

Summer 2018 Newsletter

From our Chair:

Summer has arrived and we have already experienced some pretty hot weather. We have also experienced some pretty fun family events as well with lots more to come. We hope to see many of you at an event this year. In the last Chair reports, I listed some of the ways that HACS supports our families and promised that I would go into more detail and focus on one in each report. Did you know that HACS pays for and provides all families with parking through the duration of treatment at the hospital? This not only includes any visit to Mac but also if you are going elsewhere such as Sick Kids in

Toronto for special treatments such as transplants. We recognize the burden on families when it comes to paying for expensive parking. We hope that providing families with this support reduces some stress so you can focus on other more important things. – **Nelson**



2018 - 2021 Board of Directors

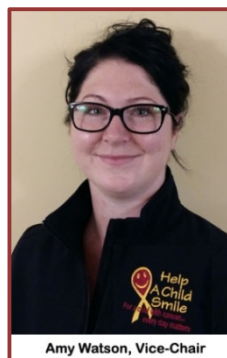
INTRODUCING THE 2018-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Nelson Mota,
Board Chair**

Nelson has been part of the Childhood Cancer Community for over 35 years. His brother was diagnosed with Childhood Cancer at 11 years of age and Nelson was diagnosed 6 years later at age 14. Both are doing very well today.

After his battle, Nelson continued to support children with cancer by first volunteering at Mac Kids for years before becoming the Director of Clinic and Community programs at Camp Trillium. After a number of years in that position he developed his own private practice, then business supporting children, youth and adults through some difficult mental health and behavioral challenges. After leaving the Childhood Cancer world for only a short time Nelson returned as a member of the Help A Child Board of Directors, an organization that has always been near and dear to him. He is proud to be **Board Chair** again. You can contact Nelson at nelson.mota@helpachildsmile.com.



**Amy Watson
Vice-Chair**

Amy became involved with HACS because she is the mother of a child with cancer. Her daughter Everlee was diagnosed early in 2016 with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She completed her treatment for ALL in May of this year. When Amy first learned of HACS after diagnosis, she was in awe of the work that HACS does. She wanted to become involved in any way that she could, so as soon as her daughter started the long term maintenance phase of her treatment, she asked to join the Board. She was welcomed with open arms and is currently sitting as the **Vice-Chair**. Amy co-chairs the monthly meetings, assists with social media and most recently she has taken on our "HACS packs" project, to provide backpacks filled with essentials to newly diagnosed families. She is forever grateful people that run this organization, and so happy to be a part of helping children with cancer and their families. Amy's email is: awatson@helpachildsmile.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chris McCullough, Director of Fundraising

Chris McCullough, Director of Fundraising

Chris is the CEO & managing partner of Mystique Event Marketing, which manages a group of companies involved in event management as well as retail and home security systems. He and Judy, his wife of 21 years, have two children. Chris is also now the doting grandfather of twin boys Liam and Finnick.

He has been involved with HACS for more than 25 years in a mixed capacity. Chris has served both as a volunteer and provider of special event fundraising projects. He is currently the **Director of Fundraising**. Chris was brought onto the Board by original members Claude Poulin & Dan Fortier.



Beth Walsh, Communications Director

Beth Walsh, Communications Director

Beth has volunteered with several charities for many years so when a dear friend invited her to join him in raising funds for sick children, she was very interested. In the later years of his life, the fundraising was for Help A Child Smile, a charity Beth knew nothing about. That was until she met Sandra & Joyce at a fundraiser. She quickly became a volunteer for HACS and learned more and loved the way the organization worked to help not only the kids but the whole family, with no big overhead expenses. Beth truly believes that Help A Child Smile is a very special charity with special people working together – even standing in the rain together to help make the families happy. Beth enjoys her work with HACS and is currently the **Communications Director**. Beth can be reached at info@helpachildsmile.com.

