



# NEWSLETTER



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## CANCER ASSISTANCE SERVICES' CLIENT GETS HOT WHEELS

As difficult as the pandemic has been on each and everyone of us, it's important to sometimes look around or in the case of Denise Harper, outside your own front door to see what one can do to make a difference in the community. The result was a simple but powerful act of generosity that overwhelmed the grateful recipient Carol King. We wanted Denise to share her story because it is a shining example of Cancer Assistance Services' mission statement. We hope as you read you will be inspired by Denise's story and know that you can make a difference to those in your community.



"I genuinely believe the pandemic has made everyone feel more grateful for what we have. In my case, it is my family and health. Like many people, the pandemic has personally impacted me with the loss of my job in March 2020. The upside however was that I have been able to spend more time with my husband who was diagnosed 5 years ago with a terminal brain disease called Multiple Systems Atrophy. He is not able to move without the help of a wheelchair and scooter. We were fortunate enough to have two scooters and really did not need both and

wanted to give someone else in need the ease of mobility. Luckily, we are friends with the most fabulous and caring people Randy and Wendy Molnar. Wendy works at Cancer Assistance Services as the Transportation Coordinator and so was able to connect us with Carol King a client at CASHh who was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2007 and then again in 2018 with colorectal cancer, causing mobility issues. One day Carol happened to call CASHh in search of a scooter. Wendy was quickly able to make the connection. Carol's new Hot Wheels received some tuning up, before Wendy and I personally delivered the scooter adorned with a green bow to Carol. You would not believe the smile on Carol's face when we gave it to her. She was so excited about all her new travel with her furry pup Kia. It was like we gave her a million dollars. We love changing people's lives. Best gift of all" said Denise.

As for Carol, she says, "the scooter has given me a purpose to go out again. Walking in Georgetown is extremely hard for someone with my condition because it's very hilly and so I rarely went anywhere for about two and a half years. I am normally the one offering help and support so it has been a bit different being the one to receive it. I want to thank Denise, Wendy and the CASHh team for making this possible. It has made such a difference in my life!"

Joanne Hamp

### Issue

#### Spring 2021

##### Special points of interest:

- Give Where You Live
- Past Events—Thanks!
- Welcome Wendy
- CASHh Clients Share Their Thoughts
- Lemon Poppy Seed Cake
- Mountainview Residents Get Their Shots!

##### Inside this issue:

CASHh Client Gets Hot	1
Fundraising Corner	2
What's New at CASHh	3
Humour & Encouragement	4



## FUNDRAISING CORNER:

### ***“Give Where You Live”***

It is April and time for the “Give Where You Live” campaign in support of Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills (CASHh). This year our campaign will look a little different. CASHh will no longer be conducting an in person door-to-door campaign and this year, due to COVID-19, we also will not be doing our door hangers. We still need your help through your generous donations.

**You can donate in a number of ways;**

- Online ‘single’ or ‘monthly’ donations through our website at [www.cancerassistance.org/donate/](http://www.cancerassistance.org/donate/)
- Mail a cheque to the CASHh office
- Donation drop off at the CASHh Office Mailbox (contact the office for location)

**Did you know?**

- CASHh provides free transportation and practical home care support to our clients.
- We do not receive any government funding nor are we associated with any cancer organization.
- We rely on our April Campaign to generate a large portion of our income for the year.

**DONATE TODAY!**

### **PAST EVENTS—THANK YOU!**

Lambert’s Lights – \$3338

Salon Marcel Christmas Lights – \$3000

Melanie DeSouza Santa Photos – \$1100

Marnie Torres “Angel Wings” - \$1250

Spreading the Love – \$4500

Community Caring Box



## What's New at CASHh?



*I felt like a kid with the most amazing Babysitters.*

*I have been in good hands!"*

*- Wendy Molnar*



Those are the words Wendy Molnar shared in her speech at the annual pink pajama party fund raiser for CASHh in 2015. Sadly, Wendy is not talking about a kid in a candy store but about how she felt about her experience whilst utilizing CASHh services. Unfortunately, Wendy is all too familiar with cancer. Having received a diagnoses of stage 4 breast cancer herself in 2014 and surviving, she has also lost a staggering number of siblings and parents to cancer. Wendy's experience with cancer gives her a unique lens. She understands the impact cancer has on individuals, their immediate family, and their economic situation.

