

Memo to Staff
from the Executive Director
November 25, 2019

Update on CHEO Fundraising

Campaign #6 Results - Cough Assist Machine 

I am delighted to announce that thanks to your tremendous fundraising efforts across the agency, last week I was able to send a **\$5000** cheque to the CHEO Foundation. I'm told there were many smiles at CHEO when they learned they would be able to purchase a new Cough Assist Machine for the hospital, thanks to the staff at Global Child Care Services. My contact tells me they are "filled with gratitude" for our fundraising work. To-date, we have raised **\$42,040** for CHEO. It seems we are blowing them away!

Campaign #7: Launched!

Without interruption, we will launch into CHEO Campaign #7, with a goal to raise \$6,000 for CHEO to purchase two much-needed 24-hour **Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitors**.



An Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitor (ABPM) is a specially designed monitor that allows multiple blood pressure readings to be recorded over a 24-hour period, whether the child is awake or asleep. This allows care to continue outside the hospital (hence: "ambulatory").

Monitoring blood pressure over a 24-hour period is an *essential* part of the work of kidney specialists (nephrologists), as they must be able to confirm or rule out high blood pressure in children. Without this testing, the CHEO nephrologists cannot properly manage hypertension in children.

The Nephrology team at CHEO currently only has a small number of these ABPM devices, which has resulted in a *wait time of over six months* for children to have 24-hour blood pressure monitoring outside of the hospital. Unmanaged blood pressure can lead to risk of strokes or seizures and a faster progression to dialysis and kidney transplants, not to mention that long term untreated high blood pressure in childhood leads to heart complications later in life.

You will be pleased (although not surprised) to learn that we have already raised \$1,449 towards our new goal, thanks to the recent Holiday Wreath fundraising activity held by our wonderful team at Winterwood Child Care Centre.

Onward for CHEO!

Orlene