

Emergo

Foundation

Autism gives no respite...
Emergo, does!



ANNUAL RE PORT



April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021



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MISSION

Incorporated on May 25, 2011, the Foundation will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2021.

Its mission remains the same as ever: to raise funds for the benefit of Emergo Respite in order to ensure the continuity of its services and to carry out new projects.

The Foundation is in charge of the annual fund-raising campaign as well as planning and efficiently running the various fund-raising activities.



OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



**Your contribution
is vital.
Thank you
for being there
for us!**

Already one year of the pandemic is behind us... Everyone has had to adapt as best as possible. Parents of children with autism have been particularly affected. Most of the services provided to their children have been disrupted and, in some cases, have been completely suspended.

Knowing the parents' distress, Emergo Respite made incredible efforts to accommodate their children. Last summer, by respecting all public health measures, Emergo gave respite to some one hundred families and we are very pleased to say that no participants caught COVID. Congratulations to the whole team!

To support these outstanding efforts and maintain these very essential services, the Emergo Foundation was there. Our main fund-raising event could not take place, but we turned to Emergo's friends, who answered our call, despite the difficult economic situation.

Dominique Andry, the Foundation's Director, and Manon Carle Dagenais, our dedicated volunteer, did their utmost to replace the lost revenues and keep the Foundation's expenses as low as possible. Big thanks to them both!

After ten years as Chairman of the Foundation's Board of Directors, it's time for me to step down. I'm very pleased that our friend, Sylvie Cataford, has agreed to take over. Sylvie and her husband, Simon Blais, have been supporting the Foundation since the very beginning and have undertaken some excellent initiatives to support it. I know that I am leaving the Foundation in good hands. Thank you, Sylvie!

And lastly, I would like to thank you, dear friends and donors, for your generosity towards Emergo. Your contribution is vital. Thank you for being there for us!

You will see me again, as I am still on the Foundation's Board of Directors and I will continue to support this wonderful cause.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jacques Chartrand', written in a cursive style.

Jacques Chartrand

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



The Foundation is gearing up for its 10th anniversary in 2021.

With the onset of COVID-19 and its impacts, 2020 was undoubtedly an “annus horribilis” for everyone, and the philanthropic sector was no exception. Some 40% of Canadians experienced a substantial drop in income, resulting in fewer donations being raised from the public. While philanthropy thrives on human contact, fund-raising has been hampered by the cancellation of benefit events, and the shift to virtual fund-raising has not been as popular as hoped with the proliferation of people working from home. Despite these difficult times, nearly one in two Quebecers (46%) have nevertheless supported a charitable organization, according to the Épisode philanthropy firm, and more than 22% of donors said they had given more to organizations to compensate for the cancellation of philanthropic initiatives¹.

While Emergo Respite—declared an essential service—set up respites that strictly complied with the required COVID procedures, the Foundation kept its focus on its proximity strategy. We maintained virtual contact and communicated electronically. The appeal made to our loyal donors, sponsors and friends of the Emergo family—so that they wouldn't abandon us, but rather support us more than ever in this unusual period of time during the electronic mailing campaign—was very well received and a great many of them responded with kindness and generosity!

The Foundation adjusted to the situation, despite the cancellation of our main event—the annual golf tournament. The Scotiabank Charity Challenge took place, while complying with the public health rules, in people's own home environment and the Foundation held its first virtual auction just in time for the holiday shopping season.

With the vaccination campaign well under way and everyone looking forward to a return to a more normal life, the Foundation is gearing up for its 10th anniversary in 2021. The direct mail campaign, the Charity Challenge and the virtual auction will be back and we are hopeful that we will be able to hold our golf tournament in whatever format will be allowed by public health authorities.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the entire Emergo Respite team that redoubled its efforts to provide essential respite to our families and that succeeded in doing so without any cases of COVID throughout the participants' stay. But above all, I would like to underline the immense devotion of Jacques Chartrand, founding Chairman of the Foundation, who—after 10 years in this position—will be passing the torch to Sylvie Cataford, who I would like to welcome as our new Chairperson.

And to you, dear friends of the Foundation, thank you for your invaluable support. We look forward to hopefully soon expressing our gratitude to you again in person.

Autism gives no respite... Emergo does!

Dominique Andry
Director of the Emergo Foundation

¹ (Institut Mallet, SURVEY #2: *L'impact de la pandémie de Covid-19 sur les dons et la philanthropie au Québec*, February 22, 2020)

NEW CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE



It is with great pleasure that I agreed to serve as Chairperson, a position that I am undertaking with the utmost humility.

Dear Friends and Donors,,

I am writing to you for the first time as the newly appointed Chairperson of the Emergo Foundation's Board of Directors. After having been a member of the Board of Directors of Emergo Respite for a number of years, and then Secretary of the Emergo Foundation since it was established, it is with great pleasure that I agreed to serve as Chairperson, a position that I am undertaking with the utmost humility.

