



**Send Relief**  
Toronto







## Contact Information

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## Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Send Relief works with churches and volunteers to meet needs and change lives in communities within the U.S. and around the world.

By offering help and hope to the most vulnerable in collaboration with missionaries, local ministries and churches, your gifts and efforts through Send Relief have a long-term impact.

With Send Relief's help, churches and partners like you receive resources and training to be the hands and feet of Jesus to communities in crisis, refugees, human trafficking survivors, those affected by natural disasters and vulnerable children and families.



## Ministry Centers

Send Relief ministry centers deliver compassion ministry within local communities while providing mission trips and training opportunities for churches all over the country. The goal of ministry centers is twofold: serve communities well and encourage others to do the same.

All over North America, Send Relief ministry centers actively assess community needs, develop ministry strategies, deliver ministry and provide opportunities for others to go on mission.



# Community Snapshot

**Toronto is Canada's largest city and a world leader in business, finance, technology, entertainment and culture. Its large population of immigrants from all over the globe has made Toronto one of the most multicultural cities in the world.**

The city of Hamilton hosts the Send Relief Toronto Ministry Center, and people often refer to it as Toronto West or Canada's Brooklyn. Unique for its distinctive urban feel and vibrant arts and culture, Hamilton has deep roots and a proud history.

Located in the heart of the country's most popular travel destinations, Hamilton lies halfway between Toronto and Niagara Falls, less than an hour from each.

Hamilton is home to more than 100 waterfalls and has been called the Waterfall Capital of the World.

**Population:** The Greater Toronto Hamilton Area and the core of the more significant urban agglomeration called the Golden Horseshoe currently boasts a population of **7,281,694**, and researchers project it to grow to **8.6 million** by 2031.

- **1 in 4 children** live under the poverty line.
- Households with children led by single mothers are especially vulnerable to food insecurity; **38%** of these households were food insecure.
- Since **2021**, Canadians have experienced unprecedented inflation in food prices and other necessities.
- A 2021 report by the University of Toronto showed that **63%** of households relying on social assistance were food insecure.
- In 2023, Hamilton declared a State of Emergency related to homelessness, opioid addiction and mental health issues. There are currently many tent encampments as the city struggles to support and house people.
- 30.7% of Indigenous Peoples live in food-insecure households.
- In the last Canadian census, there were over **200** different spoken languages reported.
- It is not uncommon for the student body in some local public schools to speak more than **30-40** different languages.
- In Hamilton, Arabic is now the most common language spoken at home after English.
- About **1/3 of all low-income households** in Hamilton depend on a food bank at least once a year.



