



SPRING 2014 ROGER'S HOUSE Chronicles

Upcoming Events:

**11TH ANNUAL
WALK,
ROLL & RUN
Mother Theresa
High School
SATURDAY, JUNE
7TH**



Message from Chair of the Board

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to **Megan Wright**, our new **Executive Director at Roger's House**. Megan was selected by our Search Committee comprising Les Bell, Erin Crowe, Ruth Hartanto, Marion Rattray, Dr. Bill Splinter and Ian Hendry. The Committee was assisted by Mike Lupiano from Morgan Search. The Executive Director role is a joint position with CHEO, as Megan will lead both Roger's House and the Palliative Program at CHEO.

Megan has been a part of CHEO's management team since April 2003, starting as Manager of Oncology. In April 2004, she was promoted to Director of Emergency and most recently has held the position of Director of Inpatients, PICU and Emergency. Over the years, Megan has demonstrated her ability to be a compassionate and collaborative leader. Her inspiring, forward-thinking and organized style will be integral in fostering the ongoing and evolving mission, strategic vision, objectives and program goals of Roger's House.

Megan has exceeded our expectations in terms of her demonstrated leadership in her past roles. Roger's House is in good hands with her leadership and should be for years to come as she will continue to build important liaisons with staff, external partners and stakeholders to continue the advancement of pediatric palliative care in our region. We are pleased that Megan is now part of the Roger's House family and look forward to her leading our organization.—Susan Richardson



Lloyd Cowin,
Former Executive
Director



Susan Richardson,
Chair of the Board

Message from Former Executive Director

"It is with mixed feelings I am writing my last Executive Director's report for the Roger's House newsletter. I have found the past 8 years to be a great learning experience. I have learned about grieving, coping, perseverance and advocacy from many families. I have grown as a result of this learning and thank families for allowing us at Roger's House to serve and learn from you. I have learned from employees about compassion, teamwork and commitment. I have been continually energized by the dedication the team has for the families you serve and the services you provide. Finally, the generosity of the community, led by the Ottawa Senators Foundation, has continually impressed me. Roger's House would not exist if it was not for the Ottawa Senators hockey club. And our ability to operate would not be possible without the generosity of donors and volunteers. Over 30% of our operating budget comes from donors through the Ottawa Senators Foundation. And we benefit from 300 very dedicated volunteers who provide over 16,000 hours of service annually in every conceivable way. I would like to extend a warm thank you to the Board, employees, physicians, volunteers and the Ottawa Senators Foundation for their support over the past eight years. I am very confident that Megan Wright is the right person to lead Roger's House into the future. There are good things ahead for the organization and Megan is the ideal person to lead the organization. I wish her well and to all of you I wish for strength, hope and kindness."—Lloyd Cowin



Megan Wright,
Executive Director

Message from New Executive Director

"It is an incredible honor for me to be a part of the Rogers' House team as Executive Director. I am excited about meeting our patients and families, board members and all the dedicated staff & physicians. I have had the pleasure of working with Lloyd over my 11 years at CHEO and feel very fortunate to be following his successes. I will spend the first few months getting to know the people, the processes and learning from all of you. Please feel free to stop in and say hi anytime. Looking forward to our journey together at continuing to build on Roger's Neilson's legacy and values."—Megan Wright



CN Roger's House Telethon raises \$114,227 for the children and families of the pediatric, respite and palliative care facility

The Ottawa Senators Foundation raised more than \$114,227 at the 10th annual CN Roger's House Telethon on Sportsnet. The community demonstrated its support for the children and families who turn to the region's pediatric palliative care residence with donations to the telethon by mobile, online and phone pledges. These funds represent a portion of the \$750,000 per year the Ottawa Senators Foundation provides to Roger's House for operations, capital, endowments and special projects.

