

Memo to Staff
from the Executive Director
November 16, 2021

Update on CHEO Fundraising

Campaign #7 Results:
Two Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitors: 

Cast your minds back to late November of 2019, when we launched our 7th fundraising campaign for the CHEO Foundation, 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. The Nephrology team at CHEO currently has only a small number of these ABPM devices, which has resulted in a *wait time of over six months* (pre-pandemic!) 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.

A few months after we launched this campaign, the global pandemic landed on our collective doorstep, altering every aspect of our lives, and certainly throwing a wrench into our ongoing fundraising efforts.

However, I am **thrilled** to report that CHEO can now add **two more ABPMs** to its inventory, thanks to the fine work of Global employees across the agency undertaking a variety of initiatives to raise money for this cause. A special shout-out to our team at **Winterwood Child Care Centre**, who raised \$1449 two years ago with a Christmas Wreath fundraiser when we launched this campaign in 2019, and who have now taken us to our goal with another Christmas Wreath fundraiser that raised a whopping **\$2,146**, which means our amazing Winterwood team was responsible for 60% of the money raised for this campaign!

Thank you to everyone who coordinated a fundraiser or who bought tickets to support the children at CHEO. As always, the community-minded spirit of Global employees continues to be a source of enormous pride for us all. I can't *wait* to tell the CHEO Foundation the good news ...

Many thanks once again for your generosity,