Shirley Surridge, Secretary

Shirley is also a HACS parent, and has been a part of our HACS family since 1995. She has been on our Board for the past 10 years, currently acting as the **Secretary** for our organization.



Shirley Surridge, Secretary



Peggy Charron, Treasurer

Margaret (Peggy) Charron, Director of Finance

Peggy has been the volunteer **Director of Finance** since 2002. She also works for Highway Clearing & Guardrail Fencing Ltd in Welland as an Administrative Assistant. Her HACS duties include processing donations including online donations (tax receipting, thank-you cards,

acknowledgements and bereavement letters) as well as banking, managing accounts payables, reconciling wish trips, monthly balancing & reconciling, HST remittance, managing the do not call list and conducting the year end processes including closing the books. She is always willing to lend a hand in other areas as well as an event coordinator and/or volunteer – often being the face for HACS at events.

She is very dedicated to the HACS over the years. She keeps a sharp pencil and only wants the best for the organization and the families affected by childhood cancer. Having been affected by cancer herself she can relate to the kids. In her spare time, her passions are travelling, golf and enjoying life with her new husband. Peggy's email is pcharron@helpachildsmile.com.



Joyce Hutson, GKTW Trip Coordinator

Joyce Hutson, GKTW Trip Coordinator

Joyce joined the Board as Volunteer Coordinator in 2010 after being introduced to HACS while her granddaughter was being treated at Mac. Since then she has also held the position of Vice-Chair and is now the **Give Kids The World Trip Coordinator**.

She is responsible for making all of the arrangements to get our families to and from the Village and ensuring that their trip is as magical as it can be! She also is a friendly face seen at many of the family events, welcoming everyone, promoting HACS and of course laughing, smiling and joining right in! Drop Joyce a message at jhutson@helpachildsmile.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Bertha Bertrand, Family
Events Director

Bertha Bertrand, Family Events Director

Bertha's beautiful little daughter introduced her to HACS thirty-one years ago. Charlene wanted to go to the fundraiser for a little girl with cancer (Kacey Lyn Rainville), which was being held on the labor day weekend in 1987. A few short months later, Charlene was diagnosed with Rhabdomyosarcoma. She passed away on Sept.

11th, 1988. Before she passed, Charlene made Bertha promise to help all the children with cancer and make them smile. So Bertha joined the board and has been involved with HACS ever since in many different capacities. For the past 15 years, she has been the **Family Events Director**, organizing most of the events our families attend throughout the year. She still enjoys seeing the children smile and hopes to continue to do so for many more years to come. Bertha's email is bbertrand@helpachildsmile.com



Rena Schmidt, Newsletter Editor

Rena was also introduced to HACS when her daughter Alexandra was receiving chemotherapy at Mac. After returning from the family trip to GKTW, Rena knew she wanted to

help give back to the organization that gave her family so much. In 2015, she started attending events as a volunteer, even bringing her kids to help. When a need came up for some technical help, Rena jumped at the opportunity to use her skills as a Technical Analyst to help out. She is currently helping as the **Newsletter Editor** and still volunteers at various events. Rena has been volunteering for her entire adult life for many different charities and is happy to once again be working with an organization that provides happy experiences for children facing life threatening illnesses. newsletters@helpachildsmile.com

Claire O'Halloran, Hospital Liaison

Claire has been an integral part of Help A Child Smile for well over 20 years. As a Pediatric Oncology RN and the Interlink Nurse at McMaster she is our **Hospital Liaison**. Not only is Claire the life-line to our families, she also provides the Board with valuable insight into their needs and feedback on the impact our programs have on them.



Claire O'Halloran, Interlink
Nurse

Remembering a Great Man

Henri Landwirth, the beloved founder of **Give Kids The World Village**, passed away on Monday April 16, 2018 at the age of 91. His memory will live on in the hearts of all who love the Village including staff as well as volunteers, supporters, corporate partners and all of the families who were given the gift of happiness and hope thanks to Henri's vision. HACS and our families are forever grateful for everything he has done for children and their loved ones.



