

## Summer 2016 Newsletter

Summer is upon us, and the warmer weather is finally here. HACS events are in full swing or will be on a ongoing basis during the summer. We hope that you will come out and enjoy the activities that are scheduled during July and August. Let me begin this newsletter on a personal note, as someone who has just recently taken over the responsibility of the Help A Child Smile newsletter. I am so impressed with everything that I have seen, the events that have taken place and the events that will be taking place. My heartfelt thanks to all involved in these activities.

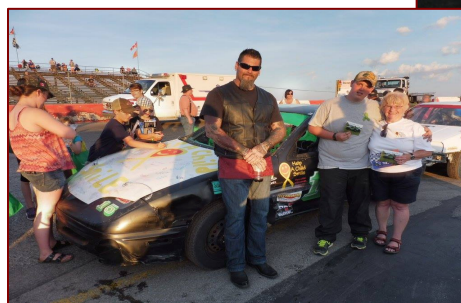
**UPDATE:** We are still printing and mailing over 200 newsletters to both active and alumni families. We feel that in many cases, these families may have moved and not given us their new addresses, or are no longer interested in receiving newsletters but have not notified us. Therefore, as of January, we will **ONLY** mail newsletters to families who let us know that they prefer to have them mailed. To continue to receive your newsletter in the mail, you **MUST** leave a message at 905-385-4227 clearly stating your child's name and your address. To have the newsletter sent to you by email, send a message to [newsletters@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:newsletters@helpachildsmile.com) with your child's name in the body to let us know. If we DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU by December 31<sup>st</sup>, we will no longer send our newsletters to your family.

### What's Happened?

- ☺ **Help A Child Smile Fishing Derby** A beautiful day to go fishing - all the kids caught at least one fish. Sincere thanks to Matt Moser and the Galt Sportmens Club for inviting our families out to enjoy your beautiful facility. Also huge thanks to Jeff Wall for arranging it all and bringing out so many Ontario Kayak Fishing Series volunteers to help. Can't wait until next year!



- ☺ **Flamboro Speedway** - Eric Crow and Joey Wilcox (two of the drivers) have HACS emblems on their cars and they painted a big one on one of the cars for the kids to sign during intermission. They had a draw and gave the hood away to one of the kids. The folks at Flamboro had lots of treats and teddies for all the kids. Waterdown Lions Club presented HACS chair Nelson Mota with a very generous donation.



☺ **Marineland** - What a way to spend a perfect summer day - everyone loves Marineland! So many of our families came out to enjoy the rides, interacting with all sorts of animals and marine life and having a great lunch (yummy-looking cake) together!



☺ **African Lion Safari** - So glad we moved it up in the season. Everyone had a blast and the weather could not have been better. As a result this year's attendance broke last year's record-breaking attendance! Once again, we are grateful to the Safari Staff for going all-out to make sure our families had the best safari experience ever.



### What Have Our Partners Been Doing?

**Buffet Breakfast - Knights of Columbus Hall** Help A Child Smile was there serving breakfast to a good crowd of hungry people. Many, many thanks go out to our HACs volunteers, O'Shea and the volunteers from Knights for their support. At the end of the day, the Knights presented us with a cheque for \$700 - that's a lot of serving up bacon and eggs!



**Jim Walsh Bike Ride for Kids with Cancer** was held on June 12th and it was a beautiful day for a ride that raised nearly \$3000. Riders choose the distance they wanted to ride on the beautiful trails along the Grand River. The day ended with a BBQ and entertainment back at the KOC hall. Our sincere thank you goes to Denis Larocque, Marc Dubeau, Steve Brown and Bill Dubeau for organizing this event and the Knights once again for their hospitality.



### Donations In Memory Of...

Gord Strawn, Dorothy Forestell, Sandra Konderka, Joe Flaco, Dave Doucet, John Nenadovich, Lena Avarello, Elio Bachetti and Andy Rollin

*We are sorry for your loss and grateful for your generosity.*

### Other Donations ... that have been recently received:

- ☺ Estate of Robert Guest ..... \$43,000.00
- ☺ Rotary Club of Ancaster ..... \$500.00
- ☺ Galt Sportsmen Club ..... \$2000.00
- ☺ Chandra Van Hezewyk .... \$250.00 (on behalf of Niagara College)
- ☺ Hub International Brantford ... \$600.00 collected through their dress down days.

