



OttawaParamedics.ca

**HELP FUND**

## The Ottawa Paramedic HELP Fund

Take a city that is growing at an astonishing rate. Add in an enormous baby boomer segment that is aging every day. Faster cars. More aggressive sports. Escalating violence. Hundreds of thousands of tourists and top it all off with a new strain of highly contagious diseases with no known cures.

When these elements are combined, they have the ability to create extremely demanding emergency situations that Ottawa Paramedics must respond to each and every day.

**Continuous exposure to extreme conditions leaves paramedics at a very high risk of suffering from severe illnesses or critical injuries. In fact, Canadian statistics indicate that only 4% of paramedics are able to finish their career.**

In addition, there has never been adequate benefits to support paramedics who fall victim to illness or injury. As a result, Ottawa Paramedics have taken matters into our own hands and created the *Helping Every Local Paramedic (HELP) Fund*.

The *HELP Fund* was developed as a means to aid Ottawa Paramedics and their families in times of financial need. The *HELP Fund* activates when regular benefits are exhausted, non-applicable or unqualified.

Examples of *HELP Fund* benefits include specialized medical supplies & equipment such as wheelchairs, home renovations and vehicle modifications to accommodate disabilities, professional care such as physiotherapy, speech therapy and other unforeseeable urgencies.

**The *HELP Fund* relies on a combination of individual paramedic contributions as well as very important public donations and corporate sponsorships.**

Together, these donations form an integral part of revenue sources that are necessary for the stability & sustainability of the *HELP Fund* to ensure continued growth & financing availability when an Ottawa Paramedic becomes disabled and is no longer able to continue helping others.

With respect and sincerity,

**Darryl Wilton**

Advanced Care Paramedic | President

Professional Paramedic Association of Ottawa  
300 March Road (4<sup>th</sup> Floor) | Ottawa, ON K2K 2E2  
(613) 244.0333 | [president@OttawaParamedics.ca](mailto:president@OttawaParamedics.ca)

**John Blythe**

Advanced Care Paramedic | HELP Fund Director

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