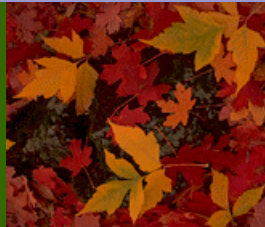


The PROTOCOL



The PROTOCOL is a Childcan quarterly newsletter for families, friends and community members and partners.
Creator: Carole Varin
Editor: Maryla Gallagher

THE POLAR BEAR DIP Fundraiser is just around the corner. Please see page 4 for more information on this very exciting and fun event...



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Receive your newsletter via email! See page 8 for more information...



You're Invited to Childcan's Annual Christmas Party!!!

*It's that time of year again! Childcan is gearing up to host their Annual Children's Christmas Party (ages 0-16)! Please R.S.V.P by November 12th at the latest (siblings are welcomed) with the number of children attending and their ages to **one** of the following locations:*

London and Surrounding Area Families:

Date: Saturday, December 3rd, 2005 from 1:00-5:00 PM

Location: The CAW Local 1520 Hall, 6688 Tempo Road, Lambeth, ON

Food Theme: "Snack Pot Luck" - Please bring a snack type food with you to share with everyone, preferably in disposable containers

Contact: info@childcan.on.ca (preferable) or 519-685-3500 and R.S.V.P by November 12th!

Windsor and Surrounding Area Families :

Date: Saturday, November 26th, 2005 from 1:00-4:00PM

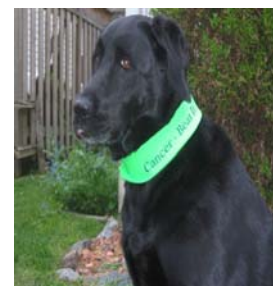
Location: Colasanti, 1550 Road Three East, Ruthven, ON

Food Theme: "Pizza Party" - Pizza and beverages will be supplied

Contact: Yolanda Tramataro at 519-969-3523 and R.S.V.P by November 12th!

AND YES....SANTA WILL BE ATTENDING THE FESTIVITIES!

Purchase your bandanas today and help support Childcan. Additional to Gold Ribbon Pins, Childcan will be selling "Cancer-Beat It" bandanas which come in **five different vibrant** and **popular colors!** See page 5 for further details on how to order your bandanas today!



So, Why Volunteer???

People volunteer for various reasons. Sometimes volunteering is an outlet for your natural talents, a road-test for your new career or simply a handy way to network. Volunteering is also an opportunity to develop new skills, expand your horizons and most importantly **to help others**. Throughout my career, I have met many volunteers in various capacities. Volunteers remind me that commitment, compassion and love for our fellow people still exists in this world. They truly are the backbone of all charitable organizations which is why Childcan needs your help.

If you are already a volunteer, I applaud you. If you are not currently a volunteer, I encourage you to devote time to giving back to your community. Even if you do not have a lot of time, there are many ways to volunteer and reinforce the community spirit that will help us build a bright and strong future. Volunteers are a vital part of all communities and I would like to encourage everyone to be a part of that. It's not only an important learning experience, but a special way to lend a helping hand and more importantly ... your heart!!!

Please call Childcan today and have your name and contact information added to the new "Childcan Volunteer Directory". It would also be helpful to let us know what your interests are as far as volunteering goes i.e.: public speaking, fundraising, cooking, organizing events etc... Together, we can make a difference and help children battling cancer and their families.

Have a healthy and fun-filled Fall,

Carole Varin
Executive Director

Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It's what you do for others. - *Danny Thomas*



Maryla's Book Corner

It's the beginning of the school year for Chester the Raccoon and he doesn't want to go to school. He wants to stay home with his mother and play with his toys.

Mrs. Raccoon understands his anxieties but explains that even though going somewhere new can be strange and scary, it will get easier as he makes new friends and learns new things.

Listening to his mother helps, but it is the secret she explains has been passed through her family, that helps Chester find the courage to separate from his mother and enter a world of discovery and challenge. She unfolds his hand and plants a kiss right in the middle of his palm. The kiss spreads through Chester with a warm rush of love. This kissing hand will give Chester a little love from home whenever he feels lonely or scared. My favourite part is just before Chester leaves school; he takes his mother's hand, unfolds her fingers and kisses the centre of *her* palm.

The message is simple, "You are loved."

Childcan has purchased three copies of this classic book by Audrey Penn for our families to enjoy while in the hospital. Look for it in the Child and Family Resource Centre or with your Childlife Specialist.

Maryla Gallagher, President

Family Urges Community to Join Bone Marrow

Our sweet little girl, Katie, earned her angel wings this summer after battling Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) for 18 months. She was only three years old. Katie's life may have been spared had we been able to get her a bone marrow transplant. Sadly, we were not able to find a suitable bone marrow donor for her and she eventually ran out of time.

