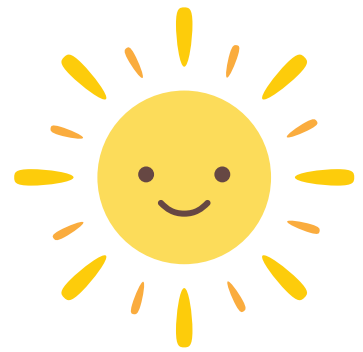




Spring 2025



From our Chair, Joyce Hutson

Finally! Sure didn't seem like spring was ever going to get here but if today is any indication, we can breathe a sigh of relief. Let's hope it's not just Mother Nature teasing us! But despite (or maybe because of) the on-again-off-again winter weather, many families attended and thoroughly enjoyed our recent outing at Fallsview Indoor Waterpark. It was obviously a welcome addition to our event lineup that we are sure to keep. Thanks to all who filled out the event survey afterwards. Your input is greatly appreciated and will be used to make day even better next year.



The NHL hockey game was also popular even though the rescheduled date didn't work out for some of our families. 9-year-old Nathan Snyder represented our families well when he thanked the players for putting the game on and the crowd for coming out. And he did an admirable job of dropping the puck(s) at centre ice.

And as a reminder, if your family discovers a fun venue that you think other families may also enjoy, please let us know. Just email admin@helpachildsmile.com and Patti will pass the info along to the Events Committee.

With the advent of nice weather, we are excited to get back to enjoying outdoor events. Coming up soon are the Fishing Derby, African Lion Safari and the Bulls and Bikes Extreme Show to name a few. So keep an eye on our FB page and your email for notices. Now let's all get out and enjoy that sunshine!

Sandra Allen Memorial Education Awards

Honouring the legacy of Sandra Allen, a devoted member of Help A Child Smile's Board of Directors for over two decades, the Sandra Allen Memorial Education Award celebrates her dedication to community service and education. Established in collaboration with CanJam for Cancer, this award provides financial support to youth under 30 from Help A Child Smile registered families, enabling access to post-secondary education.

Applications for this year's three \$2,500 awards are open until May 31, 2025. Eligible candidates must be pursuing studies at recognized Canadian post-secondary institutions. This application utilizes a Google Form. Applicants will need to sign into their Gmail account or create a new account to fill out the form, and upload a letter of reference.

For more information and to apply: [2025 Sandra Allen Memorial Education Awards](#)

Events

Annual Fishing Derby: Saturday, May 24

Please note that this event is exclusively for members and their immediate family; unfortunately, no guests will be permitted.

Siblings under the age of 19 are welcome to attend, and the member must also be under 19 for the family to participate.

Registration closes: May 17

Deadline to cancel without receiving a strike: May 22



African Lion Safari: Saturday, June 7

Help A Child Smile invites you to our annual African Lion Safari Day and Picnic!

Get ready for an exciting day filled with adventure as you explore the wonders of the safari and enjoy a fun-filled picnic with HACS families.

Arrival 9:00am-12:00pm

Lunch: 12:30-1:30PM

1386 Cooper Road

Cambridge, ON N1R 5S2

Register by May 23.



Bingemans Big Splash Waterpark: Saturday, July 5

Enjoy a fun-filled day at the waterpark and BBQ Lunch! Arrival is between 10:00am and 1:00pm. Lunch will be served from 1:30-2:30pm. Free to active families. \$5 per person for alumni families (includes lunch) children under 2 are free. Guest Tickets: Under 2 years FREE, 2-6 \$41, 7+ \$57. Register by June 22.

The Bulls and Bikes Extreme Show: Saturday, July 12

A unique fusion of world-class bull riding and exciting motorcycle stunts, this one of a kind show makes for an unforgettable afternoon! Gates open at 12:30pm and the action starts at 2:00pm at the Woodstock Fairgrounds on 875 Nellis Street in Woodstock. This event is free to active and alumni families and their guests! Register by July 5.

Visit our event registration page to register for these events: [Event Registration](#)

Fundraising

Our annual **Bowl-a-Thon** is next weekend.

Join us on Saturday, May 3 with two locations participating:

Hamilton & St. Catharines

Register your team of 6 today and start collecting pledges.

For more information or to sign up:

[2025 Bowl-a-Thon](#)

We have a shortage of teams in Hamilton, if you can join us, sign up today!



WE'RE LOOKING FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Help A Child Smile is looking for interested family members or friends of families to join our board of directors. The term begins in June and is a 3-year commitment. Our board meets monthly from September to June. Board members must 18 or older and committed to volunteering up to 10 hours per month. When families join our board, they provide valuable insight into the supports and programming we provide our families.

Fill out an application here, if you're interested in applying to be a board member:

[Board of Directors](#)

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 supporting children and families affected by childhood cancer. Visit our website at helpachildsmile.com for more information.

FIRST TIME REGISTRATIONS:

Visit <https://events.helpachildsmile.com/>

Click "Register" on the event you'd like to attend


Scroll down and click "log into the Patient Area"


Click "I forgot my password - create a password"

Enter the email you registered with and then "reset password"

You will receive an email to set up your password. If you don't see it in your Inbox, check your spam/junk folder.

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