Website Update: Changes are coming! We are upgrading our website and hope to have it completed by the fall. It has been a big undertaking and we are doing our best to implement changes that we feel will be the most beneficial. For instance, the plan is to have a 'bulletin board' where we can post notices when there is info that may interest some but that does not need an email blast to everyone. We hope that you will check there regularly and find something of interest. Watch coming soon, we will be looking for volunteers to help Board members with tasks - almost like assistants. As those tasks are identified, we will post a description on the bulletin board. If you see it and recognize that you have the time/skill/interest to help with the task, we hope you will reach out.

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

The weather wasn't the best on June 24th for our day at **HACS Go Wild Family Picnic** at **African Lion Safari**, but a surprising number of our families braved the drizzle and showed up anyway. And boy did they have fun! Little-known-fact: the animals are actually *more* active and playful when the weather isn't hot and muggy and of course, the water park was going to get everyone wet anyway, so...a good time was had by all! Many thanks for the ALS Staff for another great day.



Myles Mota enjoyed African Lion Safari despite the drizzle!

WOW! What more can we say to **MonsterJam**! On April 14th, our families who braved the unseasonably bad weather to get there were treated to a thrilling show. This was the second year for this event and the vote is in – it's a keeper!



Disney On Ice was on fire...literally! Our HACS families were treated to an action packed show telling the stories of some of Disney's most famous princesses when they "**Dare to Dream**" at FirstOntario Centre. The show included so many great moments including Rapunzel and Flynn swinging from her "hair", Elsa making it snow and Moana and Maui bringing real fire to the ice as they battled Te Kā!



We could not have asked for a better day on May 26th for our Annual **Family Fishing Derby**. Our families enjoyed beautiful weather and the exceptional hospitality of **The Galt Sportsmen's Club**. The volunteers from the club as well as the **Ontario Kayak Fishing Series** were awesome! They were totally 'hands-on' in every way to help our kids catch lots of fish, then either release them or prepare them to be taken home and enjoyed at the dinner table. We can't thank Matt Moser and the Club enough for hosting this event for us again this year. And to Jeff Wall and all of the volunteers from Ontario Kayak Fishing Series – we just couldn't do it without all of them! Huge THANKS YOU from our families to everyone involved! We think it would be a nice gesture if some of you were to post a picture from the day along with a few words of thanks to Matt and Jeff. If you would like to do that, post on our FB page (with a pic if you want) and we will share your post to both of them.



He caught the big one!

WHAT HAVE OUR PARTNERS BEEN DOING?

A great time was had again this year on June 16th at **CanJam Revived in Honor of Sandra Allen**. Help A Child Smile is very thankful for the wonderful volunteers and the bands that volunteered their time to help raise over \$5,000 - *Two for the Road, Willie & Friends, See You Next Thursday, McTease, Twin Spin* and the *John Atlee Band* that gave of their time to raise funds



for kids with cancer. The bands had a wonderful volunteer soundman - *Mike La Pointe* with equipment provided by *Pat Alonzo Music*. *Brent Goodnough*, our balloon artist worked magic for the kids and *Brantford Batman* raced some of the kids in attendance - and mostly lost (he always



has more fun than the kids!), *Jungle Jamz' Reptile Show, The Glass Slipper Company, The Brantford Fire Dept., Marc Thorne and Eric Crow* also came out. *Ride for Smiles* was a great addition for this year. We thank all that participated and helped out in any way. Volunteers make the world go round and all of you are very much appreciated! A huge thank you to the *Knights Hall* for donating the hall and grounds and the support you always give HACS. We're going to do it again in 2019 -- save the date - June 15th!



