

**38 years  
of Service**

**1979-2017**



**NEWSLETTER  
SEPTEMBER 2017**

Issue #80

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Charitable Registration #  
10691/3775/RR/0001

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

VIP NIOXIN Night with Tappa  
Hair Salon & Beauty Bar –  
October 19, 2017

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Celebrity-Carved  
Pumpkin Fundraiser –  
October 26-29, 2017

MacMillan's Frozen Food  
Fundraiser - Orders due by  
November 6, 2017

Annual Autism Brunch –  
November 12, 2017

Pub Night with Good2Go –  
December 1, 2017

Capital Chordettes Christmas  
Market & Concert  
Saturday, December 2, 2017

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*Mark Lalonde, Board President*

Welcome to Summer! I guess they say - better late than never!! After a ho-hum actual Summer, we are finally getting a nice stretch of warm summer-like weather as we head into October. As we enjoy the sunshine, Children at Risk has been busy scheduling our even-more popular **Saturday Fun Club** for the Fall session. We plan to have 5 sessions spread over Saturday mornings from September to December beginning September 30<sup>th</sup>. We expect all the sessions to fill up quickly, so it's best to book your sessions early.

Our Summer Day Camp, **Camp Kaleidoscope**, wrapped up its 7<sup>th</sup> successful year. We provided camp spots for a record number of children and the feedback from both the children and their parents was very positive. We will continue to have our signature Celebrity-Carved Pumpkin Fundraiser from October 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>. This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> year that we have been sacrificing pumpkins for the benefit of Children at Risk and Autism! Once again, we will be operating in four malls across the city. We can always use more volunteers to assist with this event. Please go to our website and contact a Mall Manager if you are able to assist.

The Golf season was good for us this year. I want to thank **Kirk Kennedy from TD Bank, Dumouchel Meat & Deli, as well as St. Louis Bar and Grill** for organizing 3 separate Charity Golf Tournaments to raise funds for Children at Risk. I also wanted to thank **Michel Lalonde** and his Crew that make up The Difference Makers-**Les Faiseurs de Différence** for several events they held in support of our charity – Bowling, Darts and Golf. We would not be able to offer all our services without this great community support. I also want to thank all the Volunteers that helped at Camp and with the other events we have participated in. Let's hope this summer weather holds on a little longer and I wish the best to all of you for a fulfilling Fall as we close in on the last months of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Year!

**2017/2018 Board of Directors**

President – Mark Lalonde  
Treasurer – Melissa Van Alstine  
Secretary – Linda Kwasnick  
Director – Carrie Groulx  
Director – Walter Davidson  
Director – Marca McManus  
Director – Rob Gentles  
Director – Gavin Leishman

## WELCOME A-BOARD!

At the Children at Risk Annual General Meeting in June, we were delighted to have a long-time supporter, **Gavin Leishman**, step forward to join our Board of Directors. Gavin has over 20 years on board of Greater Nepean Chamber of Commerce, 6 as Chair, as well as 3 years on Board of Queensway Carleton Hospital Foundation and 6 years on Board of Trustees of the Nepean Museum with 5 as President. Gavin worked for 45 years in the car business as sales consultant, sales manager and owner. He was Coach/Manager of minor hockey / soccer / baseballs teams. He also owned the Nepean Raider Junior A hockey team and was GM, as well as owned the Pembroke Lumber Kings and was responsible for securing players. Gavin is a Member of Order of St George and has participated in many community fund raising events. We are excited about what ideas Gavin can bring to the table to help not only raise the profile of Children at Risk, but critically-important funds as well!

## CO-OP STUDENT

Once again Children at Risk welcomes a Student to join us for their Co-Op Placement!

“Hi, my name is **Elysa Essiambre**. I am currently attending Algonquin College in the Social Service Worker program. I am in my second year, and am interested in working with children and youth. I am from Renfrew Ontario, and recently moved to Ottawa to continue my studies. I am looking forward to this great opportunity to work with Children at Risk - I think it will be a wonderful learning experience. I am privileged to be able to work alongside such an incredible organization!”



## Volunteer Spotlight

Children at Risk met **Stephanie Pocock** and her husband Kieran Dolan when they applied for their sons Piers and Malcolm to attend Camp Kaleidoscope. Their family rounds out with their beautiful daughter Siân – a second Mommy to the boys! Stephanie has spent hundreds of hours volunteering at Camp (Kieran too!), using her incredible wardrobe/seamstress talents to repair things like our torn trampoline pads and her excellent organizational skills to head up our Annual Camp K Garage Sale! It truly has also become a “family affair” as we found that the community spirit did not fall far from the tree – with Stephanie’s mother and father, Nell & Bill Pocock, also volunteering for Camp, as well as assuming Board Positions with The King’s Daughters and Sons Autism and Meals On Wheels Circles.

Stephanie has also continued to assist with numerous Kijiji postings for items donated to Children at Risk in our on-going quest for raising Funds. I did some research into Stephanie’s name and found “You are spiritually intense. Your name brings love and new starts into life and attracts money. In business, you are the creator and promoter of original ideas.” No argument here – and many thanks for all your assistance, Stephanie – past, present – and future!!



Stephanie with her 3 lovely children

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

Brenda Reisch, Executive Director

Fall is usually full of Beginnings – beginning the School year, beginning extra-curricular Programs, beginning Placements and returning to Work, beginning the count-down to the New Year ... many things we look forward to as we return to schedules and routines.

However, THIS FALL – I am terrified of a proposed Provincial Government Bill that will increase the Minimum Wage from \$11.60 hourly to \$14 for January 1, 2018 – and another increase to \$15 for January 1, 2018.

To put it plain and simple – this 23% increase from the current minimum hourly wage of \$11.40 may facilitate an ENDING to supports provided by Children at Risk for Respite and Camp Sessions for MANY families!!

For the Supports provided by Children at Risk – our Staffing for these Programs is our greatest resource – and our greatest expense. We acknowledge the skills and expertise that all Counsellors bring to our Programs – and compensate as best we can – but this immediate and astronomical increase is a huge mountain to climb in finding Funding.

With already Challenges faced by our Charity in Fundraising and procuring Donations – we have calculated a minimum of a \$60,000 increase in Staffing Costs for Camp Kaleidoscope alone – not to mention our Saturday Fun Club Respite Sessions, March Break Camp and Social Skill Therapy Groups.

While Children at Risk remains committed to raise and solicit Funds to offset costs for Families for our Programs – this additional expense will most likely necessitate the increase in Fees – to the extent that it most likely will prohibit some Families from being able to afford the Supports!

Please – help us to contact your local MPP's to express your concerns over this Proposal!

I have provided Names and Emails below – and we suggest letting ALL of them know the effect this will have for your ASD child, your family if they cannot access these critically-important Supports with the increased costs that will result in the passing of this Bill!!

**DO NOT delay – DO IT today!!**

*write***NOW!** 

Nathalie Des Rosiers, MPP Ottawa-Vanier  
[ndesrosiers.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:ndesrosiers.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Marie-France Lalonde, MPP Ottawa-Orleans  
[mflalonde.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:mflalonde.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Yasir Naqvi, MPP Ottawa Centre  
[ynaqvi.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:ynaqvi.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

John Fraser, MPP Ottawa South  
[jfraser.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:jfraser.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Lisa MacLeod, MPP Nepean-Carleton  
[lisa.macleod@pc.ola.org](mailto:lisa.macleod@pc.ola.org)

Bob Chiarelli, MPP Ottawa West-Nepean  
[bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Jack MacLaren, MPP Carleton—Mississippi Mills  
[jack.maclarenco@pc.ola.org](mailto:jack.maclarenco@pc.ola.org)

Grant Crack, MPP Glengarry—Prescott—Russell  
[gcrack.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org](mailto:gcrack.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org)

Randy Hillier, MPP Lanark-Frontenac-  
Lennox and Addington  
[randy.hillier@pc.ola.org](mailto:randy.hillier@pc.ola.org)

## EVENTS/ACTIVITIES SINCE JUNE 2017...

### CHILDREN AT RISK AGM

At the Annual General Meeting on June 7, 2017, we had many inspirational moments! First we had personal Parent Testimonials from Asha & Anuk Jain, Anna Hwang, Gunter Hatze and Joanne Small-Greenall. It was so heart-warming to hear how Children at Risk has made an impact on their children and their families! Then we were thrilled to receive a cheque for **\$11,000** from the **Inner Wheel Ottawa Chapter** for their 2017 Fundraising for CAR and finally Anuk Jain presented one of his original pieces of artwork to the Inner Wheel Member Kandi Khare, who facilitated the connection to supporting Children at Risk this year through his mother, Asha.