After her experience with cancer, Wendy being the fighter we have come to know and admire, always knew she was meant to pay it forward and give back to the community that has been there for her during her fight against cancer. When the position of Transportation Coordinator became available at CASHh, she decided to apply and got the job. For her, she wants to continue the fight and has adapted a stealth like armour when it comes to cancer. *"I am still here Stage 4 Breast Cancer – you picked the wrong Gal!"* is what Wendy has to say to cancer!

*"For CASHh and our community", says Julie Liddle, Director of Operations, "having Wendy join our team has been a big win. I knew intuitively Wendy would be a great fit for the position of Transportation Coordinator. Having gone through the uncertainty that sadly comes with a cancer diagnosis, Wendy is able to provide an identifiable lens which allows our clients to benefit from her lived experience and knowledge. While everyone's experience with cancer is unique, she understands the ebbs and flows and is able to provide support and empathy when needed".*

**Joanne Hamp**

### CASHh Clients Share Their Thoughts

Peggy Petrie, a CASHh volunteer for the past ten years is a busy lady. Not only does she volunteer as a driver but she also helps us in a client services capacity with our community outreach program, CASHh Connections. The program serves to support our current and past clients with informal, friendly weekly check-in calls. Throughout the past ten years, Peggy has developed some close connections with many of the people she calls.

After speaking with Aina one of our CASHh clients, she was keen to share her feeling about how our services helped make life more bearable for her during her cancer treatment. *"Peggy has been calling me from CASHh every couple of weeks for 9 years now she says... It means a lot to me that she calls and expresses her care and concern. Its nice to know someone cares. I haven't been going out due to my cancer treatment and of course the pandemic. I was only able to see my grandchildren and family through the window so it has been especially nice to have that connection with CASHh. Peggy is such a nice person, so caring. I am also really appreciative of the drivers. Without them, I would never be able to get to my treatments. It means so much to me because I have no one to drive me. The women and men who drive me are so nice. I was saying to Gail my driver, its like one big happy family and it cheers me right up!"*

Wendy, former client says *"I didn't want to be a burden to anyone but in addition to the prospect of treatment, I was terribly nervous and anxious about the drive to and from the hospital. When I discovered CASHh she said, it lifted the burden. It was so nice for someone to pick me up, drive me there and drop me off and bring me home. It took away all that worry so I could focus on my treatment. I admire the volunteers how they sometimes wait for two to three hours. I am five years cancer free now. Peggy's calls really have helped me through some of the things I was experiencing especially when she shared her own stories and how she coped. I am in a good place now and I couldn't have gotten here without the help of CASHh and its wonderful staff and volunteers." Thank you!*

**Laurie Robinson**





## Food, Laughter, Humour & Encouragement

### Lemon Poppy Seed Cake



Prep Time: 10 mins/Cook  
Time: 45 mins  
Total Time: 55 mins/  
Servings: 12 servings

#### Ingredients

1 box yellow cake mix or gluten free yellow cake mix  
1 small package instant lemon pudding  
1 C water  
1/4 C poppy seeds  
1/2 C vegetable oil  
4 eggs

#### Glaze

1 1/2 C icing sugar  
1 lemon rind  
2-3 Tbsp lemon juice

#### Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease and flour bundt pan

In the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whisk attachment, combine and mix all ingredients for 3-4 minutes

Bake on center rack for 45-55 minutes until toothpick inserted into center comes out clean

Cool in pan 15 minutes before removing from pan

#### Glaze

Mix glaze ingredients together until creamy. Pour

JOKES.....You're the zest!

Take life with a grain of salt, a slice of lemon, and a shot of tequila!

### Mountainview Residence Get Their COVID Shots!

CASHh staff are thrilled to hear the news that the Mountainview staff and residents can rest a little easier since having received their COVID vaccinations. Better days ahead!!!



### 5 WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Host an online book club  
Challenge each other to stay active  
Create a community photo challenge  
Find ways to learn together in this time  
Host a virtual happy hour

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2020/04/07/5-ways-connect-with-neighbors-during-coronavirus-outbreak/>

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