

February 2020

## *The preservation of passion*

The glow of Valentine's Day seems appropriate to recognize the love and passion for Gilda's Club that I have experienced since starting as your new Executive Director. I can say with sincerity and conviction: the staff of Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka is dedicated to preserving the passion.

Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka Clubhouse has seen a lot of changes in recent months. The scenery is like a blanket of snow, where a little flake of change here and another flake there have seemingly covered what we once knew. But like a blanket of snow, there is a pristine presence where we envision the magic of the coming Spring, and with our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the horizon an exciting future waits to bloom and grow.

We have much to celebrate.

And there is even more to anticipate.

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be built on the many successes that our members, our volunteers, and our donors have generously given to us over the last decade. I look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks and months, answering your questions, discovering your connection, and preserving the passion that I have inherited from the rich history of Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka.

Aaron Lutes  
Executive Director at Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka

*Save the date  
for our*

**OPEN  
HOUSE!**



**TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020  
4:30 - 6:30PM**

*FEATURING:*

- **MEET THE STAFF**
- **LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**
- **ACTIVITIES**
- **TOUR OUR NEWLY RENOVATED NOOGIELAND AND HUB ROOMS**
- **AND MORE!**

**ALL ARE WELCOME. NO RSVP REQUIRED!**

# From the Board of Directors

## Welcome to Gilda's Club!

We are thrilled to welcome to our staff Aaron Lutes, our new Executive Director. This year we celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of welcoming our community through the red door.

At Gilda's Club, members are able to find what they are looking for when they come here. Programs, support groups, workshops, lectures or just a cup of coffee or tea. Members come together in their journey and draw strength from other members sharing similar life experiences.

We wouldn't be here, 10 years later, without our many supporters.

## Our members. Our volunteers. Our donors.

All have had such a huge part in the 10 years of supporting our cancer community. I know I can speak on behalf of our entire board and amazing staff and say that we are proud to be inclusive and engaged with our members, ensuring that anyone living with a cancer diagnosis gain the knowledge and support that they need, because we all know that cancer is more than chemo. Everything at Gilda's is provided FREE to our members, their family, friends and caregivers.

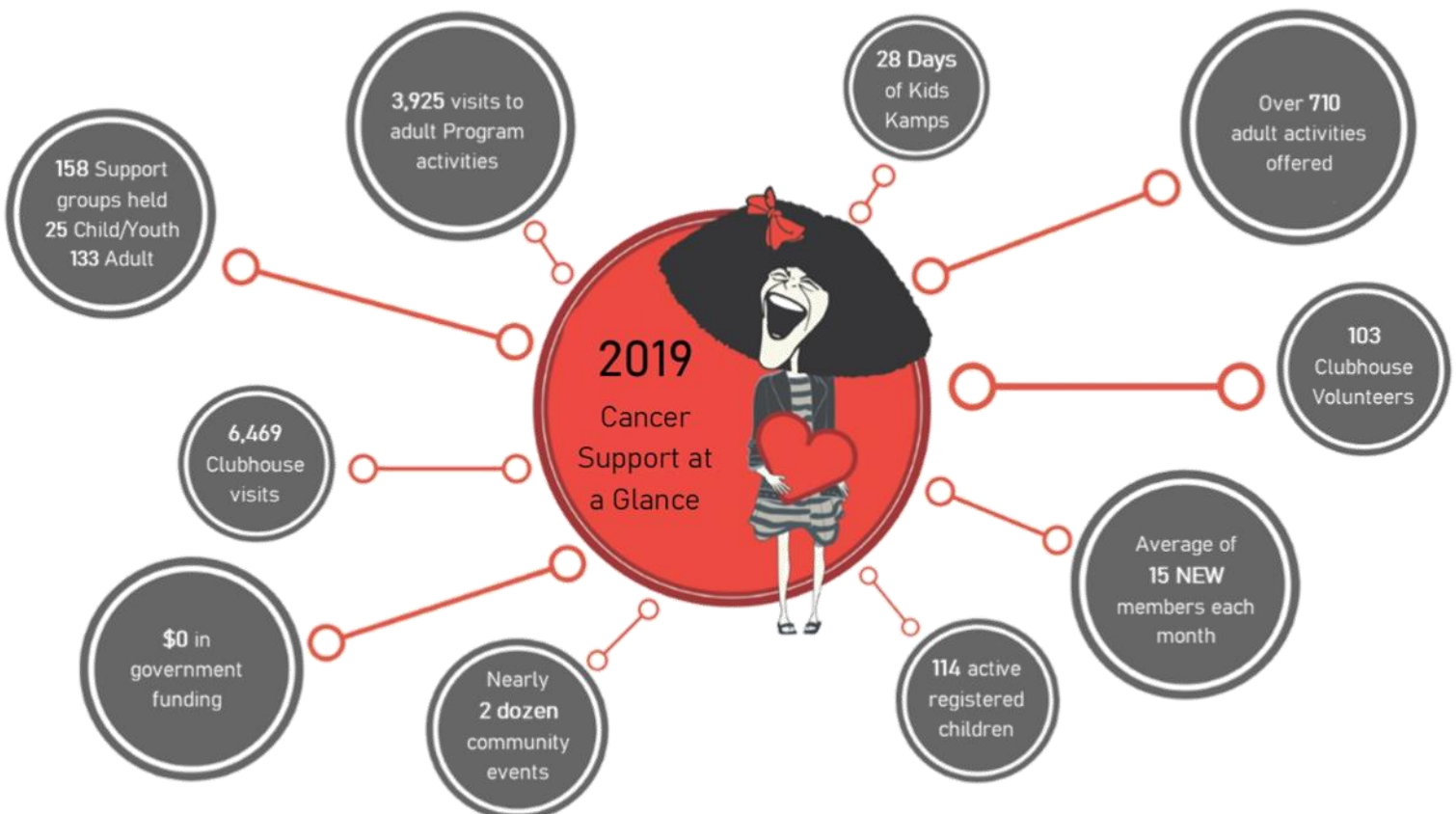
We look forward to celebrating Gilda's Club Cancer Support Community with YOU as we continue to serve those who come to us in need.