## EVENTS/ACTIVITIES (Cont'd)

### 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SPRING RAFFLE

Finally – we were able to SELL OUT of the Spring Raffle Tickets this year with the inclusion of a pair of WestJet tickets as the Headliner Prize, earning \$3,000 more than last year – raising almost **\$11,000**. For a List of Winners and Ticket Numbers, see Page 36. While this was excellent news – in past years when we have received a WestJet donation, it was for our Fall Raffle – and this year we were unable to procure another signature Prize like this – so we have not been able to stage that Raffle. Many Thanks to those who bought Tickets – and special shout-outs to those who sold MANY books for Children at Risk – including Lesia Gilbert, Brenda Khoury, Melissa Gervais, Nell Pocock, 2D McLaine, Judy Starkey, Pascale Clifford, Cindy Martin and Jerrica Lam – to name a few!!

We also want to take this time to acknowledge, thank and award this September Newsletter's "Hat's Off" to **Lois MacKinnon**. For countless years, Lois has lovingly and creatively donated a beautiful, Handcrafted Quilt to Children at Risk for our Spring Raffle!! This year's Quilt was no exception – however with her other endeavors, she will no longer be able to extend this Priceless Gift again but we want to let her know how fortunate we have been to be Recipients for so many years!!



## OTTAWA AUTISM COMMUNITY ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

We had a terrific day on **Sunday, June 11, 2017** for the Ottawa Community Annual Autism Picnic at Brewer Park – it was great to see so many families turn out (despite the heat) to enjoy the book sale, play park, water play, BBQ, Circus Delights Inflatables, Fish Pond, Cookie Decorating, Bubble Play, Balloon Toss and much more - including the snow cones (courtesy of the Galazka Family).

Many, many thanks to all the Volunteers who made this possible - especially BBQ Crews who skillfully ran the BBQ - not to mention many other Volunteers who jumped in to help at all the other activity stations! Please join me in thanking our many sponsors:

- The Teed Family** for BBQ transportation
- Loblaws College Square** for some food donations
- Weston Bakeries** for the hot dog and burger buns
- Tunis Shrine Klowns**
- Parent Jia Hung** for her awesome face painting

See Picnic Pics on Page 38!

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## INFO SUBMITTED FROM PARENTS

From Heather:

FYI- The **Child Mind** e-newsletter contains a lot of worthwhile tips. Subscribe at:

<https://childmind.org/about-us/>

From Melissa:

Not sure if this is something worth mentioning in the letter, but I thought it was great. There is a new show starting this fall called "**The Good Doctor**". It centers around a doctor/surgeon who is autistic. I know I'll be tuning in to this.

**2017 CAMP FUNDERS**

With the increase in Camper Spots to 334 (**375% from 2011-2017**), Children at Risk has had to recruit many more Donors to accommodate the critical need for Camp Kaleidoscope in the community! Funding from The King's Daughters and Sons was increased with a contribution from the Ottawa Autism Circle. New supporters this year included funding from Canada Summer Jobs with assistance from **MP Mona Fortier's Office** – as well as the Inner Wheel Chapter of Ottawa and **The Difference Makers - Les Faiseurs de Différence Group**.



Michel Lalonde from The Difference Makers

Both the **Community Foundation of Ottawa** and the **Ottawa International Airport Authority Project Clear Skies** also made contributions towards Camp K this year too! Adding in Raffle Proceeds – 11 Donors raised almost **\$160,000** for Camp, plus In-Kind donations from Focus On Youth (school facilities and student workers) and Paul Rushforth (truck).



MP Mona Fortier & Assistant Graham Tour Camp



\$10 K Sens Foundation Donation



The Ottawa Inner Wheel Chapter comes to Camp!



Project Clear Skies Purchases

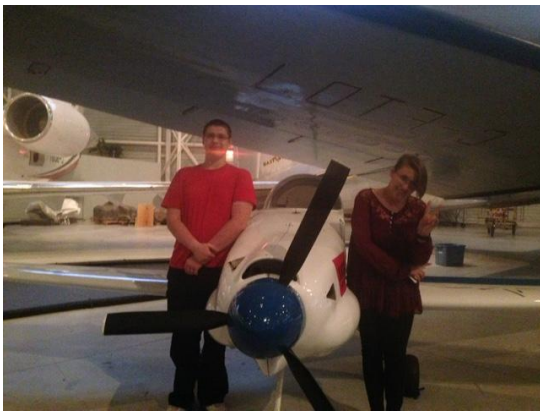


**2017 H.O.P.E. VOLLEYBALL SUMMERFEST**

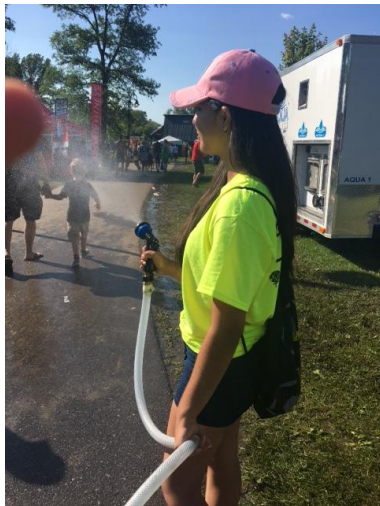


Once again – to all those who Volunteered on **July 15, 2017** - on behalf of the HUNDREDS of children who are currently attending Camp Kaleidoscope – and the hundreds that will benefit next year from the Funds raised at HOPE – **THANK-YOU!!**

It was an awesome day of Volleyball, Music and Fundraising!! I am thrilled to report that Children at Risk **TOPPED ALL THE OTHER CHARITIES IN NUMBERS OF VOLUNTEERS!!**



Volunteer Appreciation Party



Cooling Down at HOPE

This donation of your time and sweat was not only appreciated but essential for the Funding!! We were able to meet our obligation in order to secure a **Donation of \$25,000** for Camp K in 2018!



Mark and Brenda at the Stage

**GOLF CENTRAL!!**



For Many Years, we have let the Ottawa Community know that we would LOVE to be included as a Recipient Charity in Local Corporate Golf Tournaments. Well – this year we got our Wish – times four!!

On Monday, June 19, 2017 – **Kirk Kennedy of TD Canada Trust** invited Friends, Colleagues and Business Associates to meet at the Hunt Club Golf Course for a Golf Mini-Tournament that raised **\$4,750** for Children at Risk! Kirk plans to make this an Annual Event for the Autism Community – helping local Charities that serve Families in the Area!



**GOLF CENTRAL!! (Cont'd)**



Children at Risk

**GOLF CENTRAL!! (Cont'd)**

On the same day, **The Difference Makers - Les Faiseurs de Différence** wrapped up their 2017 Fundraising for Children at Risk with their Annual Golf Tournament at the Hammond Golf & Country Club – this – combined with proceeds from their Bowling and Darts Events raised over **\$13,226** for



Children at Risk!!

On Sunday, **July 16, 2017** we made the drive to beautiful Messines, Quebec to be the Recipient Charity for the **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Dumouchel Meat & Deli Charity Golf Tournament** at the Algonquin Golf Club. The community-spirited Dumouchel Family brought together Family, Employees and other Supporters to raise **\$5,529** for Children at Risk.



We wrapped up this incredible summer of Golf Tournaments with once again joining the **Capital City Condors Special Needs Hockey** to be hosted by **St. Louis Bar & Grill** on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at the Greensmere Golf Course – raising **\$2,699** for EACH Charity!



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## DONATE A CAR CANADA



Donate A Car Canada accepts vehicle donations for Children at Risk Ottawa to donate a car, truck, RV, boat,

motorcycle or other vehicle to CAR simply fill out the DONATE NOW tab at [www.donatecar.ca](http://www.donatecar.ca). Donate A Car Canada can provide you with free towing in many areas across Canada. Donate a Car Canada can pick up your car or truck, or you can drop off your vehicle to maximize your donation. When you donate your car it will either be recycled or sold at auction depending on its condition, age and location. Donate A Car Canada will look after everything to make your donation easy for you to support Children At Risk Ottawa. DONATE NOW at [www.donatecar.ca](http://www.donatecar.ca) and CAR will send you a tax receipt after your car donation is complete! Since September, Children at Risk has received **\$75** from supporters donating the proceeds of their old vehicles. Participants since November 2012, funds raised by Donate A Car have reached **\$16,107.28!** Note that you do not have to live in Ottawa to participate – it is across Canada – so encourage friends and relatives out-of-town to participate, as well!

