



Cut Off Cancer

Childhood Cancer Foundation – Candlelighters Canada

Hosting Your Own Community Event

**Raise Funds
Raise Awareness
Create Wigs for Children**

Bring a community together to make a difference



Cut Off
Cancer



Cut Off Cancer: The Community Event With A Difference

- Invite people to register for a haircut, hairstyle or even a full head shave to support the Childhood Cancer Foundation:
 - ❖ School Event – get the teachers and the principle involved!
 - ❖ Community Centre Event – you can invite local police and firefighters
 - ❖ Local Hair Salon – an “after hours” event at your favourite hair salon can get a great way to attract new clients
- Everyone is welcome to participate as spectators and cheer on their friends
- Survivor/Family member presentations can be arranged as a part of the event
- An award presentation from a Childhood Cancer representative to celebrate the success of the event, the funds raised and the hair collected for making wigs for children
- We provide information about the Childhood Cancer Foundation and the need to help children with cancer for participants to know more about the cause they’re supporting
- Event flyers, registration forms, posters and pledge forms are customized for each community event

Cut Off Cancer haircutting events are special because they strengthen communities. These events are also great to bring a group of people together such as sports teams, schools, universities and social clubs. Participants experience a unique activity that will be remembered for a long time, and they appreciate how their involvement contributes to the fight against childhood cancer.



The Roots of Cut Off Cancer

Cut Off Cancer was started in 2003 by Harriet Lye, a teen cancer survivor. At the age of 15, Harriet was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia. Researchers around the world received samples of her bone marrow and collaborated on her treatment. She stayed on 8A at Sick Kids hospital for 7 months, enduring 5 rounds of chemotherapy, almost 100 blood transfusions, countless tests and scans. Her battle inspired family and friends to raise funds to help others in the fight against childhood cancer.

When Harriet returned to high school, she organized the first Cut Off Cancer event for students and teachers. It was an enormous success with more than just funds raised. Hair that was 10" or longer was donated to create wigs for children in cancer treatment, which is much needed because wigs for children are not produced regularly.

Thanks to Harriet, another successful Cut Off Cancer event took place at the Sick Kids hospital in the summer of 2006. It was quickly realized that these haircutting events are fun, creative and meaningful and the Childhood Cancer Foundation developed a plan to bring Harriet's event to communities where people can come together and make a difference.



Harriet Lye is available for presentations at Cut Off Cancer events scheduled between May - August 2007



Frequently Asked Questions

How long is a Cut Off Cancer event?

With a ½ hour set up and a ½ hour clean up, we recommend 4 hour event – that allows for three hours of hairstyling fun with the participants. You can schedule a day and time that fits your schedule and the place where you're holding the event.

How many people need to register for a haircut / hairstyle?

With up to 30 people registered in advance for a haircut, head shave or hairstyle, you're guaranteed to have an interesting event with lots of opportunities for everyone to cheer on and celebrate.

Are pledges mandatory?

We request that everyone registering for a haircut, hairstyle or head shave do their best to get pledges from friends, neighbours and co-workers. People are very enthusiastic to support you with pledges – especially if there's a major hair cut planned; a local celebrity / local athlete; or a person who dares to go bare with a head shave.

Who is cutting the hair?

Local hair salons are very enthusiastic, and often an event organizer will have a favourite salon that they want to get involved – and it's a wonderful way to attract new clients.

How is the cut-off hair used?

A cut-off "pony tail" of hair measuring 10" (25cm) or longer can be used directly to create a wig. About 12 "pony tails" of hair are needed to create one wig for a child.



Frequently Asked Questions

Where does the cut-off hair go?

The ponytails donated at a Cut Off Cancer event will be donated to the Hair for Kids Program at Continental Hair in Toronto. This caring, family-run, company has been making wigs for Canadian children in treatment for cancer for 8 years. Since 1998, they have made more than 50 wigs for kids. It takes about 12 ponytails of 10 inches (25 cm) or more, with minimal processing, to make into a wig for a child. Continental Hair charges just \$250 for these wonderful, custom-made wigs that would normally cost more than \$2,500. (The \$250 can be covered by a charitable fund in cases of families experiencing financial hardship). The look and feel of having beautiful hair - at a time when a child is facing great emotional and physical challenges - is priceless. The donation of your hair is a very meaningful way to help a child and show support for their difficult journey - and the pledges that you receive from family, friends and colleagues will help the 10,000 children who are currently battling this dreadful disease.



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The Childhood Cancer Foundation - A National Network of Care

In addition to being the primary research funder for the Council of Canadian Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Directors, representing all 17 childhood cancer treatment centres and hospitals across Canada, we also provide core programs and services, such as:

- Family Support Kits for the 1,500 children diagnosed each year and their families
- Scholarship Program for cancer survivors to celebrate and encourage their second chance at life. We proudly awarded 68 scholarships in 2006
- Website Information and Resources – please visit: www.childhoodcancer.ca
- Benevolent Fund to help reduced income families with final arrangements for their loved one

In the 1950s, the overall cure rate for childhood cancer was in the area of 10%. Today, although cure rates vary among the various cancer types, the overall cure rate is over 70%. So, while we've come a long way, this still means that 1 in 4 children will die from cancer – it's by far the #1 disease killer of our precious Canadian children.

How Raised Funds Support Our Cause

The Childhood Cancer Foundation is pleased to report that our administrative costs amount to only 9% of total revenue. Funds are allocated to Research (approx. 54%), Parent/Family Support (approx. 26%) and Public Education (approx. 20%).

The Childhood Cancer Foundation is Canada's only national charity that is 100% dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer – to improve the survival rate for children and help them through treatment.



To Book Your Cut Off Cancer Community Event

Cut Off Cancer events can be scheduled any time between March – September 2007, on a day that works best for you. We recommend booking your event at least 2 months in advance so that we can customize your event flyer, poster and registration form for you to distribute in your community.



To book your Cut Off Cancer event contact:

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