



# OAK RIDGES HOSPICE HERALD

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## THANK YOU, BRENT!

Our Executive Director, Brent Farr, will be leaving Oak Ridges to enjoy his well deserved retirement once a new Executive Director has been successfully recruited in the coming months. Brent has been a wonderful leader at the hospice and will be missed by all those who have worked alongside him. Thank you Brent for all you have done to help build the incredible environment we all know and love today!



A special message from Oak Ridges Hospice Board Chair, Steve Gray:

"On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to offer a most sincere thank you to Brent Farr for his leadership in operationalizing Oak Ridges Hospice. Under his leadership the team has built Oak Ridges Hospice into the home that we hoped it would become, The Morgan and Sidhu House. When Brent joined our team as our first Executive Director he was upfront about his retirement plans and we knew his tenure would be shorter term. However, we also knew that his experience, expertise, connection to our Region, and his commitment to the residents and families we are here to serve, would pay dividends for Oak Ridges far into the future. We thank Brent for all the work he has done to put Oak Ridges Hospice and its team on a successful path that will serve our community for many years to come. **Brent, we wish you all the best in your retirement and thank you for your contribution in building a strong foundation for Oak Ridges Hospice. You will always remain a part of our Team!**"



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Every gift has a tremendous impact at Oak Ridges Hospice and we are so grateful for the many individuals, community groups and foundations who have supported us in their own unique way! Below are some highlights from the last few months to celebrate this generous community.

## IRELAND FAMILY



We want to say a big thank you to the Ireland family for their generous and meaningful donation in memory of Dawn Ireland. This incredible gift will help so many families at the hospice and is a wonderful tribute to an amazing woman.

## HONEY FOR HOSPICE



Thank you to Honey B'z and Homestead Furniture for hosting a very 'sweet' fundraiser for the hospice! Not only is it delicious, it is also incredibly impactful. Don't forget to pick up your hospice honey at Homestead Furniture today!

## PAINT NIGHT



Thank you to Amy Toon for hosting a fun paint night for hospice volunteers and staff, raising \$200 for the hospice! It was a great night filled with laughter and creativity! We can't wait for the next one!

## PORT PERRY HIGH SCHOOL



Thank you to all the students who participated in the Port Perry High School 'Retro' Fundraiser Dance that raised \$950 for the hospice! Your support means so much to the families we support at Oak Ridges!



## IT TAKES A VILLAGE CONT...

### SPEAKERS FOR THE HOSPICE



**The Krygsman/Vanderkooy family were overwhelmed by the amazing care that was provided to their loved one, Coby Krygsman in her final days.** John Krygsman and Myra Hay (Coby's step children) were in complete agreement that they wanted to make a donation to the hospice after Coby's passing. John and Myra had a dollar amount in mind for the donation but, after some consideration, decided to make a more unique donation to Oak Ridges based on one of the experiences they had with Coby during her stay.

On one of Coby's final days, they took some wine in for her to enjoy (Coby was very excited when the Doctor approved that visit!). They also brought in a speaker so that they could play the Lionel Ritchie songs she had requested. They could tell how happy it made Coby to listen to her favourite song, "Penny Lover". After she passed and they discussed a donation, they thought back to that day and **realized it would be wonderful for all the residents to be able to enjoy music in their rooms.**

Myra was able to leverage her long time friendship with the owner of Musonic, Randy Grant to help make the dream come to life. After numerous calls between Oak Ridges, Myra and Randy, it was decided that the Sonos One system was the way to go. Randy secured all of the equipment and worked tirelessly to get the system configured so that each of the rooms could enjoy their own music choices without impacting the other residents. Randy also ensured detailed instructions were provided in each of the rooms and that the staff received appropriate training. As you can imagine, installing a music system in a hospice, isn't a very common use case but Randy persevered.

**The Krygsman/Vanderkooy family is very sad that Coby is no longer with us, but they know that her legacy will live on at Oak Ridges whenever the residents ask the music system to play their favourite songs.**



### RESIDENT PLANTERS

**We are so fortunate to have many family members of past residents who stay in touch with the hospice and visit often.** Ernie Jones is one of those family members who regularly checks in and always brings a smile to our faces. Recently he created beautiful planters for all of the care suites at the hospice. Every planter is handcrafted and planted with beautiful flowers that brighten up the outdoor patios. Thank you so much Ernie for your generosity!