I intend to fulfill my mandate to the best of my ability, with the support of all the members of the Board of Directors.

On behalf of the Emergo Foundation's Board of Directors, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to my predecessor, Jacques Chartrand, who chaired the Foundation's Board of Directors for ten years and who was the most committed promoter of its creation.

Jacques Chartrand set up a dynamic foundation dedicated to funding Emergo Respite, thereby giving more than 200 families the opportunity to benefit from respite for their autistic children every year.

Jacques Chartrand worked tirelessly and is an example for all of us. He is staying on as an advisor to the Foundation, which will benefit from his wise advice.

For my part, I am taking over under unprecedented circumstances, with the pandemic that is disrupting all philanthropic activities. With charitable activities suspended in 2020, philanthropy has suffered in all areas.

The Emergo Foundation's finances are holding up; however, the challenges will be great. We will have to be imaginative, but our objective will always be to pursue our mission, which is to continue to provide respite to families of people with autism who need it even more. These families are counting on us.

I wish us all a return to a more normal life and I thank you for your support to the Emergo Foundation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sylvie Cataford'.

Sylvie Cataford
Chairperson of the Board of Directors
of the Emergo Foundation

THE AMBASSADORS' CIRCLE

The Foundation would like to acknowledge the years of devotion of three major donors.



Louis Vachon
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer
National Bank of Canada



Luc Bertrand
Vice-Chairman of the Board
of the National Bank
of Canada



Robert Roy
Domaine Roy & Fils

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Chairman: **Jacques Chartrand** – Fiera Capital

Vice-Chairperson: **Manon Carle Dagenais** – Parent

Treasurer: **Henriette Angers** – Parent

Secretary: **Sylvie Cataford** – Galerie Simon Blais

DIRECTORS

Natalie Hamel-Roy – Parent

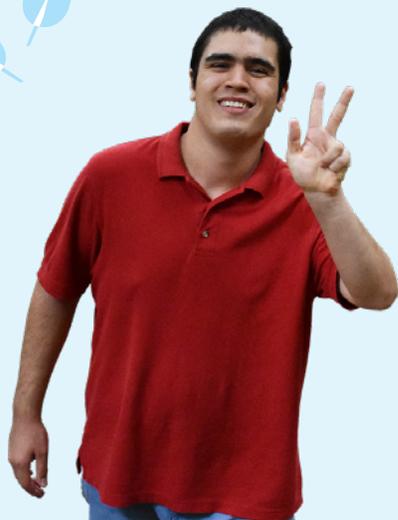
Francine Langan – Friend of Emergo

Nicolas Schulman – National Bank Financial

Christianna Scott – Parent



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND FUTURE OUTLOOK



The annual
campaign raised
\$352,863.

The particular context of the pandemic changed many community organizations' situation in a number of ways. Emergo Respite and the Emergo Foundation were not spared. Recognized by the Quebec government as having demonstrated expertise in offering respite to families of children, teenagers and adults with autism, Emergo Respite was granted authorization to offer summer respites despite the pandemic.

Only two organizations in Quebec offered such programs last summer.

The strict plan for following public health rules that was submitted by Emergo Respite and approved by the public health authorities—combined with the sustained efforts of the entire team—made it possible to offer respites to more than 100 families and **succeeded in doing so without any cases of COVID-19!** An achievement that makes us all proud!

As for the Foundation, it had to cancel certain fund-raising activities in the past year. However, despite the difficult context for many, it continued to receive the sincere support of its sponsors, participants, donors and member families, a number of whom responded to the appeal. The annual campaign raised \$352,863.

In addition, through its concern for efficiently managing its expenses, the Foundation didn't pay out any salaries during this very exceptional period.

While the COVID-19 vaccination campaign is going well and the easing of certain public health rules has been announced, the Foundation is actively preparing to relaunch its fund-raising activities for its next annual campaign. **The coming year will mark the 10th anniversary of the Foundation and the 45th anniversary of Emergo Respite.** More than ever, we need your help to pursue our mission and continue to support families living with autism.



**YOUR DONATIONS...
OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS!
THANK YOU!**

In order to comply with public health guidelines and ensure the safety of both staff and participants, Emergo Respite reduced its respite offer to 30% of its normal capacity in 2020.

