

# **Ruby Slipper Fund - Ontario**

## *A Life Rewritten Initiative*

### **Where My Story Becomes a Bridge for Others**

On **March 3, 2025**, my life changed with one sentence:

**“You have Stage IV lung cancer.”**

The cancer had already metastasized to my brain.

In that moment, everything I knew about my life - my plans, my routines, my priorities shifted. There was fear, disbelief, grief, and then a strange quietness. I suddenly found myself in a world of tests, appointments, urgent decisions, side effects, and a kind of exhaustion I had never known before.

And like so many women facing a devastating diagnosis, I quickly learned that the weight of cancer extends far beyond the medical side. There are the invisible parts the emotional strain, the financial pressure, the uncertainty, the feeling of falling behind in every area of life.

But something else happened too.

In the middle of that darkness, I discovered a truth I now hold close:

**Even when life shatters, you still hold the pen.**

**The story isn't over.**

**It's being rewritten.**

That realization led me to create **Life Rewritten** - a space for women navigating illness, change, or crisis to feel supported, understood, and empowered.

And now, that same belief is guiding a new chapter:

# The Ruby Slipper Fund - Ontario

## Inspired by my journey. Created for women across Ontario.

The Ruby Slipper Fund - Ontario grew from the heart of Life Rewritten and was inspired by the original Ruby Slipper Fund in British Columbia, which was founded to support individuals facing cancer in their community.

This Ontario chapter reflects my lived experience, my values, and the truth I've learned walking through this journey:

- Women need emotional support.
- Women need practical help.
- Women need community.
- Women need hope.
- Women need to feel seen.

This fund was created so no woman has to face a major diagnosis or life change alone and so the pressure of “everything else” doesn't stand in the way of healing.

## What the Fund Does

The Ruby Slipper Fund - Ontario provides **practical, meaningful support** to women who are navigating cancer or another major life transition.

Our purpose is simple:

**To help women breathe again.**

Support may include:

- Emergency grants during treatment or crisis
- Help with groceries, gas, medication, and life essentials
- Parking or transportation costs for appointments
- Caregiver support
- Supplies or needs not fully covered elsewhere
- Short-term relief during emotionally or financially overwhelming periods

These are the things people rarely talk about but they matter. They make the difference between coping and collapsing. The fund helps bridge that gap.

## **Why the Ruby Slipper?**

Life Rewritten is built on the symbol of the butterfly transformation, stillness, courage, and rising again after change.

The ruby slipper represents the step forward.

The moment of choosing hope.

The decision to keep going, even when the path is unfamiliar.

Together, they honour the truth I've learned:

**We can be rewritten and still rise.**

**We can face darkness and still step toward light.**

## **Who the Fund Supports**

The Ruby Slipper Fund - Ontario is here for:

- Women living with cancer
- Women navigating major life change or crisis
- Caregivers supporting a loved one through illness
- Anyone whose life has been rewritten and needs a compassionate helping hand

As the fund grows, more information about eligibility and support will be shared.

## **Charitable Status**

Life Rewritten is in the process of applying for full charitable registration. At this time, donations cannot yet receive a tax receipt but every contribution directly and immediately supports a woman in need.

## **From My Heart**

I know what it feels like for life to unravel in a single moment. I know the shock, the fear, the practical worries, and the quiet moments when you don't know how to be strong.

The Ruby Slipper Fund - Ontario is my way of taking the hardest part of my story and turning it into something that can lift someone else.

**“When life changes without warning, you still hold the pen.  
Your story isn't over - it's simply being rewritten.”**

Thank you for helping me create this chapter - for me, and for every woman who will walk this path after me.

— **Beth**

# Ruby Slipper Fund – Ontario

## Financial Assistance Application

Full Name:

Address:

Phone (cell):

Email:

Date of Birth:

Marital Status:

Dependants:

Emergency Contact:

Diagnosis / Medical Situation:

Date of Diagnosis:

Treatment Details:

Last Day Worked:

Monthly Income:

Monthly Expenses:

Support Requested:

How Support Helps:

Signature:

Date: