FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE KITCHENER AND WATERLOO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS CARIZON GRANT TO ADDRESS SITUATIONS OF ELEVATED RISK

Kitchener: Carizon is very pleased to announce that it has been awarded a Smart & Caring Community Grant from The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation (The KWCF). This grant will advance the work of Connectivity Kitchener, serving Kitchener, Waterloo, Wilmot, Woolwich and Wellesley. Connectivity brings health, social service agencies and Waterloo Regional Police Service to a weekly meeting to proactively address situations of elevated risk and mobilize supports in a timely and collaborative approach.

Connectivity aligns with The KWCF’s commitment to build our sense of belonging through collaboration. Connectivity is helping to strengthen families’ and individuals’ sense of belonging by connecting them to treatment and supports they need. “Belonging has been a focus for The KWCF’s community investments for the last several years,” shares Rosemary Smith, CEO of The KWCF. “We also believe in working together to solve complex issues. Connectivity is living that value by bringing together organizations from different sectors to help those at risk in our community.”

Connectivity was launched as a pilot project in Kitchener. “We are delighted to have received this grant,” says Connectivity Navigator Sue Coulter, “as we recognize the initial success of this program and want to ensure its longevity, sustainability and impact.”

Although only recently implemented in Waterloo Region, Connectivity has developed consistent and effective processes to help individuals and families with complex challenges. “The KWCF grant will not only allow us to continue this evidence-based work, but to grow the program,” says Carizon CEO Tracy Elop. “We will see the results as more individuals in need are helped, referrals to Connectivity increase, partner engagement intensifies and awareness of Connectivity spreads throughout the Region.”

ABOUT CARIZON
(www.carizon.ca)

Carizon is a source of hope for our community. When children, youth, adults, couples or families face life’s challenges, Carizon programs and services provide the care and compassion to help them achieve wellness. Carizon specializes in children’s mental health, youth engagement and development, family violence services, individual and family counselling, parental support and education, credit counselling, workplace resilience, settlement support and community wellness.
ABOUT The KWCF
(www.kwcf.ca)

The Kitchener and Waterloo Community Foundation improves the quality of life in Kitchener-Waterloo and the surrounding area, now and for generations to come, by building community endowment, addressing needs through grant making, and providing leadership on key community issues.

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