



JACC News

[Click here to help kids like Chevy Now!](#)



FALL 2018

Giving hope...when love is not enough

Because of You, They Got Through Their Toughest Times



Chevy, 4 years old, was born with a hole exposing his spinal cord

Pregnant mother Ayme's life changed in the blink of an eye when doctors informed her that her unborn son would live with Spina Bifida.

Diagnosed with the most severe of its kind, little Chevy was born with paralysis from the waist down with an opening exposing his spinal cord and nerves. Chevy's Mom recalls the first few days of his life as if it were yesterday...

"I was at the hospital with Chevy 24/7. The cost of purchasing 3 meals a day at the hospital in order to make milk for him, plus parking - all the bills were adding up, all while I was on maternity leave. Back home, my landlord expected rent on time. You helped us cover that cost so that Chevy and I didn't become homeless while in the hospital."

Shortly after birth, Chevy underwent an extensive surgery to repair the hole in his back. Complications during his recovery meant that Ayme and Chevy had to extend their hospital stay, and were later transferred to yet another hospital.

Today, Chevy continues to face mobility challenges, but is able to walk — something his doctors can't believe! He is required to see several specialists in Toronto regularly for appointments and procedures. These travel expenses add up, and also make full time work for single Mom Ayme very difficult.

Thanks to incredible donors like you, Chevy and his Mom recently received support for a second time with the cost of travel and accommodation for their 5 day stay in Toronto.

Thank you so much for showing them you care!



Chevy and his Mom during their recent trip to see his specialist

"I have worked full-time in the field of Social Services for over 15 years, and never imagined I would be on this path myself. We are so grateful for the help during tough times." - Chevy's Mom

Fun on the Farm!



Isabella and Mia having a blast with Paw Patrol at the Annual Country BBQ!

For many JACC families, coming to the Annual Country BBQ is a special tradition that marks the end of summer. This year's BBQ took place on August 25th and was an absolute blast! With the theme "Fun on the Farm," the kids enjoyed wagon rides, live animals, line dancing, interactive displays, and were even able to plant

their own "crop" to take home! And as any good farmer would tell you... a little rain never hurt anyone! Even with a bit of a drizzle, the fun just kept on going. A huge thank you to all of the incredible volunteers and donors who helped make this day possible. It means the world to these deserving children and families. See you again next year on August 24th, 2019. Save the date!



Daniel did not hesitate to join the 'Dance Time Road Show' Line Dancers on stage!



As usual, DJ Trevor had everyone up dancing, including the Durham Regional Police!

From the Families



Complications from recent surgery left 14-year-old Rebecca's legs paralyzed.

Going into surgery for scoliosis, 14-year-old Rebecca never would have imagined that she would wake up paralyzed from the waist down. Her Mom wrote, "After Rebecca's surgery, we were in a daze. We were told we would be going to a kids

rehabilitation hospital for the next 6 months. I had no idea what we were going to do. With the help of some amazing people we are doing really well. Rebecca has regained a lot of movement in her right leg and her left leg is getting there. She is the strongest, most positive girl I know. Thanks to JACC I have been able to stay by her side while she recovers. Thank you so much for your donations."

"Rebecca has a motto we follow: One day at a time... One moment at a time... One step at a time... I am so proud of her and she is forever my hero." – Rebecca's Mom

Twins Jax and Dylan (right) both suffer from hearing loss. With your help, their Mom received support for the cost of transportation to and from their many appointments.



Jax and Dylan, twins, have hearing loss.



Where Are They Now?



Dakota is all smiles after participating in the Special Games at her school

“We often read together and work on her speech. Dakota just completed Grade 1 at the same school as her big sister where, until this year, she was the only child with Down Syndrome. She enjoys singing and swimming, and participated in the special games at school last month. According to Dakota’s report card, she met and in some cases exceeded expectations!”

Dakota is not the only one in the family who has been busy, though! A dedicated advocate for her daughter, Dion recently gave a presentation to Dakota’s school on World Down Syndrome Day, in order to spread awareness about the genetic disorder. On the day of the presentation, Dakota’s classmates had a special surprise for her...



