gilda gram

SUMMER 2017

HOPE: TAKING ON CANCER THIS SUMMER ONE BRICK AT A TIME

Hope. It is a word that conjures up a variety of emotions and thoughts for many. When faced with a cancer diagnosis, often people are encouraged to have hope, to be positive, to "fight" or "battle". We know from our experience that there is great power in language. It is why we are so intentional in our use of language as an organization and throughout our program of support. Those who participate in our program for example are referred to as members rather than patients, caregivers or clients. You are a member of a cancer support community and therefore you are not alone in your journey.

Language is equally intentional when it comes to our generous donors and supporters. We consider you to truly be our partners in ensuring no one faces cancer alone. We cannot do what we do, cannot continue to keep our Red Door open without you. While our program of support is provided free of charge, reflecting the long-established financial impact of a cancer diagnosis, it is NOT FREE and comes with significant costs to run and operate. Year over year we experience an increase in the demands for support which becomes increasingly challenging particularly with our receiving no ongoing government funding. Your partnership brings hope that we will be able to continue to not only meet our annual operating budget, but more importantly build sustainability for strategic and long-term planning. The summer months are particularly busy and provide many opportunities to be working alongside our countless partners and friends, many of whom are highlighted within.

We kicked off our summer at Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka a little bit earlier this year with our 10th Annual Lakeside Party on Sunday, May 28th. Our most successful in all of the ten years of hosting this event, guests joined us for a beautiful and delicious afternoon on a stunning lakefront property complete with a private performance by our longstanding friend and supporter, Jim Cuddy. It was a magical day and brought hope for the continuation of cancer support in our community as over 250 guests declared, "Yes! I am a partner and friend of Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka. No one will face cancer alone in my community."

Just a few weeks later, on Thursday, June 15th we cut the ribbon on our Gilda's Courtyard of Hope. It was a lovely evening where close to 200 of our members, volunteers and partners joined us for a poignant and moving evening of community, a delicious BBQ and an opportunity once again to embrace the idea of hope. Hope at Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka means that we are not only about living with cancer in our lives, but more importantly and most intentionally, living well with cancer and living well beyond cancer. It is a hope that does not shy away from the rollercoaster of emotions often experienced, which creates a space for those moments of despair as much as it welcomes laughter and friendship. Taking on cancer one brick at a time, our Gilda's Courtyard of Hope represents a vital ongoing revenue stream, part of funding our ability to keep our Red Door open. It is but one of many opportunities to partner with us in continuing to be able to offer a space to all in our larger community who are seeking critical social and emotional support, the hope and promise of not being alone in their journey with cancer.

Cancer does not take summer holidays. Cancer support continues this summer, hope continues as we join as a collective community and as an intentional cancer support community in our commitment to ensuring that no one faces cancer alone.

Wishing you a summer full of special memories and sunshine ... don't forget to be sun safe!

Yours in cancer support,

Kristen Dawson **CEO & Program Director**









Cancer Support for the Whole Family, the Whole Time. So That No One Faces Cancer Alone. TM



WHAT'S HAPPENING



Take the Centurion Blue Mountain Cycling Challenge!



Join The Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka Cycling Team

When you ride for Gilda's Club, you are raising funds for a free program that connects people with the emotional support they need throughout their cancer journey.



September 15-17, 2017



For more information on these events, please visit gildasclubsimcoemuskoka.org or contact the Clubhouse at 705-726-5199.

BEYOND THE RED DOOR SOCIETY

The Beyond the Red Door Society is made up of an outstanding group of donors who have made a long term financial commitment to Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka. Their support will help us to ensure that no one faces cancer alone, both now and in the future!

Our sincere thanks to the members of the Beyond the Red Door Society:

David Avard & Lesa Bowen B & I Truck Parts Inc. Ken & Nancy Bailey Rob and Margot Ballagh Barrie Nissan Busch Systems George & Deborah Cameron Christine Charlebois Lance & Anne Chilton Sharon & Harold Cook Ian Cook & Carol Phillips David & Mary Crook Laurie Crosson Don & Jean Currie D.V. Bell Foundation Michael Dove Dusome Insurance Group Scott Elliott Richard & Judi Fenton Greg & Natalie Ferguson Keith & Christy Fines

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Gerry & Anne Pilon

Mary Poeta

Do What you Love and Raise Funds for GILDA'S CLUB

Do you have a passion for making a difference and having fun while doing it? Whether you are planning a bake sale, dress down day at the office, golf tournament, concert or garage sale, almost anything you can think of can be a fundraiser in support of Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka. Planning a DIY Fundraiser to benefit Gilda's Club can be a fun and rewarding experience for you, your family, colleagues and friends! For more information on how you can get started on your DIY Fundraiser, please contact Anne Naumyk at 705-726-5199 x 228 or anne@gildasclubsimcoemuskoka.org.





Thanks to our recent DIY Events! SportsClips MVP Fundraiser * Donaleigh's Golf Tournament* Barrie-Simcoe Insurance Brokers Association Golf Tournament* Barrie

Association Golf Tounrament, Barri Watefront Half Marathon* Gilda's Comedy Beachfest* Erin's Cafe Challenge for Gilda's Club* Barrie Thunder Classics in the Park

Gilda's Givers: A Monthly Giving Club

At Gilda's Club, our goal is to change the cancer experience for anyone whose life has been touched by cancer. By joining our Gilda's Givers Monthly Giving Club, you are helping to ensure no man, woman, child or teen has to face cancer alone in your community.

A regular donation can make a lasting difference over time. From educational lectures and interactive workshops, to intimate support groups and lively social activities, your gift allows us to continue to provide our innovative program of cancer support free of charge for all those who have been impacted with cancer in our community.

How much can you donate each month? Any amount you want! \$10, \$20, \$50 or \$100, and anywhere in-between or more! Every dollar counts!

Become a Gilda's Giver today! Visit www.gildasclubsimocemuskoka.org to join, or call Anne Naumyk at 705-726-5199 to learn more!



VOLUNTEERS DO IT BEST!

Volunteering at Gilda's Club looks different for everyone! Here are some of our amazing volunteers supporting Gilda's Club in their own way!



Ross greeting all who enter through the Red Door!

Judy & Lisa facilitating a healthy cooking workshop in the kitchen!





Staff from
Busch Systems coming
in to help tidy up
around the Clubhouse!





Dawn leading our weekly sewing and quilting group!

James setting up for a family Noogiefest activity in the Clubhouse!

Gilda's Club "Courtyard of Hope" Brick Campaign

On Thursday, June 15th,we unveiled Phase I of the "Gilda's Courtyard of Hope" with a ribbon cutting ceremony at our annual Kick Off to Summer BBQ. Gilda's Club Members, volunteers, supporters and friends gathered in our centre courtyard, and had the first opportunity to see and read all of the personalized bricks. We want to say a special thanks to Jeff White Property Maintenance for graciously offering their time and resources to install the beautiful bricks.

Bricks are available for purchase for Phase II, and will be installed in the Fall of 2017. If you would like to purchase a brick in honour or in memory of someone, or would like to recognize a person, family or business, please contact the Clubhouse at 705-726-5199.









CONTACT US





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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.GILDASCLUBSIMCOEMUSKOKA.ORG

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