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE CONT...

### JUMP FOR HOSPICE

We are incredibly honoured to have so many thrill-seeking supporters at Oak Ridges Hospice! We want to say a big thank you to the Dr. Kim Ferguson for spearheading the 2022 Jump for Hospice where several participants went skydiving to raise money for the Morgan & Sidhu House.

This brave group included Kosta Ristevski, Anica Ristevski, Katlyn Brown, Lynda Brown, Marcy Geddes, and of course, Dr. Kim Ferguson. **Together they raised just under \$16,000 for the hospice!**

Pictured to the right you will see Dr. Ferguson conquering her fear of heights all in the name of raising money for compassionate care at Oak Ridges Hospice.

We want to express our sincere appreciation to all the participants for their hard work to raise funds for the hospice, and commend them on their bravery to take on new heights for hospice!



### 100 MEN WHO CARE



Thank you to all the members of the 100 Men Who Care Scugog for inviting Oak Ridges Hospice to speak with your group! We loved all your questions and we appreciate your interest in how the hospice supports our community. We are extremely grateful for your generous donation of \$3,600 in support of our new tilt mattress!

### HOSPICE GARDEN



Thank you to Vos' Independent for donating annuals and veggie plants for our hospice garden! We also want to say a big thank you to Susan Vester for all her hard work making our gardens beautiful and enjoyable for everyone who spends time at the hospice!



## HIKE FOR HOSPICE 2022

Thank you to everyone who made the 2022 Hike for Hospice our best year to date!!



On the morning of June 6th 2022, the streets of Port Perry were flooded with a sea of over 300 purple shirts all in the name of hospice! It was an incredible sight to see and we cannot thank all the participants, donors, sponsors, and volunteers enough for helping to make this day truly wonderful!

**Not only did the day bring together our community to celebrate and raise awareness for hospice, it also helped fundraise over \$100,000 for resident care at our Morgan & Sidhu House!**

Thank you to everyone for showing up for hospice and ultimately helping us provide compassionate care at Oak Ridges Hospice!

This day would not have been possible without the tremendous support of all our sponsors, including:

**Menzies Chrysler**

**Titan Tube & Metal**

The Adam Farr Team

Moving with Julie   Spring Grove   Taylor Forder

Compton Beyond Corporation   Clintar

**And all of our amazing Shoe Sponsors!**

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for cooking our lunches and thank you to the Trading Post and Copper Branch for donating all the food.



**Save the date for the 2023 Hike for Hospice: Sunday June 4th, 2023!**



## WORDS FROM THE HEART

**We love sharing with you the kind words we receive from friends and family of our residents.** It is through the collective support and compassion of this community that we are able to provide exceptional care at Oak Ridges Hospice. None of this would be possible without each and every one of you.

"Thank you for the kindness, compassion & comfort you provided our family & friends during Jim's stay at Oak Ridges. We were so blessed to meet each of you & appreciate you more than words can express.