*We thank everyone so much for all their efforts!*

### To Our New Families...

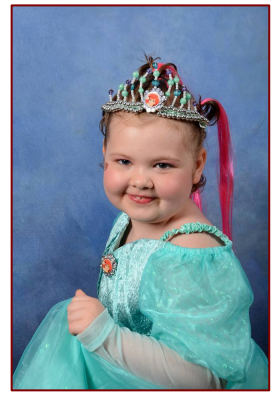
We are saddened to hear your child has cancer. We hope you will find encouragement, fun and support through the activities, programs and camaraderie that we have to offer. Since 1986 Help A Child Smile has been providing parking passes, gas cards, food and lodging vouchers, and paying for medical procedures that are not covered by OHIP - just a few of the services we fund to support the families. And, of course, we offer adventures to places like Marineland, African Lion Safari, Wonderland, Disney On Ice, Blue Jay and NHL Alumni games and a week's stay at Disney's Give Kids The World in Florida to help our children smile!



## A Note From the Noble Family:



Meet Princess Makena - spending a week at **Give Kids The World** and having a wonderful time. "Thank you is not enough!! Our experience at GKTW was beyond amazing. A million thank yous to all involved at/with HACS. You are a very special group of angels to Mac families".



## What's Coming Up During the Next Few Months?



**BULLS & BIKES - July 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>.** Gates open at 12:30 pm both days, and the show starts at 2. This wild weekend of mammals and machines combines two of the world's most exciting spectator sports: bull riding and extreme motocross stunt riding. Witness the heart-pumping spectacle of competitive bull riding as top hands from four countries strap onto 2,000 pounds of raging bull in a timed test of sheer survival. Jordon Szoke, winner of 19 national titles in multiple disciplines, leads his Freestyle Extreme Team in a thrilling display of trials skills and jaw-dropping stunt riding that will defy both physics and gravity. **FREE** for all HACS families and their guests, but pre-registration is required by July 8th.



The **2nd Annual Powerfest Car Show & Street Festival** will take over downtown Brantford on **July 23<sup>rd</sup>** 10 am to 3 pm. This free event has something for everyone. Besides awesome cars, trucks, big machines, and the like, there are events, displays, games & demonstrations all day long in Harmony Square and music of the 50's through the 80's to match the vehicles. Everything you would expect to see at a car show and lots of things you wouldn't!!!



**Merrittville Speedway - August 6<sup>th</sup>** - If your family hasn't registered yet, there's still time, but hurry! This exciting night is **FREE** for all HACS families and their guests but you must register by July 5th! And check out their website at <http://www.merrittvillespeedway.com/> for details on how your kids can get in on the action and compete in the Box Car Races. Gates open at 6, races start at 7 pm.



**CanJam Revived** in Honour of Sandra Allen is **August 6<sup>th</sup>** at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Brantford. Admission \$5, free for kids 12 and under. This all-day event features a Kid's Zone, fun, food, and music. It's a family day starting at 10 am with a water slide & water games, crafts, live animals from a rescue centre, stone painting and lots of fun for the kids till 2 pm. (You may want to bring bathing suits or a change of clothes.) There is a good mix of Blue Grass, Country, Easy Listening, Classic Rock, Motown and Jazz from 1 pm until 11 as well as a performance by the Grand River Cloggers. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.



This is new! **August 20<sup>th</sup>** 7 pm see the **Hamilton Ti-Cats** take on the Saskatchewan Roughriders at Tim Hortons Field. Tickets are \$10 each for Immediate Active and Alumni family members (no guests at this time) and will be awarded as first-come-first-served. Only 200 tickets, so don't wait - sign up right now! Deadline is July 17th.



The 10<sup>th</sup> annual **Help A Child Smile for Miles Poker Run** will be held on **August 20<sup>th</sup>**. All motorcycles are welcome to join in this tour of the Scenic Niagara Parkway and shores of Lake Erie. For ride details see [http://southerncruiserserieshores.com/hacs\\_poker\\_run.htm](http://southerncruiserserieshores.com/hacs_poker_run.htm)



The **2nd Annual Cowboy Classic Golf Tournament** in memory of long-standing Help A Child Smile supporter Claude Poulin will be held at Riverview Golf & Country Club, Vineland on **August 12<sup>th</sup>**. The 18 holes with carts, gift bags, BBQ lunch before and steak dinner after the game kicks off with a shotgun start at 1 pm. The format is a 4-person scramble - \$125 per person. For more details, please see

our Fundraising Events page at <http://helpachildsmile.com/html/events.shtml> or contact Jamie West or Peggy Charron at 905-735-3890.