A FEW FACTS AND FIGURES

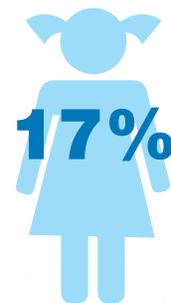
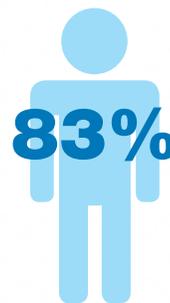
147

member families

100

participants with an autism
spectrum disorder

Between
6 and 46 years old



Average age
of participants:
21



SCHOOL RESPITES
202 overnight stays

URBAN RESPITES
14 overnight stays

SUMMER RESPITES
474 overnight stays

690
 total overnight stays

Breakdown of regions where the participants live

Centre-du-Québec	1
Estrie (Eastern Townships)	1
Lanaudière	10
Laurentides (Laurentians)	8
Laval	9
Mauricie	2
Montréal	41
Montréal	70
Nord-du-Québec	1
Outaouais	8
Total	151 participants

RESPITE PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY THE FOUNDATION

Summer and school programs – Emergo

	<i>Émergence</i>	<i>iDÉFlx</i>	<i>Un rêve à réaliser</i>	<i>Adaptatou</i>
Clientele	Autism spectrum disorder	Autism spectrum disorder with severe behaviour problems	High-functioning autism spectrum disorder or Asperger syndrome	High-functioning autism spectrum disorder or Asperger syndrome
Program description	Customized program for participants of all ages with a lower autonomy level and problems in socializing	Program designed for participants with behaviour problems and in need of stricter supervision	Program allowing high-functioning autistic people to develop in a more conventional environment and enjoy vacations among friends	Integration program in a regular summer camp
Age	4 and over	4 and over	13 and over	6-16
Location	Camp de Grandpré Otterburn Park	Camp de Grandpré Otterburn Park	Villa Marie-Rose Sainte-Agathe	Camp Mariste Rawdon (Lanaudière)
Counsellor-camper ratio	1 on 1 or 2:3	1 on 1 or 2:1	1:2 or 1:3	1 on 1 or 1:2
General objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a respite period for parents or guardians of the autistic person • To give vacation opportunities to autistic people of all ages, in a safe, structured environment at an outdoor recreational area • To ensure the health, safety and well-being of autistic people • To maintain acquisitions and develop skills and autonomy • To develop parents' or guardians' confidence in Emergo and its staff 			
Specific objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide activities adapted to the needs of autistic people • To provide a customized, safe setting • To promote the emergence of new interests among autistic people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a well-structured, adapted environment • To develop a customized approach • To reduce the number of disruptions and their impact • To prevent aggressive behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide an environment fostering accountability • To give autistic people a chance to enjoy vacations among friends and cultivate new friendships • To promote social integration • To develop the concept of choice and compromise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To give participants social integration experience • To increase awareness about differences, among the children in the regular group • To encourage socialization with peers of the same age • To develop the concept of choice and compromise

How much does a respite cost?

- Average cost per autistic participant for 9 overnight stays – summer respite: \$4,364
- Average cost per participant with autism for 2 overnight stays – school respite: \$970

For each respite, the Foundation's share of the cost amounts to 34%, the family's share is 30% and government grants 36%.



FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES 2020-2021



GOLF TOURNAMENT

While there was no doubt that the pandemic would linger on, the Organizing Committee resigned itself to cancelling the 2020 edition of the tournament. Spontaneously, a number of sponsors and many of our participants nevertheless decided to support the Foundation in these difficult times. Thanks to their generosity, a net amount of \$20,423 was raised. We sincerely thank everyone who contributed to this success.

SCOTIABANK CHARITY CHALLENGE



More than
\$33,000
raised

Despite the pandemic-related difficulties, our faithful friends of the Foundation and of Emergo Respite enthusiastically responded to the invitation to take part in the traditional Scotiabank Charity Challenge that was held in August. From their homes (because of the pandemic), the participants—many of them with their children—ran or walked to support the cause. Thanks to their involvement and donors’ generosity, more than \$33,000 was raised during the 2020 edition.

With these excellent results, which ranked the Foundation in first place in terms of average donations raised per participant, the Foundation was awarded a \$4,250 grant for a second consecutive year.

A big thank-you to all our participants, young and old alike!



DIRECT MAIL CAMPAIGN

As the Foundation had to adjust to the lockdown measures imposed by public health authorities, the direct mail campaign took a virtual turn. Electronic solicitations were sent to all its donors and member families of Emergo Respite and online payment options were offered to them through various platforms. Their positive response surpassed our expectations! Donations totalling a net amount of \$250,313 were transferred to the Foundation electronically!