Once each month the children of **Waterford United Church** carry collection plates while they all sing a song "Love is something if you give it Away" and they collect "Magic Nickels" from the congregation. This is counted and the children suggest and choose charities in communities to donate to such as local food banks, animal rescues, a far north community, a children's orphanage in Africa and other places. They chose to donate to HACS and we received \$250. Thank you to the little hearts of the Church and the members supporting them.

The **Smokey Bears** team of the Wednesday Men's League from **Brantford Golf and Country Club** donated \$1,000 to Help a Child Smile.



L-R Tom Austin, Joyce (HACS), Dave Gans & Dave Beech

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

IN MEMORY OF AND OTHER DONATIONS

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF...

Bob Barnes, Rita Bertrand, Darrel Daradick, John Dolce, Corrado Farabso,
Andre Gosselin, Jacqueline Lafontaine, Gladys Lee, Mary Nemeth, Barbara Senske,
Nick Sikora, Kenneth Snider, Colagera Gina Speziale, Guy Wakeford

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

OTHER DONATIONS RECENTLY RECEIVED FROM...

- ☺ St Kevins Parish Council of Catholic Womens League of Canada - \$50.00
- ☺ Waterford United Church - \$250.00
- ☺ Hydro One Employees and Pensioners Charity Trust Fund - \$590.40
- ☺ Donor Choice Contributions totally \$1,063 from employees of BMO Financial Group – National Campaign, RBC Financial Group – Area wide, TD Bank – National Campaign and Bell Canada
- ☺ Ongoing support from Benevity Community Impact Fun, United Way Niagara & United Way York Region

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 Jays games and NHL Alumni games as well as a week's stay at Give Kids The World in Florida to help our children smile!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- ☺ **Active** families have a child who was diagnosed or relapsed within the past 4 years.
- ☺ **Immediate** family members are parents and siblings 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.

DID YOU KNOW...?

If your family dynamic has changed, please let us know prior to registering for any events by emailing admin@helpachildsmile.com. When registering, you must answer ALL questions accurately and include the patient in the list of who is attending. If you have any questions or concerns, contact us at events@helpachildsmile.com or on the event phone line at 905-512-6288. You can text or leave a voice message (be sure to speak clearly and tell us your child's name) and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

The tickets your family receives for most of our events are NOT free to HACS? Many of them are not even discounted. So when tickets are left on the table at the end of the day, it can add up to a pretty hefty sum! To put it in perspective, the total money spent on events that families did not attend in 2017 would have covered the cost of a trip to Give Kids The World! We know that sometimes things happen at the last-minute and you just can't follow through with plans. We understand. All we ask is that you please contact us as soon as you realize you can't make it. If we have enough notice, we can give your tickets to a family on the waiting list (many events have them). If there isn't enough time, then at least we won't be left standing at the gate well past the event start time waiting for you. We appreciate your help with reducing the waste.

Summer 2018 Newsletter



UPCOMING FAMILY EVENTS



July 28th, 2018, 10am-7:30pm Emerald Lake Family Fun Picnic 7248 Gore Rd. Puslinch, ON

Come join us for a day of water fun and a picnic. The park has a 200' waterslide, splash pad, water trampoline, volley ball courts, playgrounds, skateboard area, swimming pool and beaches. The park is open from 10 am until 7:30 pm. We will be having lunch in *Pavilion 105* at 12:30pm, but your family can stay and play the whole day! HACS immediate family members only (no guests). Meet HACS staff at the gates from 10am-12pm! Register online before July 25 at:

<http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/default/register/84>



August 12th, 2018, 10am-6pm Safari Niagara Family Fun Picnic

2821 Stevensville Rd, Stevensville, ON

Get closer at Safari Niagara, one of Ontario's top zoos. Safari Niagara is a 150-acre, privately-owned and operated nature park, is home to more than 1000 native and exotic mammals, reptiles and birds. This is an event not to miss. The park has Catch & Release Fishing,