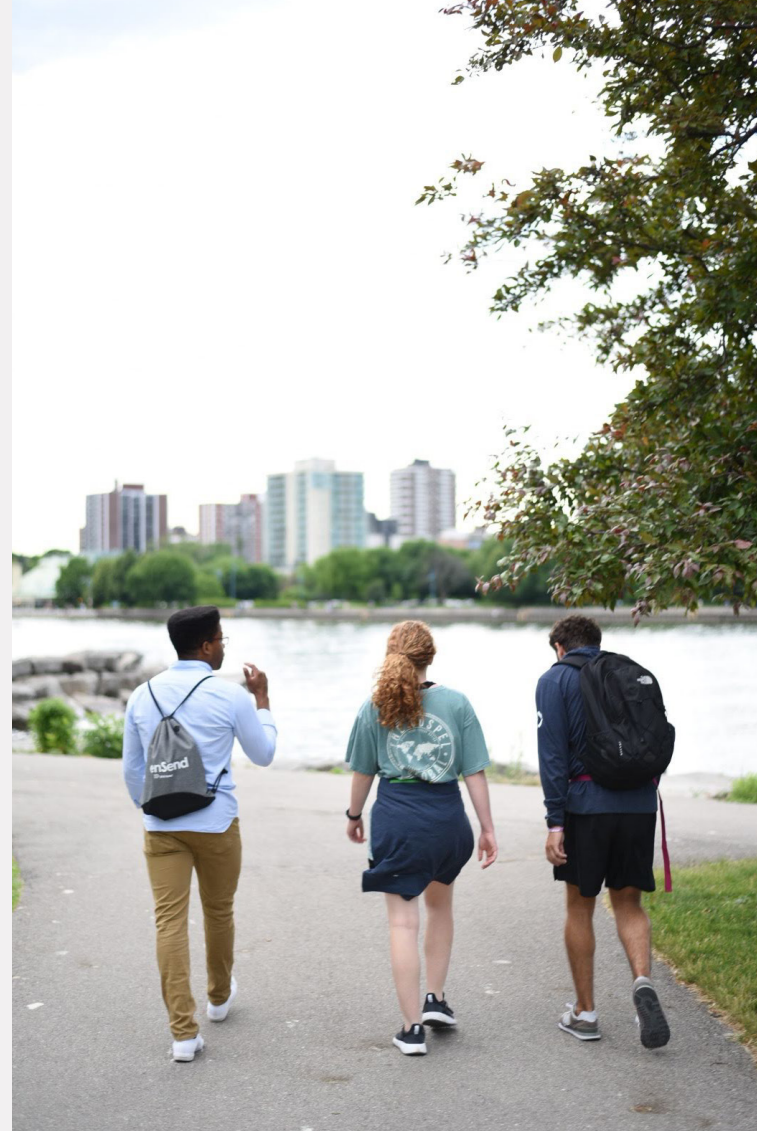
# Toronto Ministry Center Snapshot

## Ministries

**Strengthen Communities**

**Poverty**

**Care for Refugees**



*“People lose hope waiting alone in line after line after line for services. If you have a friend to stand and wait with you in the lines, it will be an entirely different experience.”*  
— Kimberley McGibbon



# Toronto Ministry Center Community Partnerships

**The Toronto Ministry Center is currently working on its “Better Together Initiative.” This program endeavors to connect newcomers with a local church committed to befriending, walking alongside, encouraging, supporting, learning from and helping their new friends settle into the neighborhood and community.**

Hamilton has a lot of services for refugees and newcomers, yet multiple studies show how newcomers have struggled to assimilate into the city.

They state that they felt lonely and some have expressed isolation.

More than 80% of Canadian National Baptist Convention (CNBC) pastors in the Greater Toronto Hamilton area were born outside North America, and congregations continue this trend.

This diversity gives CNBC churches in the area a unique opportunity to lead in welcoming newcomers and displaced people.

In the future, the Toronto Ministry Center desires its leadership to reflect who they serve and continue living out Isaiah 61:1-4.

The Center is also in the process of developing its affordable housing help initiative. Kimberley shared, “We want to be engaging more than 1% of all newcomers in Hamilton a year, and we would like to include in our center a transitional affordable housing development so we can offer refugees and newcomers a longer on ramp and wrap around programming to help families as they face significant challenges to integrating into Canadian society.”

*“We want to be engaging more than 1% of all newcomers in Hamilton a year, and we would like to include in our center an affordable housing development for refugees and newcomers that includes our kingdom partners — churches and entrepreneurial kingdom-minded businesses.”*

*—Kimberly McGibbon*





# History of the Toronto Ministry Center

In May 2022, Send Relief announced that a new Ministry Center would be coming to Canada for the first time.

The leadership at the Toronto Ministry Center is currently searching for a permanent Ministry Center home. Now, they have offices in The Cotton Factory, a creative arts center in the heart of lower Hamilton.

This former cotton mill, built in 1900, has been transformed into a creative industries complex. It is a hub for film and television productions, photographers and special events.







## Vision

The vision of the Toronto Ministry Center is based on Isaiah 61:1-4.

“The Spirit of the Lord God is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and freedom to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of our God’s vengeance; to comfort all who mourn, to provide for those who mourn in Zion; to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, festive oil instead of mourning, and splendid clothes instead of despair. And they will be called righteous trees, planted by the Lord to glorify him. They will rebuild the ancient ruins; they will restore the former devastations; they will renew the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.”

Kimberley explains, “Jesus binds up the brokenhearted and sets the captives free. With this Ministry Center, we can join Him in this work so they will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor; they will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.”

## Toronto Ministries

### Future Ministry Plans

**Strengthen Communities:** Poverty, Homelessness, Food Insecurity

**Care for Refugees:** Education and After School Programs, Basic Needs Ministry

**Protect Children and Families:** Foster and Adoption Ministries



## Get Involved

One of the most powerful ways to show the most vulnerable the love of Christ is by taking steps toward them. By helping churches be the hands and feet of Jesus, Send Relief supports and provides opportunities for those who desire to respond directly to these needs in lasting, meaningful ways while sharing the hope of the gospel.

### Give

Your gift provides critical, immediate help to families and communities that need it most. Give today to provide practical care and share the love of Jesus.

[Click here or scan the QR code to give](#)



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### Serve

Participate in various compassion opportunities by taking a mission trip and vision tour to a ministry center around North America. Mission trips can include apartment outreach, food pantry ministry, after-school programs, sports ministry, canvassing, prayer walking, homeless ministry, physical labor, serving at-risk families and university campus ministry. The trip also includes aspects of training and equipping so you can learn how to connect and serve the international and refugee communities in your cities.

[Click here to sign up](#)







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