## CANADA HELPS

Children at Risk has signed up with [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org). When you visit our Website at [www.childrenatrisk.ca](http://www.childrenatrisk.ca) just click the Donate Now button and you will be linked to the CanadaHelps.org donate page for Children at Risk. As with any service, there are some administration charges, but this allows anyone to donate on-line and even anonymously, if desired. It allows 24 hour ability to direct a donation to our charity and the electronic ease that many of us are looking for to support charitable causes! All you have to remember is our website – [childrenatrisk.ca](http://childrenatrisk.ca) and the rest is easy!!

**\$1,115** donated through Canada Helps June to August



## BOCCE TOURNAMENT



On Sunday, September 10, 2017, **Marco Petti**, with Family and Friends from Ottawa & Oratino, Italy, held their **Annual Bocce Tournament**. Funds raised were again donated to Children at Risk!

Our Office Administrator Bambina Lemme attended to experience fond memories of her relatives in Italy playing and to gratefully receive a cheque for **\$540!!**

Appreciation also to Farmers Pick who provided the Tournament prize of a prosciutto at cost!



### DONOR'S CORNER

In Memoriam for Heather Maddis,	
Hutton December & Doris Good .....	\$100.00
IBM Canada Employees'	
Charitable Fund .....	\$104.00
United Way Peel Region .....	\$208.88
Kiwanis Club of Rideau &	
Kiwanis Foundation of Canada .....	\$1,500.00
United Way Prescott-Russell, Ottawa,	
Lanark & Renfrew Counties.....	\$3728.40

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Last year we received an email from Tyler at the **Akran Marketing Company** here in Ottawa. They are a large supplier of custom branded merchandise and apparel for Corporate, Government and Business. Occasionally they have overprints or excess of Products and reached out to Children at Risk to see if they could be of value to our Charity! Of course we said “YES” and have been enjoying items from Water bottles, lunch bags, pens, pencils, T-Shirts and more that have made their way into Prize Bags, Volunteer Appreciation and even our Camp with a large supply of Navy T-Shirts that we used for our Counsellors for Swim Outings. Fun Times were had as our Counsellors & Campers “trooped” to the Pool this summer singing “In The Navy”!

We want to thank **Raman Agarwal**, President and CEO of Akran for their Community-Minded outreach in extending these Donations of many quality items to Children at Risk – helping both our Charity and the Environment by re-purposing items through our Events and Activities!



## What is On Now/Coming:

### UNITED WAY/CENTRAIDE OTTAWA CAMPAIGN INFO



United Way  
Centraide  
Ottawa

As this year's campaign kicks off, we wanted to remind everyone that charitable donations through **United Way** can be directed to a Registered charity of your choice, whether they are a United Way charity or not. We welcome the direction of your contribution to Children at Risk to support the services and programs we provide for families raising a child with Autism! This way you can contribute to a workplace campaign and support Autism, as well! Note that for on-line Donations, you must complete section: C. Other Charitable Giving Choice. Specifically, you need to list:

Name:

Children at Risk -Ottawa

Revenue Canada Charitable Registration Number:

10691/3775/RR/0001

Address:

235 Donald St., Suite 209, Ottawa, ON, K1K 1N1

As CAR does not receive direct funding from United Way, this is the only way we can be part of the United Way Campaign! The importance of these donations cannot be overstated – as our charity does not receive government funding, directed donations like this are so very needed. Our last bi-annual cheque from these directed donations was **\$3,728!** (However -down from **\$5,548.40 in 2016**). If you have any questions or require additional information, do not hesitate to contact our office! **\*Please note that when donations are received this way, the donors are not identified unless they chose to be\***. Feel free to let us know if you have contributed to our charity in this manner and accept our sincere appreciation for those who remain supportive, but anonymous!

## TAPPA HAIR SALON & BEAUTY BAR

# TAPPA

HAIR SALON

*& Beauty Bar*

On Thursday, October 19, 2017 – the **Tappa Hair Salon & Beauty Bar** in Carlingwood will host a **VIP NIOXIN Night Fundraiser for Children at Risk**. We will join Tanya and Friends (formerly Il Paradiso Spa & Strandz Hair Design from Lincoln Fields) in an evening of treats, fun, design and fundraising! Mark this on your Calendar and plan to come and share in the festivities!

### 7th ANNUAL BENEFIT BRUNCH FOR AUTISM – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Once again, **The Ottawa Autism Circle of The King's Daughters & Sons** is holding a Fundraising Brunch to benefit Children at Risk on **Sunday, November 12, 2017**. This year the Event is moving to the renowned Sala San Marco Event and Conference Centre on Preston Street and runs from 11:30 AM to 2 PM, with Brunch starting at 12 Noon.

Don't forget the Silent Auction to help you with your Holiday Shopping! Tickets are \$35 for Adults and \$20 for Children ages 5-12 (under 5 is free). Call our Office at 613-741-8255 to get your tickets or email us at [car@childrenatrisk.ca](mailto:car@childrenatrisk.ca)



## OTTAWA NEW YEAR'S EVE 2017 CHARITY BALL

Ottawa's final Canada 150 celebration of the year! Once again it's time to glide into your tuxedos and your evening gowns for a truly classy, stylish, exciting, fun filled evening with all proceeds supporting Children at Risk and Journey House. For Early Bird Discount Tickets see Ad on page 15.

On Sunday, December 31st, 2017, this amazing event will be held at the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre - 200 Coventry Road Ottawa ON.

Cocktails at 6:00 PM , Dinner at 7:00 PM

- Hosted by our dynamic MC Dylan Black of Ottawa's Boom 99.7
- Elegant Four Course Meal with wine
- Live Music with the Steve Berndt Quartet
- DJ and Dancing
- Fantastic Silent Auction items!
- Live Auction by Ottawa's Dave Smith
- \$100 in Charity Bucks for event Casino & selected prizes.
- Toast the New Year with champagne
- Complimentary parking
- Reduced rates for on-site accommodations
- Onsite childcare available for the evening
- Tuxedo rentals 40% off
- A chance to win the Grand Door Prize worth over \$10,000!



## 22nd ANNUAL CELEBRITY- CARVED PUMPKIN CONTEST – OCTOBER 26-29, 2017

We are now celebrating 22 years of sacrificing Pumpkins for Children at Risk in acknowledging October as Autism Awareness Month in Canada with our Celebrity-Carved Pumpkin Contest! This seasonal and fun event has helped not only to raise valuable funds for the Autism Community, but raise awareness about Autism and the challenges families experience raising a child with this disability.

As usual, our event will still start with our Celebrity-Reception at Merivale Mall on Thursday, October 26 10 am to Noon – join us to meet the Carvers and welcome our Celebrities! We will run an additional 3 days until Sunday, October 29 in 4 Shopping Centres (Friday to Sunday at the other 3 malls).

FOR THE 2ND YEAR - We will be encouraging cash donations by giving ballots that will be combined for all 4 Malls to draw for 3 WOW prizes. But in order to make this event a success, we need many Volunteers to come forward to man the displays. With our On-Site Silent Auction with an On-Line Auction, this fundraiser is one of the most high-profile events for Children at Risk, raising not only valuable funds but awareness and support! Many hands are needed, so please check your schedules and give a little time, even a few hours!! (note: Students can help get their high school hours with a Parent!)

(P.S. WE WILL BE CLEANING PUMPKINS ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 AT MERIVALE MALL FARM BOY IN THE AFTERNOON – CAN YOU HELP?)



With the purchase of an Auction Site from Vonality the last 4 years, our Pumpkin Auction ran almost seamlessly – so we delighted to have them on-board again for this year!

Here are the Mall Volunteer requirements:

### Merivale Mall



MERIVALE MALL

Thursday, October 26 – 9 AM (Reception at 10 AM) to 9 PM (we need extra at the Reception!)

Friday, October 27 – 9 AM to 9 PM

Saturday, October 28 – 9:30 AM to 9 PM

Sunday, October 29 – 10 AM to 6 PM

Please contact Hazel Smith at 613-863-1645

Email: [hazeljaz@rogers.com](mailto:hazeljaz@rogers.com)

### Place d'Orleans

Friday, October 27 – 9:30 AM to 9 PM

Saturday, October 28 – 9:30 AM to 7 PM

Sunday, October 29 – 11 AM to 5 PM

Please contact LeAnh Gibbs at 613-850-5713

Email: [leanhg@gmail.com](mailto:leanhg@gmail.com)

### Carlingwood Shopping Centre



Friday, October 27 – 9:30 AM to 9 PM

Saturday, October 28 – 9:30 AM to 9 PM

Sunday, October 29 – 10 AM to 6 PM

Please contact Alison Armstrong at 613-621-4742

Email: [alisona@sympatico.ca](mailto:alisona@sympatico.ca)

### Billings Bridge Shopping Centre



SHOPPING CENTRE

Friday, October 27 – 9:30 AM to 9 PM

Saturday, October 28 – 9:30 AM to 6 PM

Sunday, October 29 - 11 AM to 5 PM

Please contact Angèle Jodouin at 613-302-5943

Email: [angele.jodouin@rogers.com](mailto:angele.jodouin@rogers.com)

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Gather Prizes for the Pumpkin on-line Auction (many of our Celebrity Carvers still love to Participate – but have less to offer for the Auction Prizes)
- Staff all the Mall Displays as Volunteers



**When:** September 30, October 14, November 4 & 18, December 2, 2017  
**Duration:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Lunch & Snacks required from home  
**Cost:** \$80 each session – payable in advance to guarantee sessions.  
**Registration Deadline:** September 15, 2017

**(NOTE: if your child has attended SFC this past year or Camp Kaleidoscope summer 2017 - and there is no new information or challenges you need to share with us - you only need to complete the 1<sup>st</sup> and last pages.)**

By email to: [car@childrenatrisk.ca](mailto:car@childrenatrisk.ca)

By Fax: 613-741-5530

Since November 2012, with funding from the City of Ottawa's Community Project Funding, the Community Foundation of Ottawa and the Unity for Autism Foundation - Children at Risk has been offering Saturday Fun Club Activity/Respite Sessions on Saturdays. We are opening up Registration for Fun Club to all families. If your child has attended Camp Kaleidoscope in 2017, an intake will not be necessary. However, if your child is new to Children at Risk and/or attended Camp Kaleidoscope 2011 -2016 - we would require an intake.

Utilizing management and counsellors from Children At Risk's Camp Kaleidoscope, we used many of the activities that proved so successful at Camp. Each Fun Club session runs for 5 hours, 10 AM to 3 PM, for children and youth aged 4 to 18+ years of age. SFC will not be exactly like summer camp, but with adequate and qualified support staff, your child/youth will have five hours of fun and creativity with peers. Organized activities will include but not limited to: Mad Science, Crafts, Computer Games, Gym Circuits, can turn Saturdays into the best day of the week! As at Camp, as well, activities will align with ability - allowing older participants to influence the content to have the best experience.

Five Saturdays have been arranged for the Fall Session from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sessions cost \$125+ to offer per child, but with donations & fundraising, we can offer each session at \$80 in advance to secure the dates offered to you. No additional subsidizes are available. Current Membership of \$35 is also mandatory for insurance liability purposes.

How many Saturdays each participant can be guaranteed will depend on the demand within the three age ranges – 4 to 8, 9 to 12 and 13 to 18 years of age. These ranges aren't fixed as participants will be grouped according to their best fit. As per the Registration Form, you can ask for some or all of the dates and we will confirm what we can offer once all the Registrations have been received and we can balance out each date with a mix of younger, older and level of needs corresponding to staff available. Spots are limited with only being able to accommodate 35-40 children.

**Please complete the attached Fun Club Registration and submit to Children at Risk by September 15.**

(Note that due to the Location, Environment and availability of appropriate staff, we may not be able to accommodate some of our more challenged ASD youth that have had success at our Summer Camp.)



## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Children at Risk is delighted to continue this Support for the Autism Community!

Courtesy of initial Funding from **The Community Foundation of Ottawa**, we rolled out a Program called “Family Fun Night” – this is the name your children will know it by – BUT for you – our Parents – we are calling it “Date Night” for Mom and Dad or “Me Night” for Single-Parent Families!

Responding to our Parents (and supported by Research), Respite seems to be at the top of the list for critically-needed supports. But not just a break from your ASD child – but from ALL your children!! Go to Dinner, see a Movie, Visit friends, Shop or Attend a Party – or even just complete a Project – undistracted and uninterrupted!! No need to clean your house for a Baby-sitter – just drop off your children at our Offices – and enjoy up to 4 ½ hours of purely Adult time!

Activities include playing games in the gym, Nerf games, Wii, Kinect, making snacks, a movie for those that can sit through one. There will be Dedicated Staff for both Siblings and those with ASD. 6 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

**WHEN:** Saturday, December 9, 2017

**WHERE:** Children at Risk, 235 Donald Street, Suite 209

**WHY:** Opportunity to offer Respite for your ASD child (ages 4-18+) and Siblings (ages 3-14+). We would have Gym games, scavenger hunt style games, glow in the dark activities for the first two hours and then settled down to a movie or gaming. For those that can't watch a movie there would be more Gym activities or crafts. We will offer snacks, but do request that your children have dinner before arriving!

**HOW:** Cost is \$45 for each ASD child and \$25 for each Sibling. If your ASD child has not attended our Summer Camp or Saturday Fun Club, we will need to arrange an Intake Meeting to properly document their needs. Please complete the attached Registration and Email back or Fax. If Siblings are attending, please also complete the Sibling Form so we have info on them too! **Space is limited.** Booking and Payment will be required in advance – though we may be able to accommodate last minute Registrations depending on demand...

A current Children at Risk Membership (\$35 per annum) will also be required for Insurance Liability purposes.



## **Early Bird Sale Extended!**

Sale Price **\$159!**

**Great News! The Early Bird sale has been extended.  
Buy your tickets in September and October  
and pay only \$159 (reg. \$199) per ticket.**

Help children with autism and special needs, by supporting  
Children at Risk and Journey House!

**Also stay tuned for an exciting announcement about the  
"Night of the Year" Contest!**

For More Info & Tickets: <http://www.ottawanewyeareve.ca/>



# Job Posting

## Office Administration/ Administrative Assistant Children at Risk, Ottawa

We knew this would be coming at some point, but our beloved Office Administrator, **Bambina Lemme**, has decided to phase out her full-time work with us by the end of this year after close to 11 years of dedication to Children at Risk and our Families!

We will still see her on some Special Projects and (we hope) at some Fundraisers – but she wants to take some time to travel and spend with her Family.

We are working on a formal job description – but we are looking for someone who:

- Has strong Interpersonal Skills/Excellent Telephone Manner
- Strong Computer skills, especially Excel and an Accounting or Bookkeeping training
- Mostly daytime/weekday availability but perhaps flexibility for Events and Activities on Evenings and Weekends
- Position can be Part-Time but preferably ¾ to Full Time
- Some background or knowledge of Autism or other Special Needs

If this sounds like you or someone you know who is looking for not just a job – but a calling – send us your resume! [car@childrenatrisk.ca](mailto:car@childrenatrisk.ca).



With the Fall harvest upon us, you can turn everyday hummus into a more flavourful, nutrient-rich, protein-packed snack or meal!



### ROASTED SWEET POTATO HUMMUS

- 2 Cups Diced, Peeled Sweet Potato (1 Large)
- 3 Tblsp Olive Oil
- ¼ Cup Tahini
- 3 Tblsp Lemon Juice
- 3 Cloves Garlic (finely grated or pressed)
- 1 Tsp Salt
- 1 can (540 ml) Chickpeas, drained

Toss sweet potato with 1 Tblsp of oil. Arrange in single layer on parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Bake 400 degrees F until browned and tender – 15-20 minutes. Cool.

In food processor, puree tahini, lemon juice, garlic, remaining oil, salt, chickpeas, ¼ cup water and sweet potato until smooth.

Transfer to a bowl and refrigerate about 4 hours. Stir before serving. Can be kept in closed container in refrigerator for 1 week or freezer for 1 month.

Canadian Living, September 2017



## ADVERTISING

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Disclaimer: This Newsletter is for informational purposes only. Children at Risk does not support, endorse or recommend any method, treatment, product, remedial center, program or person for people with autism or autism related conditions

## THANK-YOU'S



"I just wanted to send a quick note. I won an Ottawa Champions game in a suite at the Annual Children at Risk Pumpkin Carving event. An enthusiastic group of us took in the July 2 game against the Jackals. We all had a great time.

