



I was able to buy myself winter boots, so I did not have to wear running shoes all winter because my family did not have enough room in their pay cheques.

Your money helped me put clean clothes on my body, helped me put the food on the table. And helped me get from place to place.

Help Our Students

PROGRAM

The Help Our Students Program (HOST) was founded in 2010 by two local friends to help Ottawa students living in difficult financial circumstances stay and succeed in high school until they graduate.

If it were not for the help of the HOST program, I do not know where I would be.

These students are working hard to stay in school but it isn't easy for them. In far too many cases, they don't know when their next meal will be, they wear hand-me-downs all through high school and, if they go out with their friends, they certainly can't buy anything.

I've been blessed to be able to use this money for small things like groceries for the house and big things like a new winter coat for my sister.

Many need to either quit school to get a job to support their family or take on too many part-time hours that cuts the amount of time they have for school work.

The HOST Program gives the students \$150 per month (September to June) sent directly to their own RBC bank account. It gives them hope that they may be the first in the family to graduate high school, hope to go to college or university, and hope to realize a long-held dream. It helps with family groceries, buying clothing for their siblings and going on school field trips.

The money you give me I used it for basically food and sometimes I give myself a treat like a shirt.

The HOST Program is a rarity: **100% of your donation goes directly to a student.**

Help us make our community a better place to live.

I have never in my whole life had the feeling of financial security that I now have, that in case my mom gets kicked out, I can help pay for a hotel.

This article is a paid advertisement. All administrative and media costs are paid by the volunteer Board of Directors of the Host Program, ensuring that 100% of all public donations go directly to students. The Directors are: Dr. Chris Carruthers MD, Suzanne Donnelly, Carman Joynt, Genevieve Kosavic, Linda Lussier, Richard Lussier (Co-Founder & President), Peter Nicholson, Susan Prior, Mohamed Sheibani, Donald Stephenson (Co-Founder), and Michel van Aanhout.

Growing up, I was always the kid with no money to go on the field trips, or the grad trips, or being able to afford food or other things.

Please visit our website at
www.helpourstudentsprogram.com

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Thank you for making me feel like I was a normal girl for the first time.