

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SPRING 2021



#### MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

## 2021 – A Year of Hope



As the clock struck midnight on December 31st, I am sure that there were many of us that wondered what 2021 would bring. Would the feelings of fear and isolation disappear or continue, and could we hope for a vaccine that might protect our families and friends?

With spring upon us and vaccinations underway, we are hopeful that pre-pandemic days are on the horizon.

For cancer patients and their families in our community, cancer has not stopped. In fact, over the past few months we have seen an increase in registrations and the need for services. The post-pandemic surge is real, and the staff and volunteers are working hard to meet the growing demand.

Our new Drive-to-Deliver program continues thanks to the generous support of our community donors. The Drive & Ride program was temporarily halted due to the provincial 'stay at home order' but has resumed with demand increasing weekly.

We continue to be open by appointment for wig and bra fittings and equipment pick-ups and returns. But we cannot do it alone. We need donors and volunteers to assist with the day-to-day operations and join us in our fundraising efforts.

As you read through the newsletter, I encourage you to consider how you might help. Could you volunteer, participate in our upcoming Virtual CARE Walk, hold a virtual third-party event with your friends and family, or encourage your employers or local vendors to support? Every little bit helps and will make a difference.

I want to thank our donors, volunteers, and staff who continue asking themselves, "How can I make a difference in a cancer patient's day?" We are seeing each day how these small acts of kindness and generosity can together make a very big difference in so many lives.

With appreciation and hope,



## Farewell to our Board Members

It is with sadness and great appreciation that we bid farewell to two of our Board of Directors: Lisa Davino Owens and Stan Tick



Lisa joined the Board of Directors in 2012 and has not stopped since she joined. Lisa's leadership has been instrumental in CAP's transition over the past few years, with one of the greatest achievements being the relocation of the CAP office to 555 Concession Street. A true fundraiser, Lisa can always be counted on for the

best raffle prizes, ticket sales, and constant enthusiasm for all things CAP. We will miss Lisa at our monthly meetings but know that she will still be working behind the scenes in a fundraising capacity.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers, THANK YOU Lisa for your years of service and dedication.



Stan joined the CAP Board of Directors in September 2016. Stan's sense of humour made each Board meeting a true delight. The Board members and staff appreciated Stan's wise counsel as he too played an important role in CAP's transition over the past few years to a much larger organization. Stan was an

inaugural member of the Major Gift fundraising committee, sharing the work of the Cancer Assistance Program amongst his many local networks.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers, THANK YOU Stan for your years of service and dedication.











# Give & Grow Returns

Spring has sprung and we've once again partnered with BigYellowBag, a local company that delivers high quality garden products in a neat, clean bag straight to your door. As we are all getting into the planning for our spring/summer gardens, BigYellowBag has offered to donate \$10 to CAP for each bag purchased using our unique code below. As an added bonus, YOU save \$5 on your BigYellowBag purchase! So, if you're in need of soil or mulch to get your lawn and garden going this year, keep us in your thoughts.

Visit BigYellowBag.com or call 855-424-4224 and use code "CAP21" to receive an additional \$5 off any promotion and \$10 of every BigYellowBag of garden soil or mulch purchased will go to CAP!



# Sparkle for a Cause

We still have a limited supply of custom necklaces designed by glamjulz available for purchase. In two stunning styles, short and long (adjustable), they are only \$25 each and feature shades of blue, silver and clear beading. Add a little sparkle to your style or consider gifting to someone special. All proceeds support CAP's free services.

Contact Ashlee at 905-383-9797 x107 or aleggett@cancerassist.ca to purchase yours today.



#### **DONOR SPOTLIGHT**

### Full Circle Project

Support from our donors has never been more critical. The **GFL Environmental Full Circle Project (FCP)** is a community-driven charitable giving program that lets GFL customers decide how donations are directed. We are so thrilled to have received a generous donation of **\$10,000** toward free services for cancer patients and their families.



GFL's goal is to support local, high-impact charities that make a difference within our communities. They don't simply give donations – they focus on building relationships with the organizations that shape where they live and work. These charities become their partners, and GFL employees proudly volunteer their time regularly to extend their support beyond a monetary donation.

Pictured is Michael Ecker, CAP Board President with Rick Denyes, GFL Environmental Director, ICI Strategic Development, in front of the CAP office. We are so thankful for this generous gift.

If you are part of an organization that provides financial support to local charities, we'd love to connect with you! Contact **Ashlee** at **905-383-9797 x107** or **aleggett@cancerassist.ca** to discuss how your gift to the Cancer Assistance Program can make an impact today.

# Practical Education via The Cancer Assist Show Podcast

Thanks to our sponsors, The Hutton Family Fund and Banko Media, The Cancer Assist Show Podcast launched over a year ago and allows patients, caregivers, health care partners and the general public to access practical and timely cancer education on the go.

Host Dr. Bill Evans, former President of Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre and current CAP Board Member, speaks to experts about a variety of cancer-related topics. New episodes are released monthly and feature topics ranging from the out-of-pocket cancer costs to COVID-19 vaccines and cancer to interviews with cancer survivors and service providers.

"Listeners can hear about cancer progress, personalized type medicine, targeted therapies, these sorts of things... they would maybe approach cancer in a more hopeful way. The best treatment's right here." – Dr. Bill Evans, Host

The podcast aims to provide helpful information about cancer, showcase the abundance of cancer-related experts in Hamilton, and promote the free services provided by CAP.