The stadium was great and the game was really fun to watch. For sure we are planning to go to more games. Thanks to everyone!" Alison



"I just wanted to thank you and your sponsors for the tickets. Our boys had a great time and we wouldn't have been able to afford the tickets. Please give our thanks to the sponsors and let them know how much it meant to us." Michel



Keelan at Monster Trucks

## THANK-YOU'S (Cont'd)



“I wanted to write a quick thank you for the Arcade Fire tickets! As the mother of an ASD tween, our lives are very planned out and scheduled. It was nice to get a call offering us the tickets to attend. It was spontaneous and an amazing night out! Thanks again for everything that your organization does.” Karine

“I just wanted to thank you for the tickets last Saturday. I want you to know how grateful Julian and I were for the (amazing) tickets. It was a fantastic night, and a great show. Julian and I love the band, and with the saving for, and then purchase, of our new house we haven't had the extra funds to go to anything like that in a while. If you are short volunteers for anything in the future please email me. I would love to repay a favour for a great night out. Thanks again!” Meghan

“It is with great appreciation that we thank the ticket donors for including us in the audience at the Arcade Fire concert. Our family had a wonderful time rocking and singing along with a crowd of fervent fans. The music was fantastic, but the light show and the special effects took things to another level indeed.” Sandy

“I wish to extend my very sincere THANK YOU to you for passing along these great Arcade Fire concert tickets. Please acknowledge my appreciation to the donors for their generous donation. Without their generous support these great memorable times would be missed. The opening act was a local Ottawa group, Wolf Parade, and they were very humbled to open for Arcade Fire and real pleased to see the great numbers in the audience. By the time Arcade Fire came on most of the seats were filled and standing area in General Admission was well packed

“Thanks VERY much for the donation of the tickets for ARCADE FIRE on Saturday night! Appreciated it so much. It's unusual for me to take a Saturday evening out, at the Canadian Tire Centre and the concert was amazing - ARCADE FIRE provided such a great show, with technically stellar music. They rightly deserve all the awards they've received. We're so glad they are Canadian!” Helen

“I am emailing to thank you so much for the ticket for the Arcade Fire show this past Saturday. I'd never seen this band live and it was a fabulous show! Thanks so much!!” Cathy

“I just want to say a HUGE thank you for the awesome tickets. And I am super excited to start volunteering with this organization! Thanks again!! Courtney

**NOTE: THIS OFFERING FOR ARCADE FIRE CONCERT TICKETS WAS ONLY EXTENDED THROUGH OUR CHILDREN AT RISK FACEBOOK – MAKE SURE TO CHECK IT OUT!!**

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Children-at-Risk/434404393312739?ref=ts&fref=ts>



“I was able to take two girls that have never seen a Fury game before and they really enjoyed it. For one of the girls it was her first time she'd ever been to any game as it is usually hard to go anywhere with her brother. She loved it. Thanks for those tickets!” Matthew

“Thank you so much for the tickets! Despite the rain, we had a great time and got to see some fantastic soccer. We had amazing seats and even caught a t-shirt from Sparky! Thanks again!” Emilie

“Thanks for the tickets! Zach and I enjoyed the game, despite the rain.” Scott

# CAMP KALEIDOSCOPE 2017

- 5 Weeks of all-Day Summer Camp for children with Autism
- Average of 67 Campers per Week
- 2011-2017: 375% increase in weekly Camp Spots = 1689 total camp spots  
(2011-89 Spots) (2012-146 Spots) (2013 -230 Spots) (2014-284 Spots)  
(2015 - 301 Spots) (2016 - 305 Spots) (2017-334 Spots)
- Cost of Camp for Families subsidized almost 60% by funding donations
- 119+ Staff , Focus on Youth & Volunteers per Week
- Ages of Campers from 4 to 24
- Children in 11 Camper Groups (from 4 in 2013!), broken down by age & level of functionality:  
Children, Tweens, Teens+
- Requests for spots from Support Organizations  
Ontario Children's Funding SSAH & Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities  
Service Coordination of Ottawa  
Coordinated Access  
Children's Aid Society  
Childrens' Hospital of Eastern Ontario  
Group Homes  
Ottawa Carleton School Board
- Weekly Outings  
Swimming Pool (some groups daily as able to walk to the Pool)  
Saunder's Farm, Museums, Dows Lake Boating, Karter's Korner's Go-carts, Kid's Kingdom, Brewer Park, Flying Squirrel Trampoline, Mont Cascades, Mooney's Bay, Movies & Bowling  
Higher-Functioning Group taking OC Transpo to Venues
- Unable to accommodate 30 additional requests for weeks of Camp

## STAFF TESTIMONIALS

“My experience with Camp K was amazing! I applied at Camp K because I wanted to have the experience of working with children with Autism. When I heard about Camp K I thought it was an amazing program that I wanted to have the chance to be a part of. I liked the way coworkers treated each other. We were one big family. I liked that Teamwork at this camp is a strong thing - everybody is there if ever one of us needs help. I liked the organization Camp K has, I liked working and getting to meet more people, coworkers and campers. All the activities we did were fun. The arts and crafts, the science, the kitchen, the outdoor water play, the gym, the quiet time, the pool, and the park were all good activities. In my opinion my best trip was Mooney’s beach and Kid’s Kingdom. This is my first year at Camp K and for my first year I had an amazing experience there was nothing I liked the least. I loved working with the campers and also my coworkers. We did have amazing field trips and got to work with campers but even better than that was the way people welcomed others. No one was left behind, we always worked as a group and always helped the ones who needed help. We were all a big family working together and having fun with our campers. Camp K is an awesome program, I would love to be part of this program for more than one year!” Valerie



“This year, I was a new member of staff at Camp Kaleidoscope and applying for this job was the best decision I made all year. I started out at Saturday Fun Clubs and Family Fun Nights, and wound up being hired to work at the summer camp. In working at Camp K, I learned about autism and was blessed enough to have the chance to get to know so many different kids; all of whom are unique, and amazing in their own ways. There was not a single day these kids didn’t bring a smile to my face. They have taught me much, and inspired me in different ways and I am now strongly considering a full time career with kids on the ASD spectrum. My time at Camp Kaleidoscope was full of fun times, many laughs, and new experiences I never would have expected to gain in my lifetime! I hope to continue working at CAR for future years and can’t wait for new experiences to come if I get the opportunity to do so!” Vicki



“I enjoy working with those on the Autism Spectrum and I wish to strengthen my skills as a leader and as a staff.

I enjoyed being able to learn leadership skills by being a second, as well as interacting with the campers!” Elizabeth



“ I signed up for Camp K with the intention of trying something new for the summer, and what I received was a summer filled with awesome moments spent with some really awesome kids! I loved how being one on one allowed me to get to know the amazing kids I was working with, kids that kept me laughing and smiling all summer and gave me so many happy memories; from splash pads to spider-minions to walking sushi, I wouldn't have traded this summer for anything! I am so grateful to have gotten a chance to be a part of the amazing team of counselors at Camp K and am looking forward to more Saturday Fun Clubs and camps in the year ahead!” Kelly



“This was my first year at Camp K and was I amazed in every sense of the word! Although I expected this experience to have challenges, I could have never imagined just what an incredible summer this camp offers both counsellors and campers. Camp K is filled with such support, positivity and devotion - it made coming to work something I looked forward to everyday! Indeed, the bond you form with your campers becomes unforgettable. Although it can be difficult at times, the first smile, laugh or hug your camper gives you are some that I will never forget! Around the end of the week, one of my campers began to ever so gently stroke my face and look into my eyes with such kindness and warmth – this was sometime truly special for me. Camp K and everyone who is a part of it, absolutely and utterly stole my heart!” Alex

“I applied for Camp K because I needed a summer Job and I wanted to use my skills for something good.” Max



“After volunteering with a boy with Autism last summer and fundraising with Children at Risk throughout the school year, I was amazed by the entire support system that CAR has developed for ASD children and youth in Ottawa. I applied for Camp K not only to gain a more intimate perspective on how to best support these children but to also learn from my fellow peers what true reliance, trustworthiness and devotion looks like in this incredible work environment. I loved the environment this camp offers to both its campers and counsellors. Everyday walking into the Camp, there was always a great sense of positivity, excitement and collaboration. What amazed me most was how all counselors/ group leaders/ Camp K staff moved together in such unison. When one needed an extra hand, I always felt that my fellow co-workers were always willing to lend an extra hand, provide and work out together the best solutions to any problems that may arise.” Alexander



“Coming in as a first-time counsellor at Camp K, I wasn’t sure what to expect. However, I was pleasantly surprised – I instantly felt at home at camp. From the non-stop activities to the fun field trips, there was truly never a dull moment. Whether we were going to the pool, to Saunder’s Farm or the park, I was always sure to have a fun-filled, busy day. My favourite aspect of Camp K is the undeniable bonds created between the counsellors and campers; Camp Kaleidoscope has provided countless great memories, and was an unforgettable experience for campers and counsellors alike.” Ida