**August 28th** is Brantford's **Go Gold for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month** kickoff to be held in Harmony Square starting at 4 pm. At 8 pm the fountain will be "going gold" once again for the month of September. We will have balloon artists, face-painting, music by Marc Dubeau, Studio A Dancers, crafts for the kids and the splash pad will be on. We invite all area HACS families to come out and join us.



**The 2nd Annual Sandra Allen Memorial Golf Tournament** will be held at Fescue's Edge, 18 Hagan Road Scotland, N0E 1R0 (near Brantford) on **September 11<sup>th</sup>**. It is 9 holes of best ball, a 4-bagger cart, prizes, a meal, silent auction and a 50/50 raffle. Registration is \$50 per adult, \$20 per youth under 13. Registration cutoff is September 4th. Forms available at BYO, 125 Stanley St., Brantford or email [info@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:info@helpachildsmile.com)



The **Blue Jays** are back on **Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>** with an afternoon game against Boston Red Sox at 3:30 pm. Tickets are limited - first-come-first-served, so don't delay, **register today!** Immediate Active and Alumni family members only - no guests at this time. Tickets are \$10 each. Online registration only. Registration closes at midnight August 8th. <http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration>



The organizers of the **Help A Child Smile 1st Charity Ball Hockey Tournament** are looking for HACS kids who would like to come to Brantford on **September 25<sup>th</sup>** to drop the ball at the start of each game. The first match will face-off at 9 am and each should run 45 minutes to an hour. They are requesting 8 kids. If your youngster would like to be participate, please send an email to [info@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:info@helpachildsmile.com) and let us know what time of the day works best for your family. Follow this link for details on how to sign up! <https://www.facebook.com/events/953650121418321/>



**2017 Daytona 500 Raffle:** We are offering the ultimate fan experience as the prize for this fundraiser. The package is for 4 people and includes 5 nights hotel accommodations, 4 days of racing, preferred seating in the Tri-Oval Club (start/finish line area) transportation to and from the track, breakfast, welcome gift bag and \$250 US cash per person. Total prize value is \$10,500!!! **Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25!** The winner will be selected on Sept. 3rd during the intermission at Flamboro Speedway. Check [www.helpachildsmile.com](http://www.helpachildsmile.com) for a list of sellers, or send us a message at [info@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:info@helpachildsmile.com) with your name, address, phone number and how many tickets you would like. We will contact you to arrange payment, then mail the tickets to you. **NOTE:** Tickets can ONLY be mailed to addresses in Ontario. Watch for our volunteers at these racetracks selling tickets: Oshweken, Flamboro, Cayuga, Merrittville and Humberstone. Check our website for dates and times.



**Family Picnic!** As we talk to families we often hear that although they are happy to be done with hospital visits when treatment is finished, they miss getting to see their 'other' families - the ones they went through treatment with. Sure, their paths may cross briefly at one of the theme park events such as Marineland and African Lion Safari, but they all are so busy seeing and doing all of the things there are to see and do that they really don't have time to sit and chat and re-connect. So we would like to see an old-fashioned family picnic be organized for next summer at a park in the Hamilton area. There could be games such as a 3-legged race, wheelbarrow race, sack race, balloon toss, bobbing for apples and the like. We are looking for someone to form a committee to make this happen. The Board will support you in every way possible. Please email us if you are interested.



**CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS -** We have a lot going on over the summer, not only for your family to enjoy, but also to generate financial support for our events. We could use your help for just a few hours for one day. Please note that while time spent helping us qualifies as 'community volunteer hours' for your high school age kids, any event that involves selling tickets is restricted to 18 and over. Below is a list of volunteer opportunities:

**CAYUGA:** July 16 & 17 - selling Daytona 500 tickets from 12 pm - 3 pm.

**FLAMBORO:** July 16, Aug. 20, Aug. 22 - selling Daytona 500 tickets from 4 pm - 7 pm.; Sept. 3 from 4 to 8

**OSHWEKEN:** July 8, July 22, Aug. 19, Sept. 2- selling Daytona 500 tickets from 4 pm - 8 pm.



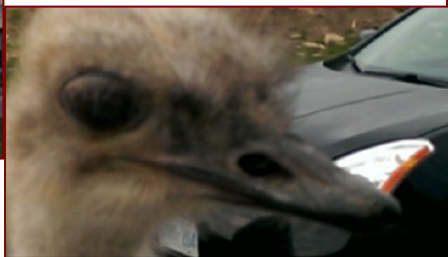
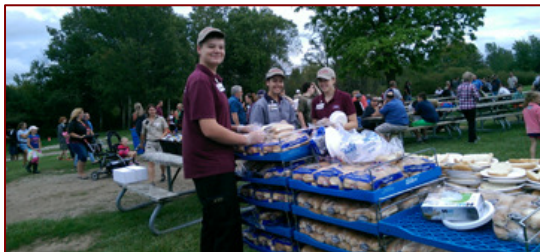
**BRANTFORD:** CanJam Aug. 6 - assisting with Kids' Zone 9 am - 3 pm; Aug. 28 - Childhood Cancer Awareness Month kick-off - set up/tear down, manning booth, assisting with Kids' Zone 2:30 pm - 8:30 pm (various duties and shifts available).



Our most sincere 'Thank you' to all of our partners for their dedication, hard work and support. We couldn't make any of the great events happen for our families without all of you.

We are always looking for people to either lead or assist in fundraising events. If you have a suggestion or would like to help with a fundraiser in your community we would love to hear from you! Just send a quick note to [info@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:info@helpachildsmile.com)

 *We will continue to Help A Child Smile until there is no more childhood cancer!* 



### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- ❖ **Active** families have a child who was diagnosed or relapsed within the **past 4 years**.
- ❖ **Immediate** family members are parents and siblings living in the home **at the time of diagnosis**.
- ❖ **Alumni** families are those whose child was diagnosed or relapsed **more than 4 years ago**.
- ❖ **If a child passes**, the family remains on our Active list for **1 year after**.

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

**If you sign up for an event that has a charge**, please process your payment no more than 7 days after registering. If we have not received online payments within 7 days or money orders within 14 days, we will assume that you have changed your mind and will cancel your registration. This is to avoid buying tickets for your family that you must have decided you are not going to use. If you have a problem with the online payment system please notify [jhutson@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:jhutson@helpachildsmile.com) immediately.

**If you are mailing your registration to us** pay strict attention to the deadlines - they are NOT 'mail by' dates. They are when the registration forms with money orders (no cheques) **MUST** be in our hands! Failure to get them back in time will result in not enough tickets being ordered! Don't let your family miss out on these memory-making adventures!

- ❖ Money orders are to be made payable to: **Help A Child Smile**

**PS:** You may find the process much easier and faster by using our **online event registration page**! We can accept MasterCard, Visa and now, e-Transfer payments as well! (Most financial institutions only charge \$1-\$2 per transfer which is cheaper than sending money orders!)

## ***Family Event Registration Form -- It's not too late!***

Mail form with money order to Help A Child Smile, 61 Canboro Rd, PO Box 1262, Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0

If you received this newsletter by email, please register online at

<http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/>

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### **2016 Bulls and Bikes – July 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a new mailing address? (circle one) Yes No

Number of tickets for Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> : \_\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets for Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> : \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to leave a message at 905-385-4227, **CLEARLY** state your child's name, your phone number, the number of tickets you want and for which day. **Free** to all HACS families and their guests but pre-registration is required. You can also register online at <http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/> or by emailing us at [info@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:info@helpachildsmile.com) Registrations must be received by **July 5<sup>th</sup>**

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### **Merrittville Speedway 2016 - August 6<sup>th</sup>**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a new mailing address? (circle one) Yes No

No. of Adults attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Registrations must be received by **July 4<sup>th</sup>**

No. of children age 8 and up attending: \_\_\_\_\_ (Children 7 and under do not require a ticket)

Total # of tickets required: \_\_\_\_\_

Register online at <http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/> or by emailing us at [info@helpachildsmile.com](mailto:info@helpachildsmile.com)

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### **Hamilton Tiger Cats Game - August 20<sup>th</sup>**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a new mailing address? (circle one) Yes No

Tickets are \$10 each. Open to all Immediate Active and Alumni family members (no guests available at this time - maybe later, so check back). Registration deadline is midnight **July 17<sup>th</sup>**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION** <http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/>

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### **Blue Jays Game - September 10<sup>th</sup>**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Patient's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this a new mailing address? (circle one) Yes No

No. of children age 13 and under attending: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of adults (age 14 and up) attending: \_\_\_\_\_

### **MUST HAVE AGES – NO AGES, NO TICKETS!**

Tickets are \$10 each. Open to all Immediate Active and Alumni family members (no guests available at this time - maybe later, so check back). Registration deadline is midnight **August 8<sup>th</sup>**

**ONLINE REGISTRATION** <http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/>