Net total of
\$250,313

VIRTUAL AUCTION



While it was impossible to hold a fund-raising activity in person, the Foundation adapted and set up its first virtual auction just in time for the holiday shopping season. Everyone was able to find something to their liking as bottles of wine, toys, autographed sports items and Quebec creations were among the items in the electronic auction. Items valued at \$13,266 were auctioned off, raising \$25,382 net! Encouraged by the huge success of the auction, the Foundation plans to repeat the virtual auction next year.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The dedicated Scholarship Fund encourages and supports Emergo Respite field staff members in their post-secondary studies. This year, the Selection Committee decided to recognize the outstanding academic achievements and dedication of **Amélie Caron** (under her camp name Avocat), despite the difficult context of the respites during this COVID-19 period, by awarding her a **\$2500 scholarship**.

We would like to thank our donors who took part in this wonderful initiative:

Andrée Robert & Jacques Chartrand

Robert Beaugard of Global Alpha and Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation

The Manon, Martin & Philippe Dagenais Fund



All funds raised during the year for this project and that were not allocated have been placed in a dedicated fund for this purpose (see notes in the financial statements as at March 31, 2021).

MAJOR DONORS

Anonymous donors
152245 Canada inc.

André Marcotte

Andrée Robert &
Jacques Chartrand
Canoe Financial

Capinabel inc.

Chantal Leduc &
Raymond Normand

Claret Asset Management

Club Richelieu Dorion-Vaudreuil

Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation

Diane Benoit & Steve Foley

Elyse Messier

Fondation Ariane Riou &
Réal Plourde

Fondation Famille Benoit

Fondation Famille Bertrand

Fondation Famille Vachon

Fondation Huguette &
Jean-Louis Fontaine

Fondation Jean-Luc Gravel &
Brigitte Breton

Fondation Jeanne Esther

Fondation Sibylla Hesse

Fondation Yvan Morin

Fondation Sylvie Blais &
Simon Blais

Gestion Jeanine Bouthillier

Gestion J.I.C.A. inc.

Gestion Louise Brûlé

Groupe Desgagnés inc.

Groupe Robert

Guy Savard

Ingrid Heck & François Laurin

Isabelle Ménard

Jean-Marie Bourassa

Joanne Bissonnette

Industries Lassonde inc.

La Capitale Financial Group
Foundation

Linda Drouin & Martin Veilleux

Linda Tarzi & Claude Boulos

Lorraine & Jean Turmel

Louise Riel

Luce Moreau

Lyla Collection

Marisa d'Emilio & Marc Trottier

Martine Darquenne &
Michel Brossard

Maryse Buteau Charland

Micheline Dubé

National Bank of Canada

Nunsubcodeux inc.

René Malo

Rheinmetall Canada's Employees'
Charity Fund

Roger J. Beauchemin

Sœurs de la Présentation
du Québec – Œuvres Régis-Vernet
Spesinvest inc.

Suzanne Fournier

Sylvie Cataford & Simon Blais

The Bank of Nova Scotia –
Charity Challenge

The Grey Nuns of Montreal

The Zhubin Foundation

Vincent Plus Ltée

Zeller Family Foundation

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

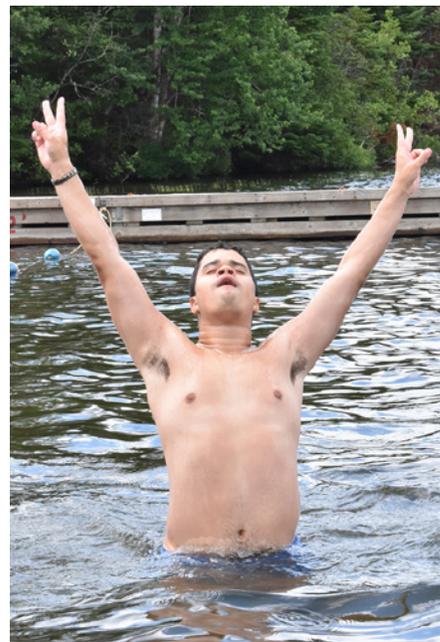
Year ended March 31, 2021

	2021*	2020
Fund-raising activities		
Revenues	\$349,033	\$653,629 ¹
Expenditures	\$32,352 ²	\$142,144
Financial assistance		
Donation to Emergo Respite	\$100,000 ³	\$300,000
Investment activities	\$135,183 ⁴	(\$105,496)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$351,863	\$105,989

* Year affected by the global pandemic caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19). Face-to-face fund-raising activities were cancelled.

1. Includes a one-time, non-recurring equity donation of \$103,488 and revenues of \$112,982 raised at the Gregory Charles (non-recurring) fund-raiser
2. In the interest of sound management during this pandemic, no salaries were paid.
3. The Foundation's financial assistance granted to Emergo Respite was less as the latter was able to benefit from special COVID-19-related financial assistance during the year.
4. During the year, the Foundation was able to correct the depreciation of some of its investments recorded as at March 31, 2020, related to market fluctuations when the global pandemic was announced.

SOUVENIR ALBUM





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Emergo Foundation

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Registration no.: 8173 84712 RR0001

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