Bounce a Rooz (inflatable pillow), a Carousel, splash pad, Sky Ropes, Pedal bike go-carts and of course animals, animals and more animals!! Lunch will be at 1pm sharp! Meet Bertha at the gates from 10 until 12pm! Guests are welcome at \$30 each which includes lunch. Register online before July 29 at:

<http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/default/register/82>

August 25th, 2018, 10am-7pm Bingemans Big Splash Feast and Fun Day 425 Bingemans Centre Drive, Kitchener, ON

Enjoy a great lunch and UNLIMITED use of the Heated Wave Pool, The Pipes Slides, Cyclone, Torpedo Bay, Boomerango, Gull Throttle, Spray 'N' Play (water park for the younger crowd) plus the Three-Level Play Structure, and the Rocks and Ropes Course. The park is open from 10 am until 7pm. An old-fashioned home-style 'Dogs & Burgers Buffet' picnic lunch is served FROM 12:30 UNTIL 1:30 in the International Square. HACS immediate family members only (no guests). Meet HACS staff at the gates from 10am-12pm! Register online by August 17:

<http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/default/register/85>



Sept 8th, 2018, 10am-8pm Marineland Family Picnic

7657 Portage Road, Niagara Falls, ON

Once again HACS is bringing back the Marineland Family Picnic. Come enjoy a day up close and personal with Marine mammals or dare to take a ride on one of the world's largest steel roller coasters. Lunch is included at the Hungry Bear Restaurant whenever you want. Guests are

welcome at \$39.50 each. Meet Bertha at Booth #1 (beside the will call booth) from 10am-12pm! Register your family online before August 19th: <http://helpachildsmile.com/family-registration/default/register/83>

If you have missed registering for any of these events, please do so soon.

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS BY OUR PARTNERS

Elimination Draw to be sponsored by Brantford chapter of **The Knights Of Columbus**. Tickets are \$25 each which include a roast beef dinner and live entertainment on the night of the final draw (**September 22nd**) but you don't have to be there to win. Top prize is \$2500 but there are lots of other prizes of \$50, \$100 and \$300 along the way, including 4 Early Bird draws on **August 11th**. Email us at info@helpachildsmile.com or message us on our Facebook page if you would like tickets.

The **Costible Group** (a division of Century 21) is launching its first annual **TCG Golf to Give Back**; an event designed to raise awareness about childhood cancer as well as funds for the families of a child currently going through treatment. The 2018 event will be featuring a very special little boy named Jaxon who is currently receiving treatment for an inoperable brain tumor located on his brain stem. Details are **September 7th, 2018** at the **Oaks Of St. George Golf Course** (269 German School Rd, Paris, ON). Entry fees are \$125 per golfer includes 18 holes, cart, lunch, domestic tall can, steak dinner with all the fixings, silent auction and lots of top-of-the-line the prizes!!! Spots are limited so email team@thecostabilegroup.ca to reserve your spot.

It's Christmas in July and Santa is making a special trip to **Penny Pincher Costumes Inc** (1149 Main St. E, Hamilton). Come and meet him. There will be Cookies and photos. **Saturday, July 28 11 am to 3 pm**. \$15.00 each for one print with email copy. For each print purchase, \$5.00 will be donated to Help A Child Smile.

Brantford's amazing Deadpool will be drawing for **Art In The Park**, on **August 4th**!! Come to Lynden Hills Park in Brantford (363 Brantwood Park Rd) to get a one of a kind autographed drawing. Remember, all profits from portraits and caricatures go directly to Help A Child Smile, so he doesn't want to hear any whining about them! After all, they're all going to be a one of a kind Brantford Deadpool autographed drawing! What's even worth complaining about?!!