Should you or a family member or friend need our support please call us at 705-726-5199

Barbara White, Board Chair

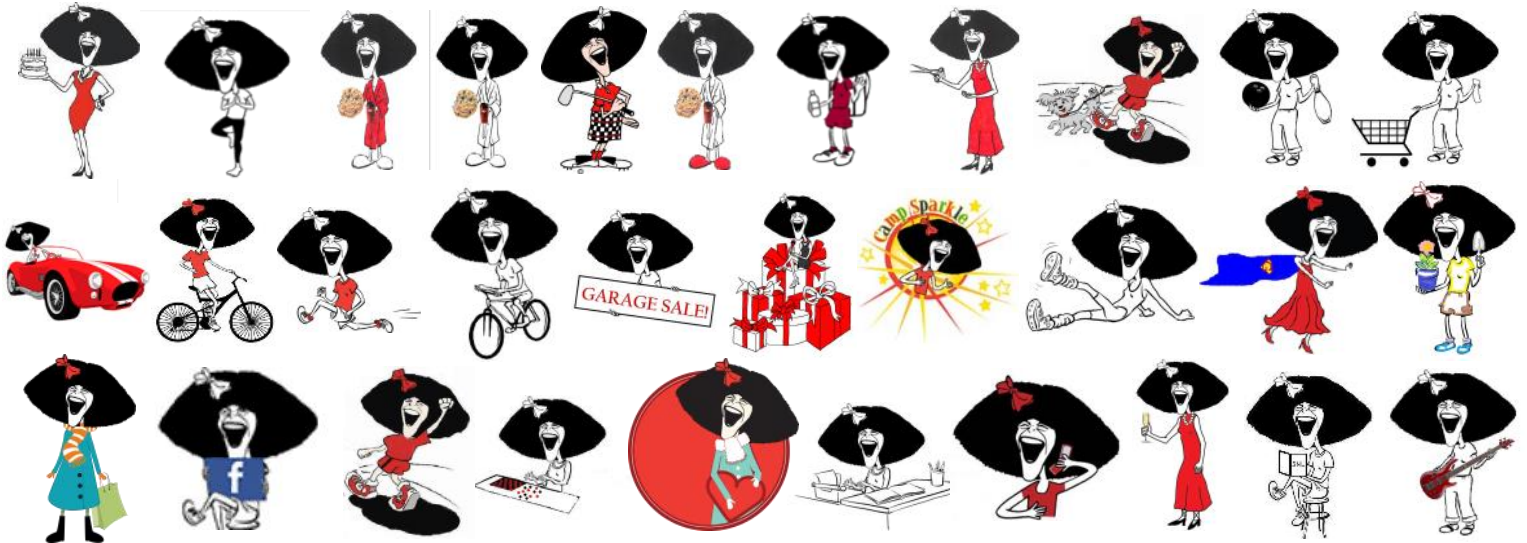
## 2019 at a Glance

When you give to Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka, you can rest assured you're supporting an organization that's committed to using as much of your gift as possible to furthering our mission: To ensure all people impacted by cancer are **empowered** by knowledge, **strengthened** by action, and **sustained** by community.





## Flashback Moment



Gilda has taken many shapes and forms over 10 years here in Barrie - a testament to the rich history that resides in our name. We encourage you to share some of your memories of Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka with us at the Open House on Tuesday March 3<sup>rd</sup> for future GildaGrams! Help us share Gilda's story, and some of the great memories that make our Clubhouse a sanctuary for all of our members!

## Program News

### "How Do I Support the Kids?"

Join Jocelyn Leworthy, Certified Child Life Specialist, as she shares helpful strategies for supporting children when there is a cancer diagnosis in the family.

Free on-site childminding is provided for children of attendees.

Open to Members and non-Members.

Cost: FREE

Wednesday, June 25  
6:30 - 8:00pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

call 705-726-5199

or e-mail [program@gildasclubsm.org](mailto:program@gildasclubsm.org)



**Teddy Bear Clinic on March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
1 to 3 PM | Registration required

[Jocelyn@gildasclubsm.org](mailto:Jocelyn@gildasclubsm.org) | 705-726-5199 x239

The Teddy Bear Clinic is a fun, child friendly event to educate and familiarize children with medical experiences related to cancer

# Upcoming Events



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A SUNDAY AFTERNOON... AT THE LAKE

Save the date  
**2020/05/31**

Please save the date! We would be absolutely thrilled to share this special day with you.



