easy to sign up. Find out how at Ottawa@citykidz.ca or call **613-796-3063**

No Gift Too Small

It's that time of year again. The Playhouse is closed for the winter and we are scurrying around planning for the upcoming Spring Session. But, we are also staying very much in contact with the children through our Home Visit program. Thanks to your support, when we visit them every other week we are able to give each child a handout to colour and do an activity which keeps them smiling despite the fact that they really would rather be going to the Playhouse.

During the off-months those of us on the Home Visit teams are usually bombarded with questions about when we're starting up again. One little six-year-old is so disappointed that the Playhouse is closed we are often met with a sullen face and barely a high five. When we've asked the children what activities they've been doing over the winter, they usually respond with a shrug. It would appear that a lot of them aren't doing anything. City Kidz is all they've got.



So, to alleviate some of this winter gloom, at Christmastime, Église Liberté, a French church in Overbrook, donated turkeys to each City Kidz family, the Rotary Club donated hats and mitts, and on Valentine's Day we were able to hand out candy to each child! In most cases their responses were usually a big grin and a happy thanks to receive these small tokens of love. I feel it important, also, to pass along this gratitude to you!! It was only because of your giving that we were able to put a smile on each child's face in an otherwise dismal winter for them! You have helped to let them know they ARE loved and cared for!

Will You Continue to Partner?



The City Kidz Ottawa Dream Banquet and Silent Auction on November 8th, 2012 was a great success. Thanks to all who attended and donated items to be auctioned off. We raised almost \$7,000 which is going toward our program costs for 2013. There was a great deal of positive feedback from those that attended. We will be holding another one in November, so keep a watch for the announcement.

As a grassroots organization not relying on government support, we are always in heavy duty fundraising mode. We had our first Miracle Sunday on February 17th, which is an event open to churches across Ottawa to take an offering on behalf of City Kidz Ottawa. Of the

We Value our Supporters

City Kidz Ottawa thinks very highly of our supporters and donors. You make what we do possible and we want you to know that your privacy is of the highest importance. We work very hard to ensure that your personal information is kept private and strictly confidential. We do not share, trade or sell any information we have gathered. We want to hear from you and know how you think we're doing.

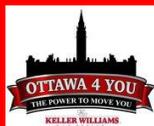
Contact Us

<http://citykidz.ca/ottawa>

Ottawa@citykidz.ca

(613)796-3063

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churches approached to take part, the feedback was positive and our hope is that this list of churches will grow and more congregations will come on board next year! We are also planning to take part in the Ride for Refuge in October and of course hold our annual Dream Banquet, again, in November. We hope you are able to get involved in all or one of these upcoming events!

Of particular focus to us this year, is our Child Sponsorship Program and we have a goal of obtaining 30 new child sponsorships by June 1. Will you help us to reach this goal? If you're already giving in other ways and don't want to get involved in the Sponsorship program personally, would you let your friends and family know that they can make it possible for one child to attend our program for \$27.50 per month?

Child sponsorships, in conjunction with other forms of giving, will create a sustainable income for City Kidz Ottawa which is greatly needed to keep our program running and for further growth. The children are out there to be reached, of this we have no doubt, but it would not be responsible for us to continue growth until we have a solid donor base. After only being in operation since 2010, we're getting there, but we're not there yet. We can only do it with your help! Thanks to those of you who have given either of your time or financially. Together we are reaching and will continue to reach those children who need a touch of God's love!

And ONE For All...

In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish. (Matthew 18:14)

When Jesus says "little ones" he is, in fact, referring to the children who had gathered around him as he taught. Indeed, all the way through the first part of Matthew 18, Jesus exhorts us to always welcome *these little ones*, (v.5)

to never cause *these little ones* to stumble (v.6), to never despise *these little ones* (v.10) and then finally, *to search out those who have wandered off and to not lose even one*. (v.12-14) There has been a great deal of teaching on what this passage means to an adult's approach to faith, most of which I agree with. However, I think we also need to take its literal meaning to heart and do all that we can to reach every child who is suffering and in need of protection as we are indeed being told to do.



I am proud to say that City Kidz is doing all that we can to meet the challenge of this passage. Through all of our efforts, we are committed to searching out every last child who is suffering in poverty to let them know that God loves them and so do we. We are not willing that any child should perish. But we haven't done it alone. We're always aware that we are one small cog in a giant wheel of City Kidz supporters and other ministries across Canada that have taken this passage to heart, as well. Together we are searching out that one lone child. All for one... and ONE for all! ~ W. Turpin, Branch Coordinator, Ottawa.