

OPACC

Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer

WWW.OPACC.ORG

"To support families of children diagnosed with cancer in Ontario"

- *Our Mission*



OPACC was founded by parents, for parents of children with cancer



KEY HISTORY

- Founded in 1995
- Received charitable status in 2006
- Parent Liaison program began at SickKids in 2009
- Launched parent facilitator training program in 2012
- Launched hospital parking program in 2017
- Parent Liaison program expanded to Credit Valley Hospital in 2018
- Launched gift card program in 2019
- Began offering virtual supports in 2020



HOW ARE WE DIFFERENT?



- OPACC is different because we support parents of children with cancer;
- The child is supported when the parents are supported;
- Our Parent Liaison program is the only one of its kind in Ontario, with dedicated staff supporting families in-hospital.

OPACC believes in the value of providing parent support and that strong families start with strong parent support!

Key Services OPACC

Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer



In-Hospital & Virtual
Peer-to-Peer
Support: Parent
Liaison Program

Financial Support:
Hospital Parking,
Gift Cards,
Hospital Meal
Vouchers

Community
Support:
Local parent
support groups

Advocacy:
Raising awareness
of issues
impacting
childhood cancer
families

PARENT LIAISON PROGRAM

Who



Parent Liaisons are trained parents that have had a child diagnosed with cancer and understand first-hand the challenges that families face.

What



- Peer-to-peer, psychosocial, non-medical support;
- Service navigation, information, referrals, and free resources;
- Weekly drop-in support groups and coffee hours;
- Financial support in the form of grocery & gas gift cards, and helping to pay for hospital parking

Where



Currently offered at SickKids (Toronto) & Credit Valley Hospital (Mississauga)

Also offer weekly virtual support sessions on Zoom

Goals



- Reduce social isolation by providing peer connections
- Help families access needed supports
- Relieve financial pressures
- Help parents to focus on their child & treatment plan
- Empower parents to be better contributing members of their child's healthcare team
- Expand program to more Ontario pediatric oncology treatment centres

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Current local parent support groups:

- Cambridge
- Hamilton
- Kitchener-Waterloo
- Niagara Falls

ADVOCACY

Childhood
Cancer
Awareness
Month

Reduced
hospital
parking
rates

E.I. benefits
for parents
of critically
ill children

Childhood
cancer
survivors

Special
education
needs



**September is
Childhood
Cancer
Awareness
Month
GO GOLD**

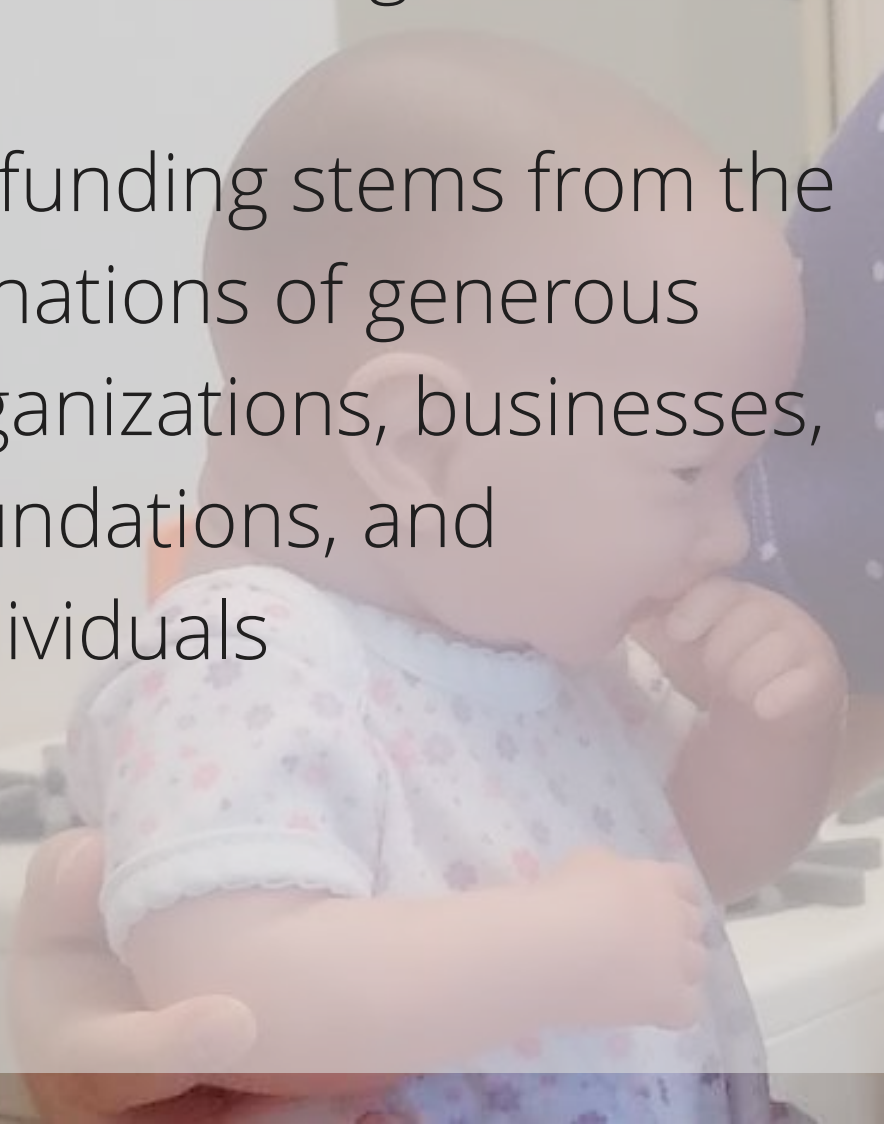


Funding

- OPACC does not receive funding from the hospitals nor from the government
- All funding stems from the donations of generous organizations, businesses, foundations, and individuals

What Your Support Can Do

- Expand our Parent Liaison program to other Ontario pediatric cancer centres
- Assist families financially with hospital parking reimbursements, gift cards, and in-hospital care kits
- Introduce new program offerings such as supports for mental health, education, bereaved families, and more!



Donor Recognition

As a Provincial organization with 1,000+ member families, we recognize funding partnerships through a variety of channels including:

- Media releases
- E-blasts
- Newsletters
- Website placement
- Posters in-hospital
- Social media
- Cheque presentation
- Volunteer opportunities...and more!

Contact us to learn more at 705-828-7965 or

email info@opacc.org

Facebook: @OPACC

Twitter/Instagram: @opaccorg