Katie was a very special person. She had beautiful brown eyes and a sweet little voice. She was a true "girl" and loved all things coloured pink. She was extremely intelligent as evident by her broad vocabulary as well as her ability to load up and play games on the computer all by herself. She was also a very sensitive and caring person. My wife Joanne and I used to marvel at how she would react when our tears would start flowing after some bad news about her health. She would climb into our arms and say "Don't be sad. It's OK", then proceed to sing a song to console us.

Prior to being diagnosed with cancer, Katie absolutely loved attending ABC Daycare in Windsor where we live. She would come home every day excited to show us the beautiful crafts she had made and to tell us about all the fun games she had played. One day, when we picked her up at the daycare, the teachers told us that she hadn't been herself that day and didn't seem to feel very well. That night, as we put her pajamas on before bed, we noticed that her face looked strange. The left side of her face had dropped, almost as if she had a stroke. Concerned, we took her to the emergency room. The doctors felt it was just Bell's Palsy, temporary paralysis of one side of the face. They told us not to be concerned but they wanted to keep her overnight to keep an eye on her. In the morning, the doctor came in to tell us that there was concern with the results of her blood test. The next four words he spoke caused our world to come crashing down, "It looks like Leukemia". She was immediately admitted to the Children's Hospital in London.

After ten months of chemotherapy, Katie finished treatment having achieved remission. We prayed the cancer would stay away for good. Unfortunately, just a couple months later the cancer came back with a vengeance and she had to resume treatment. The doctors told us that her only hope for survival was a bone marrow transplant. A computer search was made of the world bone marrow registries to try and find someone with the same human leukocyte antigen (HLA) type as Katie. You would not imagine the horror we felt when the doctor told us that the search had been completed but that there were no matches found. It was devastating to know that she would not be able to get the life saving treatment she needed because the right person just wasn't in the registry of bone marrow donors.

The months that followed went by very quickly. We did everything we could to spread the word and get people to join the bone marrow registry. They continued to search for a donor but eventually it was too late.

Since Katie's passing, we have spent much time reflecting on what happened to her. We don't want this to happen to another family. We have started a charitable organization called the Katelyn Bedard Bone Marrow Association whose purpose is to promote the bone marrow registry and to bring attention to the pressing need for bone marrow donors.

Worldwide, there are only about 10 million people currently registered to donate bone marrow. Although this sounds like a lot, with a world population in the billions there needs to be many more people on the list. It seems that in general, there is a lack of awareness and a lack of education about bone marrow donation. We hope to change this through a variety of initiatives such as public speaking, presentations to students, advertising on TV & radio etc.

Joining the registry is easy. In Canada, the bone marrow registry is administered by Canadian Blood Services. Adults aged 17-50 are eligible. All they need is a blood test to add you to the computer database. If you are ever called to donate, you will find that donating marrow is really a simple procedure too. There are no lasting effects from donating marrow as it completely replenishes itself. Considering you would be saving someone's life, it really is a small sacrifice.

To join the registry, contact Canadian Blood Services at 1 888 2 DONATE or visit www.bloodservices.ca for more info on donating bone marrow and visit our web site at www.givemarrow.net.



Bryan Bedard – Windsor, Ontario

Up – Coming Events...Mark Your Calendars!!!

POGO Conference

The Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO) will be hosting their Annual Multi-Disciplinary Symposium on Childhood Cancer.

“Supportive Care in Pediatric Oncology - Beyond Cancer Treatment” will be held on Friday November 18 and Saturday November 19, 2005 at the Hilton Toronto.

A Childcan Representative will be in attendance. Please feel free to contact Childcan for up-dates or questions on the Symposium.

POGO: 416-592-1232- www.pogo.ca

Childcan Christmas Parties!

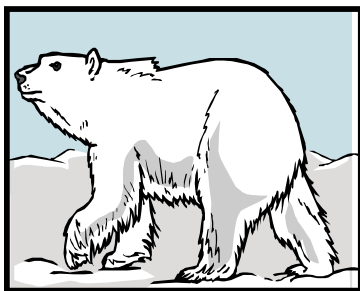
In order to make these events successful, we require many volunteers!

Please contact Yolanda Tramataro at 519-969-3523 if you're able to volunteer for the Windsor and Area Party. Please contact Carole Varin at info@childcan.on.ca or 519-685-3500 if you're able to volunteer for the London and Area party. We will need help with setting up, helping with the craft tables (London) and definitely with cleaning up! Your help is much appreciated and will go a long way in making this day a success! Please contact us TODAY to volunteer!!! Many Thanks!