## Ways to Give

### We Depend on Donors and Partners, Like You.

There are a variety of ways you can help bring Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka's free support program to those facing cancer throughout Central Ontario. Contact Aaron Lutes at [aaron@gildasclubsm.org](mailto:aaron@gildasclubsm.org) to learn more.

**Beyond the Red Door Society** with a gift of \$1,000 or more annually.

**Gilda's Givers** is a monthly donation program which helps sustainable support to continue planning and delivery of programs that meet our members' needs! As little as \$20 a month helps!

**Planned Giving/Bequest & Estate giving**

**Fundraise on Behalf of Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka** - organize your own event.

**Sponsor a Gilda's Club Simcoe Muskoka event.** We are hosting several events this year, including a special 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event on September 12, 2020!

**Employer Giving / Corporate Match Programs!**

**Donate Good & Services** such as printing, postage or Ad space!

*Interested in becoming a Volunteer? Contact Paulette to find out more!*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barbara White - Board Chair  
Christine Charlebois  
Eleanor Dath  
Patricia Gilbert  
Michael Gleason  
Mark Jepp  
Mike Lassaline  
Domenic Maccarone  
Paulina Molnar  
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Ruth Watson  
Kathryn Whitehead  
Jody Wood-Martin  
Natalie Ferguson - Recording Secretary



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### STAFF

Aaron Lutes, *Executive Director*  
Suzanne Ure, *Operations Manager*  
Sara Desroches, MSW, RSW,  
*Program Director*  
Paulette Light, RSSW, *Volunteer & Community Outreach Coordinator*  
Cybele Gorrissen, *Events & Fundraising Coordinator*  
Erin King (Browning), BSW, RSW,  
*Program Coordinator*  
Jocelyn Leworthy, MSc, CCLS,  
*Child, Youth & Family Coordinator*  
Shannon Edwards, BSW, RSW  
(MSW qualifying) *Student Intern*  
Stephanie Jug,  
*Advertising & Marketing Intern*