



JACC News



SUMMER 2023

Update: Shawn Quest & Her Son Jude

Shawn Quest is the mother of a beautiful little 8-year-old boy named Jude. Jude lives with Down Syndrome, Autism and other challenges. Despite Jude's limitations he still enjoys life to the fullest.

Courageously, Shawn joined Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity at our annual gala this past April as our guest speaker. Shawn spoke about the struggles they have faced navigating all of his health challenges. Most notably, Shawn shared that in 2022, they received devastating news that Jude now had B-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia causing their life to change in the blink of an eye.

"It doesn't matter who you are or what you do, when sickness enters your life – everything changes." – Shawn Quest



After receiving the news that she would have to remain in the hospital with Jude, leaving her unable to work, a social worker put Shawn in contact with Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity. Thanks to the generous support of people like you, our charity stepped in

to support Shawn and Jude when they were faced with this difficult situation.

After a long absence, we are happy to say that Jude is now back in school consistently. Shawn also shared some incredible news with us – Jude has started walking independently!! This is a huge stepping stone for Jude!

Unfortunately, Shawn has not been able to return to work due to the recurring visits to the oncology department at SickKids Hospital. This leaves them in a difficult situation as costs are continuing to rise. Shawn hopes that with time, there will be less visits to the hospital, and that she will be able to use her skills as a registered nurse and educator to support her family.

In Shawn's words "The gala was fantastic. I felt honoured to have shared my story with everyone and to have been welcomed so warmly. It was a very special night for me." It was a pleasure to have Shawn share her story with Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity supporters.

Partner Spotlight: Megaloid Laboratories

Megaloid Laboratories has been a long standing, dedicated supporter of Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity. They are also the only corporate monthly donor we currently have and would love for more companies to follow suit. We would like to share what Megaloid has kindly written about the charity.

"Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity holds a special place in our hearts here at Megaloid. JACC first came to Bev and Debbie's attention through a former board member about 15 years ago when we were invited to the annual BBQ. We were overwhelmed by the number of families that JACC was helping and all of their stories. Since then, we have attended golf tournaments, galas and BBQ's and our appreciation for the charity has only grown.



As a company, Megaloid Laboratories is dedicated to supporting Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity through monthly donations. In fact, JACC became the first organization that kickstarted Megaloid's monthly charity program. In talking to the JACC board members, we learned that most charities are not able to structure their programs and giving without knowing what is coming in on a regular basis. One-time donations are awesome, but consistent, dependable

monthly support allows JACC to more accurately forecast their ability to make real commitments to the people they are helping.

It is a core belief at Megaloid that we share our successes by giving to our local community and we find it brings joy and fulfillment back to our team. We respect the hard work and expertise of the leadership, staff and board of JACC and trust them to use the funds for the best possible outcomes. We can't say enough about how meaningful these donations are for us, especially when we can see the impact from the Friday Love Notes, pictures, and stories of families who have benefited from JACC's help.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity for the incredible work they do. Thank you for making a difference!" – Debbie McNamee, President

Looking to Volunteer?

Our Annual Country BBQ is a special event we host at no cost to our Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity families. This remarkable day is about the children and families we serve. It is a day for them to step away from the daily challenges they face and enjoy a fun day in the country. It is invitation-only and a favourite day for all of our families, donors, volunteers and staff.

There will be various volunteer opportunities including set-up on August 25th, 2023 and at the BBQ itself on August 26th. We also need help with numerous tasks over the next month.

If you are interested in being a volunteer (either on your own or bringing a team for a great team building opportunity!) please email Kylie at [klewis@jenash.org](mailto:kewis@jenash.org).

We are expecting close to 1000 people on this memorable day at a cost of approximately \$20,000. Funds donated to the BBQ will help pay for food, games, entertainment, activities, transportation and all things fun throughout the day. If you are interested in making a donation to offset these costs, please donate below.

DONATE HERE

A donation of any amount will help these families have a day that they won't soon forget.

Would you consider partnering with us to sponsor an area for the day?

If you want to hear more about Sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kylie Lewis at klewis@jenash.org.



[CLICK HERE TO HELP CHILDREN WITH COMPLEX NEEDS](#)

You can also mail a cheque to our office if preferred.

Thank you for your support:

Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity
10800 Concession 5
Uxbridge ON, L9P 1R1



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