

**Message from our Chair:** Summer is officially behind us and we hope you were able to get out and enjoy it as much possible (safely, of course). It has been quite challenging to find new, fun and exciting family events and activities that we could be confident you would like, while maintaining safety protocols. By the response to most of them, we were successful. Some of our discoveries were so popular we will keep them in our lineup.

As the weather turns chilly and the days shorter, it will be harder to find suitable activities, but we will continue to try. Reminder: If your family discovered a hidden treasure you think others might enjoy, share it with us by emailing <a href="mailto:events@helpachildsmile.com">events@helpachildsmile.com</a> please.

While on the topic of sharing, we are also interested in hearing from you if there is something more we can do to help your family through this journey. It may seem like something small, but adds to your stress at a time when you don't need any more. While revenue is down because of COVID-19 cancelling so many fundraisers, we will consider all suggestions. We are here for you.

Joyce Hutson



## **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

The City of Brantford and the County of Brant joined Help A Child Smile to acknowledge and recognize the month by holding flag raising ceremonies and flying the Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Flag.

Thank to you Beth, Nicole and Autumn for joining Mayor David Bailey from the County of Brant for the flag raising.

Thank you to Joyce, Tracy, Eden and family for joining Councillor Richard Carpenter at the old City Hall in Brantford for the flag raising.

## **UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

# **COLTON'S FUN FARM!**

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS ONLY!

9:30AM-4:30PM

October 2, 3, 9, 10, 16,

17, 23, 24, 30, 31

# **Thanksgiving October 11th**

109 Jerseyville Road,
Brantford
Tickets are \$15 per person,
Children 2 and under are free
\$3 from every ticket will be donated
to Help A Child Smile
Thank to you the Gallant Family
for their generosity!





We have partnered with OPACC to raise funds for both of our charities through an On-Line Raffle:

### Catch the Ace for Childhood Cancer!

The lottery kicks off on Friday, October 8 with the first weekly draw being held on Thursday, October 14.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our ability to fundraise due to some in person fundraising events being cancelled, a downturn in corporate donations and capacity limits at facilities.

Despite our challenges, we have continued to look for new fundraising opportunities to continue to support our programs.

Watch our website for details!

# **CANJAM FOR CANCER**

CanJam for Kids with Cancer took place August 14th and featured local bands, a Mustang Car Show put on by Route 24 and a pig roast dinner made by Chef Marschal Giles from Giles catering. New bands played for the day, but we said farewell to Two for the Road as it was their last gig together.

The committee is thrilled to announce that over \$17,000 was raised and donated to Help A Child Smile.



We have so many to thank for our successful day. The Knight's donated the hall plus gave us a portion of the bar, our volunteers - we have the best and they enjoy helping when needed, our main sponsor Route 24 Auto in Brantford plus other sponsors including Sharpe Bus Lines, Home Hardware Paint Division - Burford, Rightway Blading Inc. - Troy, Best Budz, Positano Wines, Maria's Original Pizza and Extend Communications. We had many other donations included in our total and we'd like to give a big "thank you" to everyone. Also, to all the donors of silent auction gifts - many thanks.



A huge shout out to our friend Rita Sopaz Owen of the fun game Let's All Spin To Win on FB. She has donated all the profit from this game to the end of July to Help A Child Smile. Her donation was a whopping \$4,450!!!! Rita has committed to doing this again next year which she hopes will be enough to send 3 families to GKTW! Many thanks Rita. Please fell free to look the game up and join in -- you could be lucky plus you are helping HACS at the same time.

Our bands were amazing - as usual and gave of their time & talents to HACS -- thanks so much fellows!! Marschal Giles did a fantastic job with the food as we knew he would - thank you! O'Shea, Tina, Alex of the Knights it was great to see you enjoy the day instead of working - you are always there for us - thank you. To our volunteers - you're the best and we appreciate you. Lastly, to the friends that helped put this all together in such a short time - Rick Locke, Ray Knight and Ezio D'Lgnazio you did an awesome job!! Thank you.

Submitted by Beth Walsh





## This past July we held our first virtual escape room event!



We played the *King of the Bootleggers* game hosted by **Secret City Adventures** and it was an absolute blast! Set in historic Casa Loma, our task was to get our best gang together to search the private study of notorious bootlegger, Rocco Perri. We had to search the room for clues and secret passwords to help us unlock the safe holding all of his gold! The catch - we only had 1 hour to do so before he returned or as he would say "It's curtains for the lot of ya!" We had a fantastic group of 33, which was further split into 5 teams and we definitely turned out to be ace detectives for the night! Unfortunately we did not

get the secret safe open in time so it was no gold for us.... BUT we solved many clues, formed the BEST detective teams we think we have ever seen and had an overall great time!

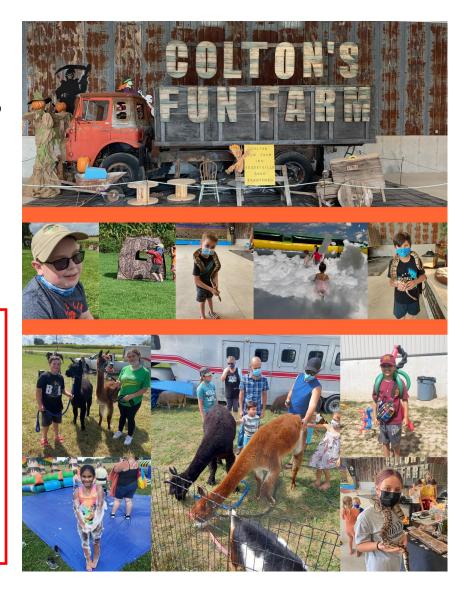
Submitted by Rehanna Bachan

### 2021 FAMILY PICNIC!

The picnic was held at Colton's
Fun Farm. It was a beautiful
September afternoon on the
farm where kids had a chance to
enjoy laser tag, a giant foam pit,
reptile show, horse rides,
a petting zoo and a variety of fall
themed activities inside the new
barn! Thank you to
the Gallant Family
for hosting us once again!

This summer and fall we provided Drive-In Movie passes to families and hosted events including Go-Karting and Mini-Putt, Safari Niagara, The African Lion Safari, a Paint & Pour do it yourself kits.

Many families registered for Dinosaurs LIVE at Safari Niagara and will be visiting the park during October and November.



### SEND US YOUR PICTURES & VIDEOS!

We would love to share your pictures and videos from our events.

Please email them to admin@helpachildsmile.com

If the file is too large, you can visit

WeTransfer - Send Large Files & Share Photos Online - Up to 2GB Free

and upload your files there and then send it to events@helapchildsmile.com for us to download.

When you submit your photo to us, you are agreeing to allow us to use the photos on our social media pages, website and in our newsletter or other Help A Child Smile brochures.

### THANK YOU CARDS

We would love to feature our kids and their stories on our new Thank You Cards.

Here is an example of one that Everlee made.

Have your child draw a picture and then take a picture of them holding it with a blank wall behind them.

They can share a thank you message as well. Email the pictures and message to Joyce at jhutson@helpachildsmile.com

My name is Everlee. I am 9 years old. When I was 4 my family was told I had cancer. We spent a lot of time in McMaster Hospital. Help A Child Smile helped us get through my treatment. They still help by giving us fun things to do as a family. Thank you for helping them so they can keep helping families like mine.



# **JUST IN!**

We have a limited number of

Toronto Maple Leaf Tickets for Friday, October 1 at 6:00pm

Register here by September 30! (no guests)

We also have passes available for the

2021 Paris Stampede Days on October 10

Register for both events here: Family Event Registration - Help A Child Smile

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