Camp Kaleidoscope was so much fun and great to be part of the wonderful team. Being a new member was definitely exciting and an awesome opportunity. Having spent five weeks with the campers and staff was very eventful and I would say there was never a dull moment right up to the last minute of camp. Camp allowed me to work with all ages and get a chance to connect with children along with developing a strong bond over the course of the week whether it was swimming, arts and crafts, splashing in puddles or dancing in the rain, being able to make a camper smile and genuinely enjoy their time at camp. This was the best feeling and that's why I woke up every day eager to go to Camp K" Charlotte



“My experience working at Camp Kaleidoscope this summer was very meaningful. I learned a lot about patience, joy and kindness not only from the staff but also from the four campers that I had the opportunity to spend time with during the five weeks of camp. It is a feeling like no other, developing friendships with the campers despite our differences. One of the most important lessons I took away from camp was that children who have autism are not that much different from neurotypical children. Overall, my experience at Camp Kaleidoscope was amazing thanks to the awesome campers I got to spend time with.” Chloe



I was a new counsellor at Camp Kaleidoscope this summer, and I thoroughly enjoyed my time working there. I had one camper who loved playing basketball and being in the wave pool. Every time we did those activities, he had the greatest smile on his face, and it was so gratifying to know that I was helping him enjoy his time at camp. This whole experience of working here was rewarding and positive and I would love to work at Camp K again next year. Anthony

"I have been working for CAR for three years now and I've enjoyed every moment during Saturday fun clubs and camp as a counsellor. This year I became a group leader and I was extremely nervous about leading a group of campers and their counsellors. I was so happy to have the support that I did while being a leader. CAR is an supportive and inclusive working environment that gives counsellors and leaders the information they need to know about autism, the tools to succeed and knowledge on how to connect with the campers. I knew after the first day of camp this year that I could do this because of the support I had from management and other group leaders. For me, it is the most rewarding experience to see campers and their counsellors connect in my group. When I see a camper and counsellor both smiling and having a good time doing an activity together, I knew I was doing good job as a leader. Camp Kaleidoscope has given me the experience and confidence I need to become a good leader at camp and in other aspects of my life. I have will always be thankful for the opportunities CAR has given me."

Natasha



"This was my second year doing camp K. As always, it was such a positive experience. There is nothing better than seeing how much fun each camper has. The excitement when they see its time to put their swim suit on, the fun they have experiencing new things on trips and how much they bond with the counsellors. It's heartwarming to see how happy they get when they walked into Camp K. " Abby

Camp Kaleidoscope opened my eyes that as a sibling, I only know one youth with autism and had a lot to learn. I did learn that I have it easier than many other siblings so shouldnt give my family such a hardtime.

"I thought Camp K was the perfect opportunity for me to do what I love the most - which is working with kids with special needs, and to make as many fun and unforgettable memories as possible in new environment that I've never been exposed to before. I loved working with the campers, getting to know them a little bit more but mostly learning new things from them!" Edel



This was my first year working at Camp K and it was such an incredible experience. I worked with the younger kids all five weeks and all the campers I met had such amazing and brilliant personalities and no two were ever identical. Each camper had their favorite and least favorite activities and as we got to know them throughout the week, we were able to adapt our daily schedules to satisfy everyone and ensure that all our campers went home as happy as possible. I also got to chat with other campers who weren't in my group and I loved every single one of these interactions! I can't believe how much I learned from the campers. We made so many great memories this summer and I always went home in such a good mood. I can't wait to be back for Camp 2018.

Veronique



"I want to thank you for hiring me and giving me a great experience at Camp Kaleidoscope. I had such a great time that I would like to work at the Camp next year and also work at the Saturday Fun Clubs. While at Camp K, I learned how to work with children with disabilities - which I enjoyed a lot and wish to do again. Melch

## PARENT TESTIMONIALS

“What has Camp Kaleidoscope given my family - In a word, Hope. The Hope that my daughter can go to camp just like all the other kids her age and play outside and make new friends. The Hope that she doesn't have to feel different for not always responding when someone says her name or asks her a question. The Hope that I feel as a mom for getting to spend some quality time with my other child, who isn't on the spectrum, while knowing that my daughter is in qualified and capable hands. And the Hope of seeing her smile every day after I picked her up from camp! It was truly a wonderful experience for our family and I *hope* that Camp Kaleidoscope continues to be offered as a yearly place for my daughter to grow and play without prejudice. Thank you for everything that you do!” Jessica



“My daughter, Ferne, was enrolled in two weeks of Camp Kaleidoscope this summer. During the two weeks of camp my daughter was taken on outings in the community, spent time at the park, made crafts, prepared snacks, swam, met new friends and had a blast! Ferne had excellent support while at camp. Her camp counsellors were energetic, positive, caring and very attentive to Ferne's individual needs. Camp Kaleidoscope is a wonderful camp that provides children with autism a "day camp" experience in a safe and inclusive environment. Communication between staff and parents is excellent. Thank you Children at Risk for your hard work, dedication and the love you give our kids! I am looking forward to next year!” Joanne



“Wow! Year 2 of Camp K for my son - and we can't thank you enough! Alex had a terrific time! It was great to have him with some of the same friends. He had the same group lead, Jasmine. He got to spend time with his Buddy from last year, Sabreen, and to bond with a new Buddy, Cedric. A lot of time and planning goes into group formation and buddy matching and it is greatly appreciated! I am always impressed by the compassion, the caring and the professionalism of the youth employed in this program. What a skill set they will have upon entering their future careers! Alex had a great opportunity to work on his coping skills and his social skills, while having a super time in a safe environment! Every success builds his self-esteem and self-confidence! He is more open to trying new things and he is already asking about Saturday Fun Club! What I am trying to say in a roundabout way, is that Camp Kaleidoscope provides so much more than just a much needed service in the present. It is also building a much needed foundation for the future. An Autism-friendly future. Thank you again for EVERYTHING you do!” Julie





“My son is 7 years old and recently diagnosed with Aspergers. His whole life we tried to sign him up for daycares, camps and other programs, we found this very challenging. He did not enjoy any of them due to the loud noises, the bright sounds and the chaos that comes with many children in one group. My son would cry and scream and beg us not to let him go, he was sent home many times and punished for his meltdowns. Meltdowns that were caused by a lack of understanding his diagnosis. This all started at the age of 3 when he was in childcare. I wanted him to feel included and I wanted my son to experience camp the way all children should. The first day I brought my son to Camp Kaleidoscope I knew he was in good hands. At the end of his first day he ran to me with excitement, he gave me a strong hug and told me how much he loved his new camp. Every morning was amazing because we would be very cooperative with getting ready for camp. I will always be very grateful that my son and I had the opportunity to experience Camp Kaleidoscope. I think that all children should feel included no matter what their disability or financial status!” Lyn



“This is Iris's parents. My husband and I are so thrilled that Iris had such a wonderful experience at Children at Risk’s Camp Kaleidoscope. Firstly, we want to thank Children at Risk for providing this precious chance for children like Iris. As far as we know, Camp Kaleidoscope is the only one-on-one summer camp for children with autism in Ottawa. It was Iris’s first full day summer camp, however, the transition was very smooth – we believe that is attributable to the trust and bond established in her previous participation in your Saturday Fun Club program and March Break camp. Although she was not able to tell us verbally, we could tell that she had a great time every day in the camp from her interactions with her counselors and from her mood when we picked her up. She will enter full day kindergarten at school in September; her positive experience in the summer camp has increased our confidence for another smooth transition. It was truly a wonderful experience for her and for us knowing she was having fun in a safe and fun filled environment. We 100% want to let her come back next summer!” Lilou & Hui



“Jocelynne thoroughly enjoyed Camp Kaleidoscope once again this year. She thrives in this camp and we can't imagine a summer without it. In the mornings she would stand by the door holding her backpack pining to go. The high caliber of staff with their boundless energy and patience is what truly sets this camp apart. Jocelynne gets to truly enjoy summer thanks to Camp Kaleidoscope! Keep up the great work!!” Pierre and Deb



“Erik has been attending Camp Kaleidoscope since he was three and half years old. The first day I took him to camp he had tears running down his face because Mom was leaving him with strangers. (Erik never had a baby sitter.) The next morning at Camp K while saying hello to counsellors and signing Erik in; he ran straight into the camp without even saying goodbye to me! My son loves going to Camp K. He thinks it is the best. He also considers the people at Camp K “family”. We live in Kanata and it is a long trip to camp with it being in the East end this year, but Erik who hates long car trips & traffic will sit quietly in the car because it means having fun and being at camp!” Rose