New Year's Eve Dinner

On Saturday, December 31st, Childcan will be hosting a New Year's Eve Dinner at the Children's Hospital for all children and families who are not able to be with their families and friends for the holidays due to being admitted in hospital for cancer treatments and we need your help!

We are looking for volunteers to help organize this event which would include preparing a dish and/or setting up, serving the meal and clean-up afterwards. Please contact Childcan if you're able to help by December 19, 2005. Many thanks!



The 6th Annual Polar Bear Dip

Hosted by Childcan and The Youth Family Resource Network

Date: Saturday, January 21, 2006

Location: Lakeside Park and Pavilion, Kingsville, ON

It is time again and we are so excited!!! **Childcan and The Youth and Family Resource Network of Essex County** are preparing for the 6th Annual Polar Bear Dip and Dinner. This fun-filled, action packed event will take place at Lakeside Park, 315 Queen St. Kingsville.

Every year this event has grown and proven to not only raise substantial funds for two great causes but also provides enjoyment with fun competition for the community. It will be an opportunity for everyone to get involved and make a difference.

Would you like to participate in this spectacular event? Please call Meghan Fulmer at 519-733-8983 ext 22 or email her at mfulmer@resourcenetwork.ca and she will be happy to sign you up and answer your questions!

Please forward your child's artwork, stories, quotes, poems, photographs, news and upcoming events to info@childcan.on.ca for the next PROTOCOL. We would love to hear from you!!!...and don't forget your "Happy Face" news too!

“Cancer-Beat It” Bandana Sales



On August 14, 2005, Cami Automotive held their annual Family Picnic. At the event, “Cancer-Beat It” Bandanas were sold in support of Childcan.

The Cami Charitable Donations Committee Members have sold more than \$2000.00 worth to date. Childcan will continue to sell these bandanas (see www.childcan.on.ca). They are available in 5 different bright colors including pink, yellow, blue, orange and green at a cost of \$5.00 each plus shipping and handling. Many thanks to Cami Automotive for your fundraising efforts!



Caring Bridge

Here are a few new web pages currently up and running. Don't forget to leave these fabulous children and their families a special message!

- www.caringbridge.org/visit/shelbygagne
- www.caringbridge.org/canada/stephanie
- www.caringbridge.org/visit/justinawarren

Visit www.caringbridge.org to get your very own web page started and contact Childcan with the link once you've completed it. We will post it in the next newsletter at your request.

Happy Face News :)

In November 2005, **Naomi Hoffman** will be 18 years post BMT for AML, and one year post diagnosis of Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma.

Just a quick note to let everyone know that the Smith family is going to Disney World via the Make a Wish Foundation. **Emilie's** wish was to take her family on a vacation to Disney World and that is exactly what we are doing from, October 26 to November 2, 2005. Our entire family is looking forward to trick or treating with all of the Disney characters for a special Halloween party. We will have lots of photos to share when we get back. **The Smith family.**

Adam Wade is 18 now and still in remission from ALL. He has been doing great and still in remission. Adam is living on his own in Hanover, ON and has finished high school. He is looking at furthering his education in auto mechanics and a welding apprenticeship.



Sugar Cookie Soap Set
\$10.00 set

A FUNDRAISING GIFT EVERYONE CAN APPRECIATE

Avon “Scents of the Season” Soap Set

Have you started your Christmas list yet? You’ll definitely want to add this lovely soap set to it for your friends and family! It’s ready to give and they will love it!

- Big 56 g (2 oz) elegant soap BARS
- Scented with a sugar cookie fragrance (and Maureen assures me that they smell wonderful)
- Comes in a pearlized gift box in tones of beige, gold and silver and includes an organza ribbon

To place your order, please call Maureen Smith at 519-336-1354 or email her at msmith1548@cogeco.ca

All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to **Childcan**. A very special thank you to Maureen from Childcan.

Once orders have been received, it takes approximately 1-2 weeks for product delivery. Sales of product “out right” can also be arranged. The cost is \$10.00 per set plus shipping and handling if required. Don’t wait...contact Maureen TODAY and place your order. You will be helping the children and families of Childcan!

COFFEE TIME



Wednesday Mornings From 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Please join oncology families for a coffee, fresh fruits and veggies in the Quiet Room on level 7, Tower 1 Between North and West.

This gives parents (and families) an opportunity to put their feet up, take a break and enjoy a treat over friendly conversation with other families.

We Remember Robert Mackenzie Fisher

Mackenzie lost his 20 month battle with leukemia on September 8, 2005 at his residence. His inner strength and determination were an inspiration to all. Never complaining, never asking why, always concerned about his family and friends, Mackenzie was a truly remarkable young man. His kindness, thoughtfulness and willingness to help anyone at any time touched many and will always be remembered.