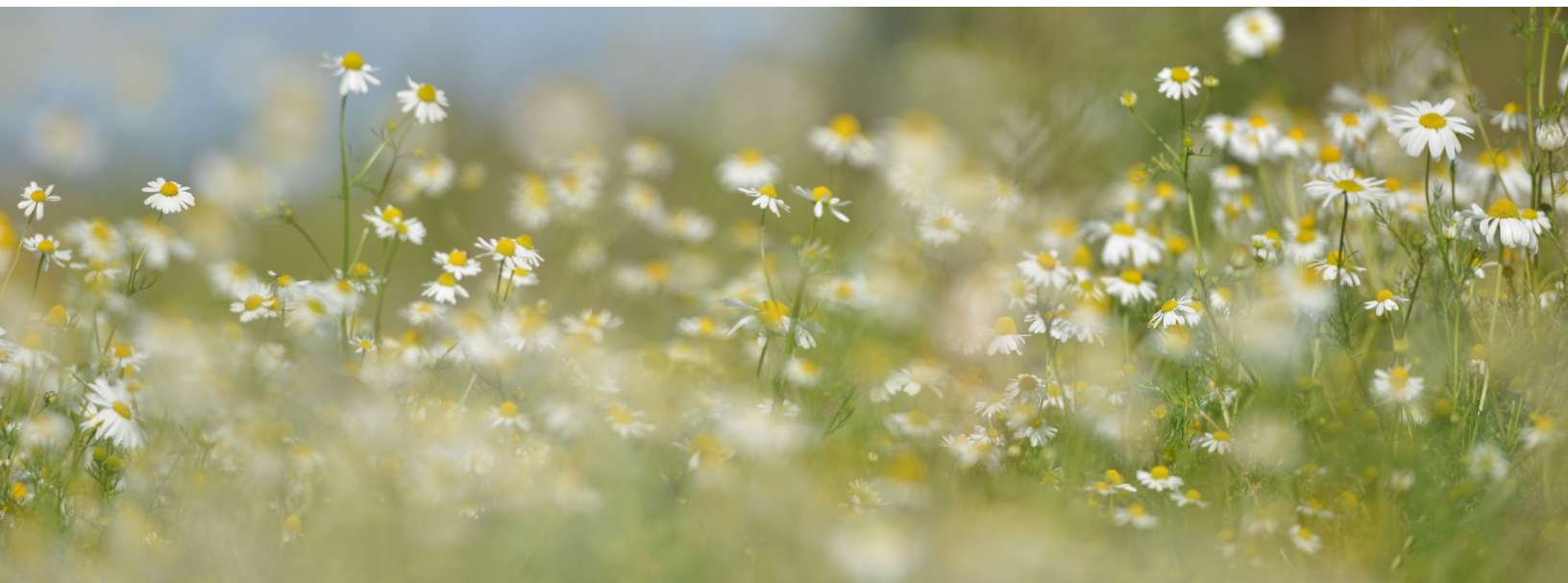
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!" - Carol & family

"Thank you so much for all the love and care you did for our mom. Her final home was a much loved home. We didn't worry when we went home as we knew there were caring employees giving her excellent care. Everyone looked after mom's every wish. Her birthday is a memory we will never forget. She was a queen and treated like one too! She was so happy that day. We are forever grateful to each one of you for speaking with her, sitting and listening to her music. She loved to be pampered and you did it! Thank you for all you did and the care you gave us... it was truly appreciated and we are grateful." -

the Dickson family

"The care & compassion shared with our family helped us to say goodbye to mom/grammy peacefully and with dignity. We are so very grateful to ALL those who built, maintain, volunteer and staff this wonderful place." - the Naherne family

"We are so very grateful for the care for M. Our family had a soft gentle space to share love and laughs as we said farewell. A loving wife, mother, sister and friend, she will be remembered with the same joy she brought to life." - the Batten family





## MEET THE TEAM

### **CARLY MCPHEE - CLINICAL LEAD**

Carly initially joined Oak Ridges Hospice as a full time RN in 2021 when the hospice opened. She was recently promoted to the new position of Clinical Lead and so we wanted to introduce you to Carly and this new important role at the hospice.

#### **Could you share a little bit about your personal/professional journey that brought you to ORH?**

I was born and raised in Durham Region, then ventured out in pursuit of post-secondary education. I completed my nursing degree at the University of Toronto where I had a placement at Kensington Hospice, and it quickly became clear this was the setting to which I wanted to dedicate my nursing career.



At the time I graduated there was no hospice near the Durham Region, so I packed up and moved to Honolulu, Hawaii to work for a private long-term care/hospice residence. The announcement of Oak Ridges Hospice (ORH) opening could not have been better timing, I had just moved back to Durham when they began looking to hire the clinical team! I was fortunate enough to be a part of the opening clinical team here at ORH.

#### **What does your role as Clinical Lead entail and how do you support individuals at the hospice?**

In my new role I support a variety of clinical functions such as; providing guidance and support for the care team, assisting with the intake process and clinical care inquiries, quality improvement projects, liaising with our team of physicians and pharmacy to optimize processes and care delivery, engagement within our community through outreach events and interprofessional communications, and a variety of other clinical tasks including picking up bedside shifts as needed.