“This was our son's first year at Camp Kaleidoscope and he loved it. It has been his favourite camp this summer. When I went to the intake interview, I had a good feeling about it as the interviewer was so accommodating and completely knew how to keep my son entertained/occupied while we spoke. She was able to get him to engage with her as well. We originally were going to sign him up for 1 week to give it a try but I liked the interviewer so much that I registered him for 2 weeks. She was fantastic and was able to fit him in for the weeks requested. Our son was diagnosed less than 2 years ago and this was our first summer signing him up for specialized ASD camps. I am so grateful that Camp Kaleidoscope exists and that the counsellors are so great with our son. He came home happy each day and they do way more activities with the kids than just letting them play. ASD is new to us and so we're looking forward to seeing all the other activities that are available through Children At Risk. It was also comforting knowing there's a whole world of other kids similar to my son and that we're not alone. We're looking forward to enrolling our son again next year. Thanks for the great 2 weeks!” LeAnh



“My son Myles has been attending Camp Kaleidoscope for at least a few years and he loves the camp. This year we had an incident at another camp that only confirmed our reasons for sending Myles to Camp K. He got upset and ran away, into traffic. This would not happen at Camp K and I feel so confident that I can send him to a safe, happy and friendly place where he fits in and feels at home. The staff are wonderful and everyone knows him and I just feel a part of the CAR family. We all love Camp K, so much so that our daughter worked there this past summer and also had a blast. Camp K rocks!” Cindy



“What an amazing experience! My family has been very fortunate to have connected with Children at Risk! Camp Kaleidoscope has truly blessed my family in many ways over the last few years. My nephew is now 19 years old, has limited abilities, is non-verbal and faces many challenges.... he has been kicked out of the summer learning program, requires too much assistance to participate in any city camps, and gets sent home on a regular basis from school. He suffers from extreme anxiety but loves interactions with people of all ages. He uses an iPad to communicate and can become frustrated and hit or run away. He requires a worker to go into the community and to partake in activities that we can enjoy anytime without a one to one support. Camp K provides a fun and safe program that allows him to be a kid!! They take the time to get to know each camper and pair counsellors appropriately. All of their staff are trained and really seem to enjoy what they do (have fun and help the campers) so that they too can enjoy their camp experience! The field trips are great and camp activities are planned accordingly taking into account the needs and wants of the kids 😊 My daughter has also had the opportunity to volunteer and now work as a peer buddy(counsellor) and can't wait to do it again! We all look forward to Camp K!!!! 😊 So many thanks to Children at Risk!” Tracy



“I want to thank you for the exceptional Camp Experience my son has enjoyed this summer! It is so difficult for me to maintain the high energy level dictated by my sons varied medical exceptionalities while keeping him safe and engaged, but somehow you manage to deliver superior programming with joyous attentive staff. This was our second year with your camp. I do not trust my son's care to many people. His behaviours need to be constructively handled while supporting his individuality; a skill very few trained personnel possess (in my opinion over 19 years in the biz). The fact that this guy jumps out of bed every morning because it is a "Camp Day" and hustles ME out to the car is a very loud way for my non-verbal son to say I LOVE THIS! I applaud his Camp Counsellor - Jennifer is gold! I am so grateful for your organization and hope we can access your summer program for many years to come. It is comforting to know George is so well supervised and that his safety is paramount - while he enjoys his full days of activities!” Karen



“Camp Kaleidoscope has become indispensable for us. It has provided us much needed respite over the summer months and given our child happiness and entertainment as well as valuable social interaction and education. We try to sign up for as many weeks as we can be given every year!” Jack



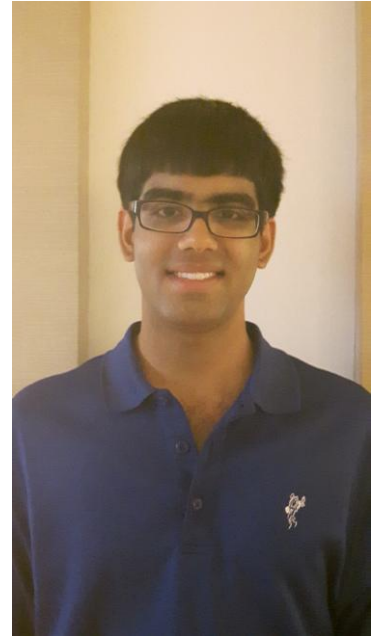
“This is my testimonial on the greatest camp on earth. Summer has flown by and is almost done and it couldn't have been as successful without the care my son got in the two weeks he attended Camp Kaleidoscope. My son has a new diagnosis of being on the spectrum (May 2017) so we didn't have much time to plan for his summer vacation from school. In the past, City run programs were not a good fit, but when I was introduced to your camp and read about it and heard from others who have dealt with you, I had nothing to lose and sought out a placement with your camp. From the beginning of the process to the end, it was the most positive experience I have endured. The staff go above and beyond to answer questions, make everyone comfortable and most importantly, provide our children with the best care and the most fun in a safe environment that they could ever have. I look forward to many years ahead for my son to continue with such a great organization that loves and cares for him as much as I do. Thank you Camp Kaleidoscope for a memorable summer and new friendship!!!”  
Rebecca



“My son Ryan has been going to Camp Kaleidoscope for the past 5 years and he loved every minute of it. He always has a big smile on his face when he goes and when we pick him up. I never have to worry about him because I know he's in good hands with the amazing camp counsellors. I would recommend Camp Kaleidoscope to anyone who's looking for a camp for their special needs child(ren).” Julian



“Camp Kaleidoscope of 2017 with weeks 1-3 and week 5 were the most spectacular weeks EVER!!! :) The best parts of every week were swinging at the park, swimming at the wave pool and going on field trips: such as Saunder's Farm, Karter's Korner's, Brewer Park, the Walkley Bowling Alley, the St. Laurent Shopping Center's Imagine Cinemas, and most of all: Mont Cascades! Thank you so much for understanding me and taking such good care of me and making me happy. My Counsellors were: Kianna, Sarah, Josette, Annalee and Carol. And they were full of life and they sang and colored with me! I can't wait for next summer! You make every summer very special for me!”



Anuk (Camp K Camper)

“We had an amazing time this year at the bet summer camp in world! I would like to send a special Thank you for your support in ensuring that our Autistic children a fun, safe environment handling some of the most difficult days with behaviors and non-verbal children and giving parents a greatly appreciated rest without worrying about anything but what's for dinner! God bless you for all your support and making summer holiday and exciting one for 2017. Many thanks to all of the Supporters who also donate to make it possible.”  
Natalie



“I have the pleasure of writing about our family's experience with Camp Kaleidoscope. My 16 year-old daughter has Autism and is non-verbal. While she cannot speak she seeks and enjoys social interaction like everyone else. The challenge for my family is to find positive and supportive socialization opportunities. Camp Kaleidoscope provides the type of wonderful camp experience that is not offered by any other service in Ottawa. The counsellors are carefully screened and selected by the Children at Risk staff who do a marvelous and miraculous job of finding enthusiastic, capable and engaged camp staff that all the children enjoy being with. The camp offers both socialization opportunities and outings in the community. My daughter went to camp with a smile every day and never hesitated to walk into camp-a real testimony of how much she enjoyed it. For the families, it is a great comfort and joy to see our children participate in a welcoming, safe and accepting community. All the staff at Camp Kaleidoscope also interact with the families and parents with a great deal of sensitivity and compassion which can also be very difficult to come by with other service providers. The children attend the camp but the entire family benefits from it!” Anna



“Isabelle had so much fun at camp, when I picked her up her face lights up. She really loved drawing and going Swimming and of course the special trips to new places that she hasn't been before. She started drawing more and singing and playing with her brother. Miguel loves Camp Kaleidoscope more than school. I can tell because he loves wearing the Camp Kaleidoscope shirt but when I showed him the school uniform he put it away in his dresser, also tries to take off his sister's uniform! I really believe that Camp Kaleidoscope has helped my son and daughter in all kinds of activities from cooking, to socializing with other kids and the Councilors. Also being introduced to a new environment with their Trips before we go as a family, there is less tantrums as they know what is expected. Miguel likes playing outside more than watching videos in his tablet and it was so hard to take it away from him. I never thought it could be possible. Thank you to everyone that made this change in my kids possible!” Maria & Stephane



