# *Hamilton Code for Change*

## Who We Are

Hamilton Code for Change (*HCFC*) is a student-led non-profit organization that believes high school hackathons and competitions are a powerful platform for students to use their programming skills in meaningful ways. Our events allow students to see firsthand how coding can lead to impactful solutions for complex, global problems. Through hands-on experience, hackathons offer a unique opportunity to not only refine one's coding abilities, but also to see the true potential of technology to drive positive change in the world.

## What HCFC has Done

Having been established within this ongoing 2024-2025 school year, *HCFC* has hosted 2 individual events surrounding the concepts of coding with real world issues. Through these two events, over 60 students have participated and produced their own unique and creative solutions, working towards topics relevant to modern global conflicts.

As an organization, *HCFC* has given these students a chance to face such conflicts within a competitive yet inviting environment, allowing them to fully express themselves through their own projects, all working towards a solution for a better world.

Though this is no groundbreaking framework, *HCFC* is always working towards the next best thing for students to work with their own skillsets and creative minds. Being able to give this sort of outlet to young yet growing minds is a privilege that has led to many successes within individuals and groups, and for the coming year, this organization only looks to continue that effort.

*For specifics regarding our competitions, listed below are their summarizations.*

### HWDSB 2025 Skills Competition

This board-wide competition brought together students from across HWDSB to tackle an economics-based coding challenge. Participants:

- Modeled wealth inequality using Lorenz curves to model Gini indexes, quantifying the issue of global wealth inequality.
- Practiced data analysis, problem-solving, and coding under time constraints.
- Applied math principles to real global economic data.

### *Encrypt the Future*

This event invited students to take on one of the most pressing challenges of our time, cybersecurity. Participants:

- Built tools targeted towards protecting small businesses from cyber threats.
- Created coding projects, business proposals, or hybrids of both.
- Learned about data security, cybercrime prevention, and the ethics of digital safety.
- Competed for prizes and recognition.

### Our Future

Being student-run, it can be difficult to organize, arrange, and finally execute our plans. With the support of both Westmount Secondary School and the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board, we have had the opportunity to host these events and allow interested students to actively participate in them.

Seeing the impact we have made in our start as an organization, we would like to continue our efforts, helping expose more people to something that brings them together yet still challenges them to grow. In our efforts to make this possible, being able to extend our reach beyond the confines of a singular school would make all the difference for both the organization and the students.