#### **Do you have a favourite moment or memory that has happened since starting in your role at ORH?**

I have many beautiful memories from working at ORH, it is difficult to pick just one. I think I speak for myself and many staff in saying our first Holiday Memorial Tree Event is something I will never forget. It was incredible to see the family and friends of the resident's we have served again. The opportunity to connect with them, sharing fond memories of our residents is something I truly appreciate.

#### **What is something you would like the community to know about Oak Ridges Hospice or your role in general?**

I wish I could put into words the feeling of Oak Ridges Hospice. I say 'feeling' because it is easy to look at pictures or drive by the building and see how beautiful it looks. But there is something about the warmth, kindness and uplifting spirit of Oak Ridges that gives our residents, families, staff, and volunteers this feeling we cannot describe. I would encourage anyone who is seeking or interested in our services to come into the Morgan and Sidhu House to experience this for themselves..

## MEET THE TEAM CONT...

### JOANNA THORNTON - KITCHEN LEAD

Joanna joined the ORH team in October 2021 as the Kitchen Lead and has poured her heart and soul into every home cooked dish that comes out of our hospice kitchen. She has also catered many hospice events and continues to add new recipes to our kitchen each week!

#### Could you share a little bit about your personal/professional journey that brought you to ORH?

I was a computer programmer/team leader who went to George Brown for culinary arts at night school just because cooking was a passion. I never saw myself working full time in a restaurant environment so I turned my love for food into helping meal programs within the church, for individuals who were ill or with new babies.

Helping others with food became my new passion. When the role of hospice kitchen lead became available, it became my dream job.

#### What does your role as Clinical Lead entail and how do you support individuals at the hospice?

As kitchen lead my job entails creating comfort food for every resident. I meet with either residents or their family members to ask favourite foods, cravings, foods that bring back childhood memories etc. whether it be Jamaican jerk chicken or cheesy cauliflower soup, every effort is made to bring comfort to the resident - with food. All food is made fresh and homemade with love, stored in containers and frozen - to be easily heated and served on demand. Recipes are maintained in a binder to ensure consistency. Kitchen procedures were created and continuously updated to support our over 25 wonderful kitchen volunteers that I have the pleasure to work with. I also do all the grocery shopping.

#### Do you have a favourite moment or memory that has happened since starting in your role at ORH?

I have SO many wonderful memories since I started in October 2021. I guess one of my favourite memories is when we had a beautiful lady living at the hospice who grew up in Newfoundland. Having a close friend who also grew up there, I asked if they had any berries in their freezer from their last visit. Low and behold, he had some frozen berries which I turned into a jam and smothered a small piece of homemade cheese cake with. The childhood memories that came pouring out of that bit of jam...I will never ever forget.

#### What is something you would like the community to know about Oak Ridges Hospice or your role in general?

I believe Oak Ridges Hospice is a truly remarkable place run by people filled with empathy and love. Each employee just wants to give families everything they need to allow them special time with their love ones - as family - not as caregivers.





## SAVE THE DATE

### PORT PERRY PEDALS

On Sunday September 11th, join Port Perry Pedals for a scenic and active day in support of Oak Ridges Hospice!

Choose from a variety of routes, including a family friendly fun 10K route, all the way up to the century 160K route. Take in the scenic countryside as you enjoy some of the best scenery Ontario has to offer. Partial proceeds from the event will be donated to Oak Ridges Hospice.

To learn more or to register, visit: [portperrypedals.ca](http://portperrypedals.ca)



The poster for the Amazing Race Port Perry fundraiser is split diagonally from the bottom-left to the top-right. The upper-left portion is black and features the text "AMAZING RACE" in large, bold, white letters, with "RACE" being significantly larger than "AMAZING". Below this, "PORT PERRY" is written in white, and "September 17, 2022" is in orange. The lower-right portion is yellow and features a white oval with the text "Save THE Date" in a cursive font. Below the oval, "FUNDRAISER FOR OAK RIDGES HOSPICE" is written in bold black letters. At the bottom, it says "presented by" in a small font, followed by the logo for McMURTRY LAW PC, which consists of a stylized "m" in a circle and the text "McMURTRY LAW PC" in bold black letters.

