



# BEREAVED FAMILIES OF ONTARIO

## Halton/Peel Chapter

An association of families who have lost children, siblings or parents through death.  
*The Bereaved Helping The Bereaved. We Can Help The Healing Begin*

Summer 2008

Volume 6 Issue 6

**Exciting Times at BFO Halton-Peel** BFO exists to support those who have lost a child, sibling or parent. We provide help to enable the healing to begin in a difficult life situation. Our community needs the services we provide and our organization is fully committed to addressing these needs. The last few months at BFO-HP have probably been the most challenging yet exciting times for the organization. There is renewed optimism and positive outlook filling the air at BFO H-P. Although we have many things to cheer, here are just a few....We have moved the office to reduce our costs and be more accessible to our members. We had two(2) wonderful Walks to Remembers. We have had strong Fund Raising events, a Yard Sale and TELUS Barbeque. We held our Annual General Meeting and celebrated our Volunteer of the Year, Angela Chang. We continued with strong Share and Support nights and Groups. Even as we say goodbye to Natasha Barnes who is moving on to pursue new career opportunities, we must celebrate and thank her for her commitment to BFO on the job over the last two(2) years, and her countless hours of volunteering and support to make BFO strong, healthy and vibrant. Finally, as we get ready to celebrate our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 28<sup>th</sup>, BFO H-P has also secured a Grant from the Trillium Foundation. This funding will help us hire and sustain a new Executive Director and Fund Raiser to take the organization well into the future. I would personally like express my sincerest thanks to Helena & Lisa in the office, our student Melanie Temple for her grant writing, our numerous volunteers and supporting organizations and my fellow board members. All of your tireless efforts are forever valued and appreciated. The work will never be done but, I truly would like to encourage everybody to take a brief moment and give yourself a "pat on the back" for this wonderful success. Richard Sheppard-Chair

## 20th Anniversary: Sept 28th

Thanks to your support and commitments, Bereaved Families of Ontario-Halton/Peel Affiliate celebrates our 20th anniversary on Sunday, September 28, 2008. Come join us at the north Civic Square ( by the fountain ) from noon to 4:00pm to reconnect with BFO's circle of friends, family, and supporters. We will provide the entertainment, food and healing. Please register for the event with a nominal donation of \$5.00 per person or \$ 10.00 per family. Send personal cheques to our new office: Bereaved Families of Ontario Halton/Peel, 33 City Centre Drive, Ste 610, Mississauga, ON L5B 2N5. In the event of rain, the activities will take place in the Civic Centre's Great Hall.

The printing of this newsletter and flyer was sponsored by:  
Phone 416.754.3028, ext 262

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We reserve the right to edit submissions as needed. Submissions for Winter Newsletter must be received no later than Oct 15, 2008.

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## We've Moved

New location is:  
33 City Centre Drive  
Unit 610  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L5B 2N5  
Phone: 905-848-4337  
Fax: 905-848-4338

## Special Thanks to:

AMJ Campbell Office Movers—Jack Stanton  
For the move and donating office furniture, Ken & Travis Moffat and Jake Kosir.

Colarossi + associates inc—  
Mario Colarossi  
Preparing floor plan

## Board of Directors

Richard Sheppard (chair)  
Andy Alexander  
Mark Bennett  
Dr. Deborah Davidson  
Karen Lowe  
Kenneth R. Moffat

## Milton Families Walk and Yard Sale raised in excess of \$6,000



Greg and Monica Smith organized a very successful Milton walk and yard sale which raised in excess of \$6,000 for BFO. The yard sale was held on May 3rd and the Walk was held on June 21st. Thank you to all the people that came out to help support such a great cause. And a special thanks to the 'worker bees' Karen Davies, Zarina Lyall, Gennie Manchisi and Gayle Slylvestre-Williams as well as Susan Paul that helped distribute flyers. A special thank you also to the Milton Champion for publishing a story in their newspaper about the event. If you would like some assistance in organizing your own local fund-raising event please contact the BFO office.

## BFO Walk to Remember - Over \$20,000 dollars raised



BFO had beautiful weather this year for the annual walk to remember held on May 24th at Streetsville park. Approximately 200 people came out to remember their loved ones, enjoy a BBQ and participate in the dove release. There was a raffle and prizes were awarded to top pledge earners in various categories. Special thanks to the following volunteers and organizers; Gloria Appleby, Heather Appleby, Dennis Ashby, Alastair Armstrong, Amber Bucaro, Donna Paris, Jeff Pogue, Kay Setaram and son, Jeff Similas, Laura Taylor, Don & Mary Ventresca and Iris Walsh. We also want to give a big thank you to our food sponsors; Garland Foods, Maple Leaf Foods, Tim Horton's, McDonalds and last but not least to Joanne Downey- Hayward and all our Board Members who without their support this event would not have been possible.