If you haven't had a chance to listen yet, episodes can be accessed at **cancerassist.ca** or you can find it on **Apple, Google** and **Spotify.** Instructions to listen on the go can also be found on our website.



## The Value of One, The Power of Many

In April we celebrated National Volunteer Week reflecting on the awe-inspiring acts of kindness by individuals and the magic that happens when we work together towards a common purpose. Words cannot adequately convey how grateful we are each day for our wonderful volunteers who have continued to step up and give their time and talents throughout the pandemic to ensure our services keep on going. Despite several lockdowns and having to limit volunteers in our office, an incredible 8,422 hours were donated by volunteers in 2020 alone - calling clients to take orders, making doorstep deliveries, providing rides to and from appointments, assisting with client services and administrative tasks, working in

the equipment shop, and assisting with events virtually. CAP's work is not possible without our reliable team of volunteers.

While we look forward to welcoming all volunteers back safely when possible, we are so appreciative to those who have been lending their support since the pandemic started. We are currently operating with limited drivers, but as restrictions loosen up and more people get vaccinated, we'll be looking to onboard new **volunteer drivers** to assist with growing transportation needs.

Perhaps you've recently retired or simply want to give back in a meaningful way. Whatever the case, contact **Maria** at **905-383-9797 x102** or **mrowley@cancerassist.ca** to learn more.



### 2021 Events Overview

### 7TH ANNUAL \*VIRTUAL\* CARE WALK SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2021 FROM ANYWHERE!

**REGISTRATION OPEN!** Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we're going \*VIRTUAL\* once again where you can participate from anywhere at anytime. Whether you choose to walk, hike, bike or roll 5km, we hope you will help us come together virtually in honour of a friend or loved one affected by cancer. Please consider registering yourself or a team and begin collecting pledges today. Registration is \$20 for adults (under 18 are free). Register or donate online at cancerassist.ca.

WHO ARE YOU WALKING FOR?





### 43RD ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC - TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021 AT DUNDAS VALLEY GOLF AND CURLING CLUB



**SAVE THE DATE!** One of CAP's longest running events is its Annual Golf Classic. Golf registration is \$200 and includes 18 holes, power cart, passport (access to on course contests), food and take home gift. While specifics will depend on measures in place come event day, we're planning for limited golfers and set tee times once again. Early bird registration opening soon!

### 27TH ANNUAL GALA - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021 \*DETAILS TBC\*

SAVE THE DATE! This memorable evening brings together hundreds of community members to celebrate and raise the much-needed funds for CAP's valuable and free services. Whether online, in person, or a combination of both, we'll have a special evening planned with food and beverages, entertainment, silent auction, mystery envelopes, moving testimonials and an opportunity to support the Fund A Need. More information available in the Fall.



VISIT CANCERASSIST.CA OR CALL 905-383-9797 X107 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EVENTS. INCLUDING SPONSORSHIP!

### Third Party **Spotlight**

This past February, Tracie from Tracie's Place Restaurant & Karaoke (592 Upper James St.) raised an incredible \$1,650 by donating a percentage of Valentine's Day sales and choosing CAP as the beneficiary of her Facebook birthday fundraiser! We are incredibly honoured to benefit from this generous network of supporters... Thank you!



CAP does not receive sustainable government funding and relies greatly on third party fundraising events. With most third party fundraisers being canceled or postponed due to the pandemic, we are working hard with individuals and businesses on creative and mutually beneficial partnerships. ideas include Some collecting donations in lieu of birthday gifts or celebrations, donating a percentage of product sales, hosting a virtual concert, game night, trivia or video game tournament.

View our Third Party Fundraising guide and application at cancerassist.ca by clicking on Third Party Fundraisers under the Events dropdown menu. Contact **Ashlee** at **905-383-9797 x107** or aleggett@cancerassist.ca to share your ideas.

### 2020 THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME VIRTUAL GALA DONORS

Thank you to everyone who tuned in November 12th and supported CAP's first ever Virtual Gala: There's No Place Like Home presented by Johnston Chrysler. Over \$100K (net) was raised, providing help when it is needed most. Special thanks to our many Donors:

Harry Mulvale

A. DeSantis Developments Aldershot Landscape Contractors Alison Willis Ange & Denise Restivo and Family Angela Lee Mathieson Angela Morgan Anna Theofilaktidis Ashlee Leggett Astrid Beaver Bay Gardens Funeral Home & Bayview Cemetery Becky McMahon Bell Media Benemar Homes Beverly Golf & Country Club Bill Dermody Binbrook Little Theatre Blanche Lynn Schofield Bob Savage Boehringer Ingelheim Bruno Uggenti C. J. Mulholland Chesterfield & Mattress Factory Ltd. Cardi Construction Carol Diane Sekleski

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Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra

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## WHO ARE YOU WALKING FOR?

SATURDAY, MAY 29, 2021 Anywhere, Anytime!

WALK, HIKE, BIKE OR ROLL COST - \$20/adult (under 18 are free)

Join us (virtually) for a 5km walk, hike, bike or roll in your local neighbourhood!









**REGISTER AT WWW.CANCERASSIST.CA!**