REGISTRATION REMINDERS

As mentioned before, we are always working on adding new events so watch your email, the HACS website (helpachildsmile.com) or the HACS Facebook page ([@Help-A-Child-Smile](https://www.facebook.com/Help-A-Child-Smile)) for information as it becomes available. All details about events will continue to be posted on our website on the 'Family Events' registration page. However, we will now send an email to let you know when an event is coming up and provide all pertinent registration details in plenty of time for you to register your family

Please note that **ALL** online payments are sent to pcharron@helpachildsmile.com The security 'question' **is always** your child's name plus the name of the event (ie: Mary Smith Wonderland or Bobby Jones Marineland). Pay attention to **the security answer** as noted on the registration page. Once you click on 'PROCEED' you cannot go back to look up this information!

If you sign up for an event that has a charge, please process your online payment no more than 7 days after registering. If we have not received payment within 7 days (or money orders within 14 days) we cancel your registration. This is to avoid buying tickets for families that are no longer planning to attend. If you have a problem with the online payment system, please notify 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** and mailed to **Help A Child Smile**, 61 Canboro Rd, PO Box 1262, Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0.

HERE ARE TWO MORE EXCITING FUNDRAISING EVENTS!



**Help A Child Smile
Poker Run
Saturday, August 18, 2018
Rain or Shine**

supported by
Erie Shores Chapter 129



TONS OF BIKE GEAR

4179 Hwy 20, St. Anns, ON

Registration: 9:30 am - 10:30 am

ALL MOTORCYCLES WELCOME

Tour the Scenic Niagara Region, all while playing poker.

\$25.00/Rider & \$15.00/Passenger

\$50.00 dollars in pledges/person and you RIDE & EAT for FREE!

Includes BBQ at Tons of Bike Gear, Door Prizes, & 50/50 Draw



COUNTRY89
Today's Best Country!

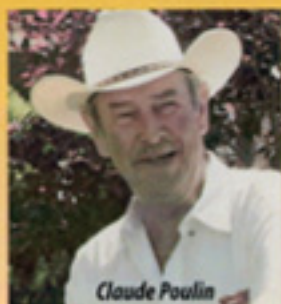
GIANT FM 91.7
CLASSIC ROCK

Register Online at:

www.helpachildsmile.com

www.southerncruiserserieshores.com

We are always looking for people to either lead or assist in annual fundraising. 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



Claude Poulin



THE COWBOY CLASSIC

4th Annual Golf Tournament

In Support of Help A Child Smile



Help a Child Smile is an organization focused on children with cancer treated at the Children's Hospital at Hamilton Health Sciences Corporation by providing opportunities for them and their families to smile and have fun.

www.helpachildsmile.com

OVER \$126,754.00 RAISED SO FAR

AUGUST 17TH, 2018
RIVERVIEW GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
144 GOLFERS MAX.

RIVERVIEW
GOLF CLUB

313 Victoria Avenue Vineland, ON L0S 1C0

(905) 892-3774

Lunch & Registration 12:00pm

1:00pm shotgun start, rain or shine

Includes: 18 holes of golf and riding cart

Entry Gifts

Lunch before or at the turn with beverage

Steak dinner with one beverage

4 Person Scramble \$130.00 per person
(max. 144 players) \$95.00 for Riverview members
\$45.00 for dinner only
OPEN to the PUBLIC

For registration and information,
please call Mike Konderka - 905-735-1124 or email: mkonderka@environiagara.ca
or call Jamie West - 905-735-3890 or email: jamie_west@highwayclearing.com

SILENT AUCTION

1 weekday membership for 2019 to
Riverview Golf & Country Club



Valid Mon-Fri - anytime,
weekends after 3
(cart not included)
valued at \$1050.00

**PLUS MORE PRIZES
AT THE EVENT!**

50/50 DRAW • PUTTING CONTEST
PRIZES FOR LONGEST DRIVE • PRIZES FOR CLOSEST TO THE PIN

4 HOLE IN ONE PRIZES
\$10,000.00 HOLE IN ONE
PLUS GREAT PRIZES ON 3 OTHER HOLES

sponsored by



Wealth Management
Dominion Securities

Lostracco Wealth Management

www.environiagara.ca

Printing by