Mackenzie was an avid reader of all things historical and his passions were his family, friends, playing hockey and playing cards. He was very grateful for the wonderful care and support from the devoted doctors, nurses and friends at London Health Sciences Oncology 7th Floor.

The family requests that you become regular blood donors of the Gift of Life as a tribute to Mackenzie.

Annual General Meeting Up Date...

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on Wednesday, September 28, 2005 was a great success. With approximately 100 people in attendance, it was very evident that Childcan is a well respected and much needed and wanted resource for children battling cancer and their families. At the meeting many fundraisers/events were recognized for their contributions and dedication to Childcan. The list included:

<i>"In Memory of Leah's Wish" Fundraiser</i>	<i>Paula's Restaurant Day</i>
<i>Valentines Day Dance Fundraiser</i>	<i>Wheatley Optimist Hockey Tournament</i>
<i>Annual Presstran Hockey Tournament</i>	<i>'Teachers Have Heart' Fundraiser</i>
<i>Annual Cory Bowden Memorial Golf Tournament</i>	<i>Bell Canada Employee Giving Program</i>
<i>Cami Automotive</i>	<i>"A Day to Remember" Golf Tournaments</i>
<i>"Friends Charity" Golf Tournament</i>	<i>The Annual Polar Bear Dip</i>
<i>Mc Happy Day; McDonald's and Shannon Olsen</i>	<i>Schulich School of Medicine Class of 2008</i>
<i>The Annual Polar Bear Dip</i>	

A very special thank you was also extended to:

<i>The Nursing and Extended Staff of 7-West</i>	<i>The Nursing and Extended Staff of PMDU</i>
<i>Donna Steinhoff</i>	<i>Family Shows Canada</i>
<i>Parkwood Hospital Cafeteria Staff Donation</i>	<i>Wheatley Annual Pig Roast</i>
<i>Leamington Car Wash and BBQ</i>	<i>First Baptist Church Fundraiser</i>
<i>Western IT Group (our website developer and host server)</i>	<i>Emco Corporation Employee Fund</i>
<i>United Way Employee Payroll Deduction Program</i>	<i>London Life Employees Charity Trust Program</i>

And also to The Port Stanley 55+ Club and Centennial Sports Club who help tremendously with the Annual Cory Bowden Memorial Golf Tournament and to other various fundraisers and donations received throughout the year including "Head Shaving Events", Gold Ribbon Pins sales, private donations and many more. A heart-felt thank you to Forest of Flowers for donating beautiful "Daisies and Gold Ribbon" centre pieces for every table. Cheers to a great AGM and many thanks to those who were a part of this great and memorable evening.

Drum Roll Please....

And the winner of the "Come Sail With Me" Quilt Raffle is...

Mrs. Jean Steinfeld of Desboro, ON

Again, a very special thank you to Donna Steinhoff who generously donated this full size quilt to Childcan. Your generosity and commitment to Childcan is wonderful and greatly appreciated!

Gold Ribbon Pins Are Still For Sale...

Please contact 519-685-3500 or info@childcan.on.ca to order your Gold Ribbon Pins today at a cost of \$5.00 each (delivery not included). Thank you for your on-going support. Visit www.childcan.on.ca for further information.



5.00 dollars



Please contact Childcan if your contact information has recently changed. We want to keep you up to speed with our upcoming events and news.

If you're no longer interested in receiving this newsletter, please contact Childcan to be taken off the mailing list.

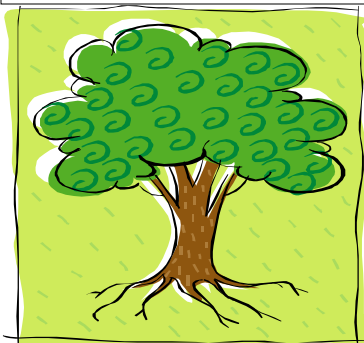
Don't forget to check out our brand new website @ www.childcan.on.ca

A Glance At Our Up-Coming Issue...

- Jerry Hettinga Scholarship
- Easter Dinner at the Hospital
- Up Coming Fundraising Events
- And Much More...

Childcan welcomes Jill Johnston as our newest member of the Board of Directors, in the role of Volunteer Resources Chair.

Jill comes to us with a wealth of knowledge in the area of Volunteer Resources and Co-ordination, as well as a strong interest in helping and supporting Childcan's goals and mission. We are very excited about Jill joining our team! *Welcome aboard Jill!*



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Camp Trillium Liaison

camptrillium@hotmail.com

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