

## Chairperson's Report

It's an honour to present this year's Board Chair Report for the Society for the Involvement of Good Neighbors (SIGN). Our organization continues to serve the people of our community with compassion, dedication, and impact, thanks in large part to the unwavering commitment of our staff, volunteers, partners, and supporters.

This past year has brought significant milestones and meaningful progress to our work at SIGN.

**Fundraising Evolution:** This was the first full year SIGN's board formally stepped into fundraising efforts. We created a Fundraising Committee to explore new ways of sustaining and enhancing our work. One of the most exciting outcomes has been our upcoming partnership with Habitat for Humanity to host a charity golf tournament in July. This partnership is a wonderful opportunity to come together with a like-minded organization and raise funds in a fun and engaging way.

**Advocacy and Awareness:** SIGN has always been a voice for those who need one. This year, we increased our advocacy efforts to help the public and our funders better understand the value of the programs we deliver. We organized tours of our facilities and programs with elected officials from the city and province. These visits sparked meaningful conversations and helped raise awareness about our work. Additionally, SIGN developed a series of short videos highlighting our programs and the positive impact they have on individuals and families. These videos have been instrumental in spreading awareness and showcasing the significance of our work.

**Governance and Bylaw Review:** This year, we conducted a thorough review of our bylaws and will present proposed changes to the membership this evening. While many of the changes were technical in nature, a key update includes the introduction of board term limits. This is something we, as a board, have discussed for the past two years. We believe this change will help ensure fresh ideas and perspectives continue to shape the board, keeping us well-positioned to support SIGN through whatever challenges and opportunities lie ahead.

I want to take a moment to extend my heartfelt thanks to every member of the SIGN team. Your dedication, compassion, and professionalism are the foundation on which this organization stands. SIGN is more than just a workplace — I know that personally. My mom worked at SIGN, and I saw firsthand the commitment, long hours, and emotional energy it takes to do this kind of work well. I also saw how meaningful that work could be — not just for clients, but for the families of the people doing it.

You are more than staff. You are mentors, listeners, problem-solvers, and community-builders. The care you show each day doesn't go unnoticed. You're impacting not only the people you serve but also setting an example for the next generation of caregivers, social workers, and community leaders. Thank you for all that you do — and for doing it with heart!

As we move into the year ahead, our board is committed to continuing our support for SIGN's mission. That includes strengthening our governance, expanding our fundraising capacity, and ensuring that staff at all levels feel supported and valued. We'll continue to advocate on behalf of the work you do — not just to funders, but to the broader community because SIGN deserves to be understood, supported, and celebrated. Thank you once again to the staff, leadership team, fellow board members, and community partners. It is a privilege to serve alongside you in support of this incredible organization.

With respect and gratitude,

Scott Sharpe  
Board Chair, SIGN