

Children's Safety Village of Belleville Registered Charity #89120 9635 RR0001

Overview

The Children's Safety Village (CSV) of Belleville is a registered charitable organization dedicated to providing high-quality, experiential safety education to children and youth across the Quinte region. Established with the vision of creating a safer future for children, CSV blends curriculum-based learning with immersive, hands-on experiences in a unique, miniature village setting. Our model creates a memorable and empowering environment where students learn critical life skills that help prevent injuries and promote responsible decision-making.

CSV is entirely donor- and sponsorship-supported, with no government operating grants. The success and sustainability of our programs rely on the generosity of community partners, foundations, local businesses, and individual supporters. It is vital that we continue to grow these partnerships with organizations and individuals who understand the life-saving value of youth education and early prevention.

At its core, CSV exists to prevent injury and casualty through early and engaging safety awareness education. It is vital that these programs exist, as they not only teach children what to do in an emergency but also how to avoid danger altogether.

The Village is a scaled-down town equipped with functioning traffic lights, streets, crosswalks, small buildings, and safety zones. This immersive learning environment allows children to actively participate in lessons about fire prevention, road and bike safety, online awareness, electrical safety, and more. CSV is especially committed to ensuring accessibility for all, including children with physical, cognitive, or learning disabilities.

Programs and Educational Experiences

CSV provides a diverse range of programs designed for children from JK to Grade 8. Each program is tailored to age group and learning level, and is delivered in an engaging, interactive manner that encourages retention and real-world application.

Bike Safety

Children are taught the importance of proper helmet use, hand signals, intersection safety, and road rules. Our custom-built roadways and fleet of youth-sized bicycles allow children to practice these skills in a realistic but controlled setting. Lessons are delivered in coordination with police officers and certified safety educators.

Fire Safety

Inside our replica firehouse, children learn how to recognize fire hazards in the home, react to smoke alarms, develop fire escape plans, and understand when and how to call emergency services. The immersive environment includes visual aids, smoke simulators, and practice drills.

Pedestrian Safety

This program helps children learn how to navigate traffic, obey street signs and lights, and cross roads safely. Simulated intersections, crosswalks, and walking paths reinforce these lessons through hands-on practice.

Internet Safety & Cyberbullying Prevention

Tailored for older elementary students, this classroom-based session covers topics like digital citizenship, cyberbullying, online predators, password protection, and safe social media use. The goal is to foster digital responsibility and reduce online risk.

Electrical Safety

In partnership with Elexicon Energy, this program provides a dynamic introduction to electricity and its dangers. Children engage with interactive exhibits and instructor-led demonstrations to learn about power lines, safe indoor practices, and the importance of renewable energy.

Jeeps in the Streets

One of our most popular programs for Grade 1 students, "Jeeps in the Streets" allows children to drive miniature electric Jeeps around the Village. This playful but powerful experience teaches road awareness, sign recognition, turn-taking, and sharing the road with others in a safe environment.

Home Safety

This practical and essential program teaches children how to identify and avoid common hazards in and around the home. Topics include poison prevention, fire and burn risks, safe use of electrical appliances, kitchen safety, and the importance of keeping harmful

substances locked away. Children also learn how to respond to household emergencies, including when and how to call for help. The goal is to instill proactive habits and life-saving awareness at an early age.

Community Reach and Participants

CSV serves more than 2,000 children and youth annually from a wide geographic area, including:

- Quinte West
- Prince Edward County
- Hastings and surrounding rural areas

We serve children from public, Catholic, and private schools, as well as daycares, homeschool networks, Girl Guides, EarlyON Centres, and special education programs. CSV also works with Personal Support Workers (PSWs), volunteers, and educators to ensure inclusive programming for students with additional needs.

Special emphasis is placed on ensuring access for:

- Children from low-income or rural families
- Newcomer families
- Children with disabilities
- Indigenous youth

Community and Corporate Partnerships

Our work is made possible through deep-rooted and mutually beneficial partnerships with both public institutions and private-sector sponsors. These relationships provide financial support, in-kind donations, and program-specific expertise.

Key Partners Include:

- Elexicon Energy Sponsor and co-developer of the Electrical Safety Program
- Bonn Law Annual donor and supporter of events and educational access
- Free Flow Petroleum Fuel sponsor for outreach initiatives and mobile education programs
- Scotiabank Supporter of financial literacy integration and community events

- Belleville Police Service Program facilitation for road safety, mentorship, and demonstrations
- Belleville Fire Department Fire safety training and interactive learning tools
- Ministry of Transportation Ontario (MTO) Pedestrian and cyclist safety education
- EarlyON Quinte Collaborative outreach to families with children under six
- Quinte Immigration Services (QISS) Partnership for reaching newcomer families
- Volunteer & Information Quinte (VIQ) Central resource for volunteer recruitment and engagement

Events and Community Engagement

The Children's Safety Village is more than an educational site — it is a community staple and a vital resource for local families. Our events are not only engaging and enjoyable for all ages, but they also serve a deeper purpose: to showcase the importance of safety awareness and reinforce the life-saving lessons taught through our programs. These events build relationships, foster trust, and amplify our reach, all while strengthening community understanding of injury prevention and personal safety.

Throughout the year, CSV hosts multiple community-wide events and fundraisers that engage families and promote safety awareness. These events also help generate the funds necessary to sustain our charitable operations and develop new programs. and fundraisers that engage families and promote safety awareness. These events also help generate the funds necessary to sustain our charitable operations and develop new programs.

- Kids Got Talent (November): Our marquee fundraiser, showcasing local youth talent to support CSV programming.
- Summer Open Houses (July & August): Free, family-friendly days offering safety demos, games, giveaways, and Village tours.
- Halloween in the Village (October 31): A unique, safe alternative to traditional trickor-treating with educational touchpoints.
- Christmas in the Village (December): A festive event blending safety education with holiday joy.
- Touch-a-Truck Days: Held on-site or in local parks, these events allow children to interact with emergency and service vehicles up close.

• Community Golf Tournaments & Auctions: Popular fundraising opportunities for corporate partners and supporters.

Looking Ahead: Relocation & Capital Campaign (Fall 2025)

CSV is preparing for an exciting and transformational next chapter. In September 2025, we will launch a comprehensive Capital Campaign to fund the relocation of the Safety Village to a new, purpose-built site at Hillcrest Park in Belleville in Belleville.

This move will:

- · Expand our capacity to serve more children year-round
- Integrate new learning zones (water safety, renewable energy, and sensory education)
- Modernize our infrastructure with fully accessible buildings and outdoor spaces
- Strengthen our ability to offer mobile programming to underserved communities

We are currently seeking public and private investment partners to help us bring this vision to life. Naming rights, donor walls, and permanent signage will recognize those who make this next chapter possible.