“There has not been ONE place that I have gone to that offers Logan the safe, fun atmosphere and 1:1 care that you guys do and there is nothing else like this. We - like most families - are tight on funds and have had funding cuts but when we prioritize things – Camp K is #1.” Marta



“My son Devin attended Camp Kaleidoscope for 2 weeks this summer. It was his second time and he had a blast. The one on one with a counsellor enabled him to be free, to be happy and to have the biggest smile ever for those 2 weeks. It also allowed the rest of the family to relax because we did not have to worry about his care while at Camp Kaleidoscope. The one on one counsellors provide a huge level of comfort and care. This camp and these counsellors provide such a unique setting for these kids. This can't be matched anywhere else in Ottawa. I am so thankful and grateful for this Camp. Thank you Camp Kaleidoscope and all of the wonderful people that make this Camp possible!!! Devin had a wonderful time and as a family we are just thrilled to have discovered this wonderful camp and wonderful organization. We can't wait to see you next year!!!” Nicole



“Camp Kaleidoscope was my son’s first summer camp he ever attended and he absolutely loved it. He felt welcomed, accepted and safe and that made the whole difference in morning drop offs. He also had so much fun that he would ask to go back the following day and would get ready without any hesitation. My child was happy and safe and as a parent that is more than I could have asked for. Also, as a parent, I really enjoyed the fact that there was such a great variety of activities planned on a daily basis, so I also looked forward to my son exposed to all these different experiences and going places. Overall, this summer camp experience was so worth it, exceeded my expectations, I would highly recommend it and both my son and I are looking forward to it next year. Also, huge thanks to the wonderful staff as well, they made this whole experience more so unforgettable. This is from *One Happy Parent!*” Dijana

“Thank you Children at Risk for providing a safe, fun and interesting camp for our daughter. We're always impressed with your programming and how happy our girl is when we drop her off and pick her up at the end of the day. We are very grateful for this opportunity, summer would be a very different story without Camp K. See you next year!” Chantal, Darren and Arlo.

“My son Halim Bitar is nonverbal, so I couldn't hear from him anything about Camp Kaleidoscope, but it's enough for me to see his smile and to know that he is having fun. I know that he enjoyed his time a lot, and all the activities were very interesting. I'm very glad to be a member of Children at Risk and a big thanks to all your Staff!” Mai

“I would like to inform you that Camp Kaleidoscope was amazing! Mariam had a great time during one week in the camp, she made friends and become more social to interact with other people. I am very grateful for your kind and continuous support to us as a family of disabled child and wish you the best for all upcoming events, especially the summer camp for next year!” Yasmin

“Our little boy had such a good time at camp kaleidoscope this year. He couldn't wait to get in the door each morning and he came home happy, fulfilled and really tired (which is great!). It is so difficult to find a camp that will meet our son's needs. This camp does that and so much more. Camp Kaleidoscope is a real gift! Thank you Camp Kaleidoscope for giving our little guy the opportunity to experience camp just like any other kid. He had a ball!” Tracy

“I wanted to let you know how much Zachary enjoyed Camp Kaleidoscope this summer camp 2017 and a huge thank you to Children at Risk and all who participated in making life so much better from a single parent home! Hard to let go without having anxiety whether or not my child is safe and having a good time with you, but with your camp I feel calm and assured that you know what it takes to ensure that our children are safe and happy and busy having a wonderful time in your care! God bless you all for the chance to participate in such a needed respite program. Thank you.” Nataly

“I want you to know how much my son Felix enjoyed his time at Camp Kaleidoscope this summer. Before entering the camp Felix, who is 5 and just completed JK, was rather wary of school and he would often say that he was "scared" to go (Please rest assured that the teachers and students at my son's school are in fact wonderful and warm). Having his big sister Zoe at school is a great source of comfort for Felix and they often look for each other on the school yard. When the opportunity for Felix to attend Camp Kaleidoscope came up, I'll admit I was worried. Another social experience for him to dread? But this one without Zoe or any familiar faces? Despite my concerns my husband and I decided to apply him for the program because I had heard such good things about it from the counsellors at the Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre. Now that the summer is over and hind sight is 20-20, I can honestly say that this was a **WONDERFUL** experience for Felix! He enjoyed water activities almost every day and the camp counsellors were young, warm, friendly patient and energetic. During his 9 days of camp not once did Felix say, "I'm scared!" or "I don't want to go!" In fact, when big sister Zoe heard about fun activities like the trip to Saunders Farm, playing at the splash wave pool, getting to make your own T-shirts and other things, she said, "I want to go to Camp Kaleidoscope too!" One of the lasting benefits from the camp was the safe and fun exposure to water activities. These were a lot of fun for Felix and they helped him develop a comfort level in the water that he did not have before. Following Camp K, Felix took private swimming lessons at our local pool and he progressed much better than we had expected thanks to his positive camp experience. Now that it's September we have just completed the second week of school. Felix's educators and caregivers see an increased level of openness, sociability and willingness to talk that is greatly improved over last year. Everyone is so proud of how far he's come and we are deeply grateful that Camp K played a role in his journey. We look forward to next year! Thank you for this wonderful, fun-filled opportunity that exposed Felix to a fantastic summer experience with his peers in a safe and positive environment.” Tricia



“Camp Kaleidoscope is a wonderful camp. The staff are all amazing. They take wonderful care of our children and keep them busy all day with exciting activities. This camp is essential for our family. There is no other camp that supplies a worker to be with our son one on one all day. I never worry about him knowing that he is in good hands. My son enjoys this camp and we can see that he is happy. Not sure what we would do without Camp Kaleidoscope. Only wish this camp would run the whole summer! Thank you Camp Kaleidoscope for another great summer!” Sandra



“My sincere appreciation to the management and staff at Children at Risk for the wonderful camp experience my grandson has had this summer. The 1:1 staff/camper ratio is a very rare service in the community yet it is a very important service within the special needs community. If not for Children at Risk, my grandson has very limited opportunities for day camp given his unique needs. Because of the 1:1 ratio, my grandson lived successes during the entire sessions. He has gained confidence and a willingness to participate and got excited about the day. Thank you for the wonderful opportunity!” Paula



# Camp Kaleidoscope

2017

## Fun at Mont Cascade







# Camp Kaleidoscope

2017

## Fun boating and swimming at Mooney's Bay Beach





# Camp Kaleidoscope

2017

## Fun at Karters Korner





# Camp Kaleidoscope

2017

Fun at Saunders Farm



## **22ND ANNUAL RAFFLE WINNERS – June 11, 2017**

<b>PRIZE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TICKET #</b>
#1 – Halifax Trip – WestJet, Halifax Hampton Inn, Keg & National Car	Cindy Martin	4233
#2- Toronto Trip – Towneplace Suites, Avis, CN Tower, AGO, ROM, CNE Entertainment Book, Keg & Ultimate Dining	Brooke Grantham	1214
#3- Andres Hair, Optimal Health, MediSpa, Pflug Optical & AVON by Pam	Katie Mitchell	5879
#4- Club EG, Stonebridge Golf, Golf Red Book, & Ultimate Dining Coupons	Ola Beiruti	5947
#5- Club EG, Stonebridge Golf, Golf Red Book, & Ultimate Dining Coupons	Yvette Cole	5641
#6- Handcrafted Quilt	Patricia Guest	6386
#7- 1-800 Got Junk, Kevin’s Auto, AVON & Ultimate Dining Coupons	Laurie Quilty	6365
#8- 1-800 Got Junk, Kevin’s Auto, AVON & Ultimate Dining Coupons	Billy Linklater	0929
#9- Jill Alexander Original, National Gallery, Versailles, Heart & Crown	Yori De Bortoli	0188
#10- Jill Alexander Original, National Gallery, Versailles, Heart & Crown	Elizabeth Demaray	5600
#11- Dovercourt, History/War Museum, Benici Pizzeria & Ottawa Swims	Don Burke	1153
#12- Dovercourt, History/War Museum, Benici Pizzeria & Ottawa Swims	Judith Starkey	3786
#13- Plasmart Plasma Car, Kiddie Kobbler, Tiny Hoppers & AVON by Pam	Marlene Hewitt	1623
#14- Plasmart Plasma Car, Kiddie Kobbler, Tiny Hoppers & AVON by Pam	Sidney Retik	1845
#15- Ottawa RedBlacks Tickets & Works Burger Bistro Certificate	Rachel Grossau	2997
#16- Pelican Fishery & Grill, Cineplex Odeon Vouchers, UPS Store Hunt Club	Peter Graves	5773

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS!**

# Camp Kaleidoscope

Please join me in acknowledging our 2017 Camp Funders:



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*For good...forever*

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