One of the main donors to the broadcast, which took place one hour prior to and during the game against the Detroit Red Wings, was Senators owner Eugene Melnyk, who pledged to match contributions made during Ottawa Senators (@Senators) power plays throughout the game up to a total of \$10,000. "The Senators organization and our Foundation began a journey more than 10 years ago to help construct and provide financial assistance to Roger's House," said Senators owner Eugene Melnyk. "Today, Roger's House stands as one of Ottawa's proudest achievements and serves to remind us that every child's life deserves to be surrounded by love, compassion and the warmth of an entire community." Corporate donors and sponsors such as CN, Sportsnet, Ernst & Young, Pizza Pizza and PwC helped push the total over the \$100,000 mark. CN has been the title sponsor of the telethon for the last five years, contributing over \$240,000 in that time. "CN feels strongly about supporting the communities in which our employees work and live," said David Miller, assistant vice-president Government Relations, CN. "Supporting a facility like Roger's House and the children and families who rely on it was an easy decision for us because of the impact they have on the children and families with whom they are involved." "Donors, sponsors, volunteers and fans showed just how important Roger's House is to this community, the support we received was truly incredible," said Ottawa Senators Foundation president Danielle Robinson. "On behalf of the Ottawa Senators Foundation and Roger's House, thank you to everyone who made a contribution. They should be proud of the difference they are making for the hundreds of kids who call Roger's House their home-away-from-home."

In Remembrance of...

We honour the following children who have passed away since November 2013 :

Gillian Neville	Penelope McKeague	Willyam Bérubé
Landon Guillemette	Logan Marquart	Alexander Nielsen
Amber Hickey-Brunet	Rhoda Pikuyak	

The CN Roger's House Telethon on Sportsnet is one of the key events co-ordinated by the Ottawa Senators Foundation to raise funds for the pediatric palliative care facility. Through these events, in addition to donations, the Ottawa Senators Foundation provides Roger's House with 30 per cent of its operating budget, plus additional funds for patients from Quebec, capital improvements, research and endowments.

Ottawa Senators Foundation Walk, Roll & Run event to merge with Roger's House Barrhaven Run event on June 7 to create unique experience for participants and raise funds for Roger's House

Both events held each June raise significant funds for the pediatric palliative and respite care facility. Walk, Roll & Run's strong family and fundraising culture combined with Barrhaven Run's growing participant base will create an improved experience for all participants while aiming to increase the awareness and funds raised for Roger's House.

Benefits include:

Improved date, course and race routes – The new location will provide a better running course, which will include the new "Donnelly Ford 10 km" (timed), a 5 km (timed) and a 2.5 km family route. The new date of the event is changed to work around Father's Day.



Bigger contribution – By combining the two events, the Ottawa Senators Foundation will be able to eliminate a significant portion of the operating expenses, which will allow for more funds to go to Roger's House.

The Barrhaven Run for Roger's House will be held on Saturday, June 7, at Mother Theresa High School.

This event would not be possible without the support of the returning Barrhaven Run Platinum Sponsors: Barrhaven Source for Sports, Creppin Realty Group, Barrhaven Pharmasave and BrokerLink (formerly Baizana Insurance Brokers).

More family fun – The Barrhaven Run will for the first time feature Senators inflatables. Spartacat and all the best parts of the Walk, Roll & Run "Family Fun Zone" will be at the event.

Prizes – There is prize money associated with the first- through fifth-place finishers of the 10 km timed race as well as prizing for the event's top fundraisers.



