

# Our History

## Alzheimer Society of Brant

1976 - Ted Babineau, George Dick, Vicky Bayley, and Ann Smelser created a support group as they wanted to help each other when little was known about the disease.

1983 - Alzheimer Society of Brant became an affiliated chapter

1986 - Alzheimer Society of Brant became an incorporated organization, one of approximately 60 chapters in Canada.

1987 - The first office opened in Brantford at the Eaton Market Square with an administrative coordinator, part-time administrative assistant, and a monthly support group leader.

1989 - 2017 - Programs developed, staff grew, and office moved around the city, including locations on Grey St, Brant Ave and the John Noble Home.

2018- co-located at 25 Bell Lane located in the Brantwood Community Services building.

## Alzheimer Society of Haldimand Norfolk

1993 - After many years, a group of dedicated volunteers, family caregivers and professional caregivers were able to form the Alzheimer Society of Haldimand Norfolk and opened first office in Simcoe at the corner of Hwy 3 & Hwy 24. Kit Julian was the first employee – hired on a part-time basis with a grant from the Alzheimer Society of Ontario.

1994 - A Wandering Person Registry was established in collaboration with local police.

1995 - Alzheimer Society of Haldimand Norfolk became an incorporated organization and moved into a shared office space with Ontario March of Dimes.

1998 - Moved the Norfolk Resource Centre to Norfolk General Hospital to improve dementia awareness and strengthen its relationship with the professional health care community.

2000-2004 - Improved its programming accessibility with the opening of the Haldimand Resource Centre first in in York (2000) and then moved to Caledonia (2003).

2005 - Purchased the building (formerly, The Co-op) at 645 Norfolk St N in Simcoe to create the Caregiver Wellness Centre.

2008 - The Haldimand Resource Centre moved to its current home in Hagersville and entered into a partnership with CNIB and Brain Injury Services to form the Haldimand Abilities Centre.

2008 - A satellite office was opened in the Dunnville Health Cottage

2011 - The Caregiver Wellness Centre (Simcoe) was renamed Hazel Place in honour of Hazel Race

## Alzheimer Society of Hamilton Halton

1982 - Alzheimer Society of Hamilton Halton was incorporated. The chapter was largely volunteer and family driven. It offered family support groups organized by volunteer professionals, gave presentations, and distributed information and resource materials.

1988 - Successfully operating the Alzheimer Education & Resource Centre, with a full-time Education Director and a part-time secretary.

1989-1991 – The Society continued to grow and meet the needs of the community. It established the Wandering Person Registries in Hamilton and Halton, and expanded the Hamilton Resource Centre space, which now included a full-time professional Program Coordinator and a full-time receptionist. In 1990, the local chapter hosted the Annual General Meeting of the Alzheimer Society of Canada.

1992 - The Halton-Wentworth Alzheimer Foundation was created to raise, invest, and manage funds.

1995 - The Society and the Foundation operated under a joint Board of Directors. The organization continued to expand its services, staff, and volunteers.

2011 - Expanded its Halton presence and opened an Oakville office, funded by Docs on Ice

2011 - Programming grows, and staff expands prompting a move into a larger space in Hamilton at 1575 Upper Ottawa Street.

## **After Amalgamation**

### **Alzheimer Society of Brant, Haldimand Norfolk, Hamilton Halton**

2010 - The three original chapters created a new corporation, Dementia Alliance, in April 2010 to create operational efficiencies and share best practises. The critical role of local Societies boards was maintained to ensure local presence and identity, and to assist in raising funds.

2013 - It was agreed that maintaining separate boards and corporations was no longer effective, nor necessary.

2016 - Amalgamation of original local chapters completed creating Alzheimer Society of Brant, Haldimand Norfolk, Hamilton Halton and the Alzheimer Society Foundation of Brant, Haldimand Norfolk, Hamilton Halton.

2016 - Programming grows in Halton prompting moves of both Halton offices into larger spaces. The Burlington office moves to 4391 Harvester Road, and we enter into a partnership with St. Luke's Community Centre in Oakville to offer education and support groups.

2018 - The education room in Hamilton was re-named the David Hearn Foundation Education Room in appreciation of the many years of support provided by David & Heather Hearn, and the David Hearn Foundation.

Programming continues to develop with the addition of Behavioural Supports Ontario community outreach services. BSO Teams were deployed to community offices at First Place Hamilton and Palmer Place in Burlington.

We entered a partnership with Brantwood Community Services and move our operations there, after experiencing a flood at our office in 2017

New partnership in Haldimand County with Grandview Lodge and Allendale Long Term Care in Milton providing space to our team to meet with clients.

2021 - Alzheimer Society of Hamilton Halton amalgamated a satellite office at First Place and the main office into one location at 530 Fennell Ave East.