## Loved Ones Remembered

### Ventresca, Mary-Jean 1990 - 2004

With pen in hand we write this with tears in our eyes and with sorrow in our hearts. We were blessed to have had you for such a short period of time.

We miss you, We love you.  
Grandma Jean, Grandpa Frank Ventresca and aunt DeeDee



### Ventresca, Mary-Jean 1990 - 2004

Four years have gone bye,  
The tears come, we still cry.  
Remembering all the fun times we had,  
You're not here anymore, which makes us sad.  
We are always thinking about you and  
You are in our hearts forever.  
We miss you and love you,  
Your dad, step-mom Mary and brother Donnie

## Annual General Meeting

On June 17th Bereaved Families of Ontario—Halton/Peel held its Annual General meeting. Gary R. Landa; Chartered Accountant, reported the review of statements on BFO's financial position as at December 31, 2007. A copy of the audited statements of the organization is available as the BFO office for review.

## Volunteer Recognition



Thank you to the following volunteers that have facilitated groups and/or 1:1's since our spring 2008 newsletter.

*1:1's*—Deborah Davidson, Genie Manchisi, Janice Pedlar and Lillian Bomanski.

*Group Facilitators*—Shivana Ramsingh & Tamika Barnes, Maureen Hunkeler & Paul Serrao, Rick Matthews & Kathleen Baranik and Maryanne Shaw, Deborah Davidson.

*Supervisors*—Gloria Appleby & Rena Christine Brohm.

*Newsletter team*—Laura Taylor, Gail & Morris Jessop, Martin & Carolanne Weichselbaumer & Bridget McGlynn who graciously volunteered this past year to fold, stamp and insert our newsletters which you have been perusing.

A big thank you to Amber Bucaro, Brooke Waller and Franz De Leon for raising \$1100 at their Milton Crossroads TELUS BBQ.



**VOLUNTEER OF THE  
YEAR AWARD**

**Angela Chang**

Office Volunteer Extraordinaire

## We've Moved

Bereaved Families moved to our new location on June 26th. The new location will not only provide BFO with better exposure and visibility, it will also provide much easier access to the office for our clients. Thank you to the following volunteers who without their assistance, the move would not have been possible; Shirley DeMarsh, her grandson Graeme, Lois Burford and Alistair for helping the staff pack up and Ken & Travis Moffat for painting the premises in prep for our move. We would also like to take this opportunity to give a special thank you to Larry Lloyd who always makes himself available to assist with our IT questions and helped set up our equipment in the new location.



## Volunteers Wanted

If you have time to spare and would like to help out in the office or participate on a committee please contact Helena at [programming@bereavedfamilies.ca](mailto:programming@bereavedfamilies.ca)



## Calendar of Events

Date & Time	Event/Meeting	Location	Messages
Sept. 23rd 2008 @ 7-9pm Oct. 28 th 2008 @7-9pm Nov. 25th 2008 @7-9pm	Share and Support night	BFO Office	Please note our new address 33 City Centre drive unit 610 please RSVP
Sept. 28th 2008 @ 12 noon -4pm	20th Anniversary Circle of Friendship	North Civic Square (By the fountain)	Please RSVP to program- ming@bereavedfamilies.ca
Sept. 2nd 2008 @ 6:30pm	Board Meeting	BFO Office	
Sept. 17-Nov 19 @ 7:00pm	Child Loss Group	BFO Office	
Sept 8th @7.00 p,	Infant Loss Group	BFO Office	
Dec. 1st 2008 @ 6:30pm	Loving Memory Tree	Mississauga City Hall	Mark the date

### Welcome Students

We are pleased to welcome the following Ryerson students—3rd year student Antonietta (Tonia) Marroccoli and returning 4th year student Melanie Temple. Look for more updates on these two young ladies in our next newsletter.



Want to help us save money and paper? Prefer to receive this newsletter by email? Email programming@bereavedfamilies.ca with your current mailing address and the email address you would like to receive this newsletter at and we will remove you from our mailing list and add you to our email list. Help save a tree.

### Memorial Opportunity

- Yes, I would like to make a memorial donation in honour of my loved one.
- Yes, I would like to have my loved one included on the “Loved Ones Remembered” page.
- Yes, I would like to have my loved one’s name/my remembrance memorial posted on the BFO web site.
- No, I would prefer to make a donation only.

If you choose to have your loved one remembered in the newsletter please complete the following.  
If you wish to include a personal message or verse, please use a separate piece of paper.

Name of Loved One: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Month in which you would like to have this published in the newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

***Bereaved Families reserves the right to edit all submissions due to content and/or space limitations.***