The Amazing Race Port Perry is an adventure race that takes place through downtown Port Perry with various challenges, detours, roadblocks, and pit stops along the way!

Join us on September 17, 2022 for this fun team based event where friends, colleagues or families, in teams of four, compete against each other & the clock, to make it to the finish line and win some great prizes! The day ends with an after-party and awards ceremony at the Old Flame where prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and last place teams, as well as the best dressed team!

To learn more or to register, visit: [arportperry.ca](http://arportperry.ca)

Thank you to the brilliant team at McMurtry Law PC for planning and organizing this incredible event! All proceeds from the Amazing Race Port Perry are donated to Oak Ridges Hospice.

# APPRECIATIONS DAYS

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

On June 22, we held a special luncheon at the beautiful Gray Silo Lavender Farm to thank all our amazing volunteers! The buffet was delicious and catered by our fantastic cook, Joanna Thornton. It was a fun afternoon of good conversation, enjoyable food, and great company. **Thank you once again to our incredible volunteers!** You are so critical to the hospice and provide so much support and comfort in your various roles. We appreciate all your hard work and dedication!



## PSW DAY

On May 19th, we celebrated PSW Day by having a special super hero tournament and celebration with our amazing PSWs, Eileen, Shannon, and Robert. It was a fun afternoon filled with silly games, good laughs, and lots of snacks. Our PSWs really are our true "Superheroes in Scrubs"! We are eternally grateful for their professionalism, skill, empathy, and compassion.



## NURSES WEEK

This year, nurses week ran from May 9 - 15, and we spent the whole week celebrating! Each day there was a new special treat and throughout the week, games and activities were set up in the library for all staff, volunteers, and guests to participate in. Our nurses are truly incredible and we hope they know every day how grateful we are to them for their hard work, passion, dedication, and compassion.





## IN KIND DONATIONS



We are so appreciative of all the people who reach out to us with offers to donate items to the hospice. While we wish we could accept all donations, due to our limited storage and very specific needs, we need to be selective when accepting gifts in kind.

If you are thinking of donating something to the hospice, please get in touch with us first. If we can't accept something, we may be able to help you find another place that can.

Contact: [mbetlem@oakridgeshospice.com](mailto:mbetlem@oakridgeshospice.com)

## IN MEMORIAM



We gratefully acknowledge donations received in memory of the following individuals\*:

Petrina Abersek  
Audrey Adams  
Victor Agnew  
Judy Antoniadis  
Joseph Anzlin  
Jim Ballingall  
John Bardeleben  
William Barr  
Batten, Marilyn  
Frank Camisso  
Tony Cancellara  
Sue Carmichael  
Alma Coates  
Bruce Cochrane  
Pat Corlett  
Janice Coulton  
Timothy Davidson

Lorraine Del Puente  
Margaret Dickson  
Kuni Fukusaka  
Carol Geddes  
Irv Gibson  
Don Green  
Elfriede Greenslade  
Helen Hadden  
Lynda Hayne  
Robert Henneberry  
Murray Hooper  
William Howse  
Giovanni Ianiri  
Dawn Ireland  
Anneliese Jaeger  
Jean Jarvis  
Dalton Jones  
Marie Kellett

Andreas Kemperle  
Maria Kendl  
Jacoba Krygsman  
Cindy Macko  
Alma Manns  
Ann McBride  
Doreen McCutcheon  
Patricia Miller  
John Moon  
Dave Muir  
Moe Mumford  
Veronique Paiement  
Joseph Ramayon  
Leonard Read  
Dorothy Reynolds  
Ethel Theresa Richard  
Rene Sauve  
Daphne Scherling

Joyce Shestowsky  
Alma Slatter  
Kevin Sprague  
Christine St. Germain  
Don Steele  
Evelyn Stirling  
Murray Stone  
Betty Stone  
Edward Audet  
Harry Thornton  
Mary Jean Till  
Heidi Underwood  
Carl Van Belle  
Jennifer Vanderven  
Nancy Vincent  
Allan Vivian  
Gregory Wynne

\*Donations received from March 1, 2022 to July 31, 2022

Learn more:

[oakridgeshospice.com](http://oakridgeshospice.com)

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