Centralized Intake Pilot for Respite Services

The Ministry of Child and Youth Services proposed the review of respite services for children who are Medically Fragile and/or Technologically Dependent across the Ottawa region. The resulting recommendations directed The Ottawa Rotary Home, Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre and Roger's House (Tri-agencies) to partner on an initiative to address some of the key areas noted. The inception of a 'Centralized Intake Pilot for Respite Services' was aimed at creating a single point of entry for families with uniform eligibility and ensuring that the respite services are coordinated into an efficient system with greater equity of access and service quality. During the early stages of implementation, admission process tools and mechanisms were streamlined to integrate the intake process across Tri-agencies, and brochures were created to promote the pilot to external agencies such as CCAC, SCS and CHEO in order to facilitate referrals of new families. Engagement with families for input and feedback was given a high priority to ensure a child and family centered approach in the delivery of the pilot project. Going forward, we feel optimistic about the success of the pilot as the new client intake process gains momentum.— Sara Mannan



Bereavement Supports- New Perinatal Loss Support Group!

Bereavement Support and Memory Making Services are available to all families of Roger's House, at any time. Our goal is to ensure that each and every family has personalized support for their child's individual trajectory through illness. We also believe that all families should have access to meaningful and individualized support following the loss of their child. In February 2014, we introduced a new support group available to parents who have lost an infant before the first 28 days of life. A brochure detailing this program is available at Roger's House. Please feel free to discuss any of our support services with our social worker, Carol Chevalier. Carol is available to answer any questions you may have and provide information regarding the psycho-social support services offered at Roger's House.

Roger's House also offers Memory Making opportunities for families. Examples of these services include providing families with memory boxes, photography sessions, and hand and foot print casts. Families also have access to literature to address their emotions related to bereavement and coping.—Carol Chevalier

Requests for **respite admissions at Roger's House** continue to increase as does the demand for other higher priority admissions. It has become increasingly difficult to fulfill each request for respite. We're making every effort to meet requests as best we can while acknowledging that some children and families have more acute medical needs than others at certain times. We appreciate your understanding & look forward to continued collaboration in your child's care. Please contact our Admissions Coordinator, Nancy Graham, to make future bookings. She can be reached at 613-523-6300 X 619.



The fun at Roger's House never stops!

"Over the past couple of weeks the children have been taking

adventures through all sorts of different movies themes. It all started when we got lost with all the animals in the Jungle Book and we got pulled into the movie we couldn't get out! To get back home we had to complete different challenges in all sorts of different movies. We became wild animals, conquered evil as super heroes, found all the Horcrux's for Harry Potter, helped Alice find her way, dined with princesses, and explored under the sea. We finally made it home and are now ready for our next adventure! Look forward to new adventures in the next couple of weeks with the three little pigs, pirates, detectives, monsters, and lions and tigers and bears OH MY!!" - Kathryn Brooks



Joann Zimmerling (PSW) won The Jewel 98.5 Coffee Party for Roger's House

Volunteer Corner



Roger's House volunteers are a dedicated Care Team. We are very fortunate to have a wonderful array of individuals with various skills and talents to help Roger's House offer our services to children, youth and families.

I wanted to share with you some interesting statistics.

- ⇒ Number of active volunteers effective March 1 2014: 300
- ⇒ Age ranges of our volunteers: The 21 to 30 year olds represent 27.7 % of our volunteer team. The 51-60 year olds represent 11.7 % of our volunteer team
- ⇒ 84.7 % are female.
- ⇒ Volunteers range in age from 12 to 87 years old.
- ⇒ Thus far Volunteers have contributed 16,829 hours Between April 1 2013 to March 1 2014.

On behalf of the children, youth, families and staff, I would like to thank all the volunteers for their gift of time and support of Roger's House.



Roger's House Founding Sponsors



Roger's House recognizes and is grateful for our volunteer care team. In honour of volunteers, we will be celebrating National Volunteer Week April 6 – 12. This year's theme is *Volunteer Work Speaks Volumes*.



Roger's House Clothing Available!!

This Spring you will have the opportunity to purchase clothing with the Roger's House logo! Samples of the clothing will be available to try on and purchase the week of May 5th at the House. Items available for purchase are:

- Polo ▪ Fleece jacket ▪ Fleece vest ▪ T-Shirt ▪ Long sleeve t-shirt ▪ Hoodie ▪ Cap



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