Dakota’s classmates wearing their Down Right Awesome T-shirts.

“Her entire class surprised us by wearing t-shirts they had handmade. It was such an emotional moment knowing that the entire class would support Dakota in that way.” - Dakota’s Mom

While Dakota’s speech has seen a big improvement thanks to the incredible support of JACC donors, she still has a long way to go. Like so many families who are referred

to us, Dakota’s family will continue to face significant out-of-pocket expenses in order to provide her with the support she needs. JACC is honoured to have helped this family in their time of great need.



Dakota (front) with her Mom and sister celebrating Canada Day this year

You may recognize Dakota’s smiling face from our 2016 newsletter. As a child with Down Syndrome, Dakota struggles with a severe speech delay. Her Mom Dion wanted nothing more than for her daughter to be able to communicate, but as a single mom of two, the cost of speech therapy was beyond her reach. This is where you, our generous supporters, showed Dakota and her Mom that you care. Thanks to you, Dakota received speech therapy throughout 2016. We reached out to get an update on her progress. Here’s what her Mom had to say...

“Dakota has come a very long way in a relatively short space of time. She is doing very well, all things considered.”

- Dakota’s Mom

Follow JACC on Instagram and Facebook to hear more stories like Dakota’s:

Instagram: [@jenashcharity](https://www.instagram.com/jenashcharity)

Facebook:

[@JenniferAshleighChildrensCharity](https://www.facebook.com/JenniferAshleighChildrensCharity)



I am a Monthly Donor Because...



Kimberley, a long time volunteer and Monthly Donor, explains what it is that inspires her to support JACC on a monthly basis:

"I have seen the positive impact first hand. I have the utmost confidence

and respect in the people responsible for delivering the support these children need - there is a deep level of care and compassion. JACC touches people - donors, volunteers, staff... but most importantly they make a real difference to the children and families they help. JACC is so close to my heart and I'm fortunate to be able to support them, not only as a monthly donor, but also as a volunteer. Being a partner in their mission and a cheerleader in their success is one of the most rewarding experiences - I cannot recommend getting involved enough!"

We are so thankful for our Monthly Donors like Kimberley as they spread generosity throughout the year providing a steady and reliable source of funding to some very

special kids and their families. If you are interested in spreading your donation over 12 months, please contact acurrie@jenash.org or 905-852-1799 x30



Mark Your Calendar!

Sept. 15, 2018

Yoga in the Park, Elgin Park, Uxbridge, 10:30 - 11:30am

Sept. 22, 2018

Toronto Wolfpack Game, Lamport Stadium, Toronto, 12:30pm

Nov. 2 & 3, 2018

Stouffville Christmas Home Tour (details to come)

Upcoming Community Events

Yoga in the Park

Our incredible partner NRG4Life Fitness is hosting [Yoga in the Park](#) on Saturday Sept.15th at 10:30am in support of JACC. Their seasoned yoga instructors will lead a class suitable for all skill levels and ages. This is a community event open to all. Invite your friends, family and neighbours. \$10 each or \$5 for kids. BYO yoga mat. Learn more and RSVP by clicking [here](#).



Toronto Wolfpack Game

Did you know that Canada has its first ever all-professional Rugby



team - and they are based right here in Toronto?! As a JACC supporter, we invite you and 3 family members/ friends to enjoy the [Toronto Wolfpack](#) game on Sept. 22 for free. Claim your free tickets by visiting [this link](#) and entering Offer Code: **TWJDYCB** (click "skip this step" on the pop-up). For questions about claiming your tickets, please do not hesitate to contact: ticketing@torontowolfpack.com

Stouffville Home for Christmas Tour

We are thrilled to announce that

proceeds from [Stouffville's 2018 Home for Christmas House Tour](#), taking place on November 2 & 3, will benefit JACC children and families! Don't miss this stunning event which is sure to leave you inspired for the holiday season! Keep an eye on our Facebook page for ticket announcements.

