



Carley's Angels Launches Groundbreaking Cancer Care Partnership with SickKids

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Toronto, ON - January 16, 2019 - Innovative cancer care organization, Carley's Angels Foundation, is joining forces with The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) on a new program that is the first of its kind. Carley's Angels is proud to announce a new partnership with SickKids that supports a Fellowship in Psychosocial Oncology. The selected fellow will have the rare opportunity to train with a highly skilled SickKids team to develop and implement therapies for mental health, nutrition, mindfulness, meditation and support groups benefiting cancer patients and their families. This annual Fellowship was developed in-line with Carley's Angels' mandate of looking beyond traditional cancer care to focus on holistic therapies that have proven to be beneficial to cancer patients but are not widely offered in today's hospital setting. It seeks to not only treat the physical sickness but also the effect cancer has on the family and the patient's mental state.

Carley's Angels Foundation was created in honour of Carley Elle Allison. She was a strong and courageous young woman who battled a very rare form of cancer. It was this strength that allowed Carley to live her life to the fullest, even as her cancer progressed. She was much more than the average teenager as she gained notoriety as an aspiring singer and talented figure skater. Although her battle was unimaginable, those who knew her were inspired by her positivity and contagious smile.

"Carley's journey introduced our family to many members of the medical community who helped set our partnership with SickKids in motion," said Riley Allison, Chair, Carley's Angels Foundation. "We are grateful to the dedicated Psychosocial Oncology team for helping us bring our vision to life."

Due to the rareness of Carley's disease, traditional medicine alone was not enough. Instead, Carley's family, with the help of Toronto's outstanding medical community, committed themselves to searching for



a combination of traditional and holistic treatments for Carley. These holistic treatments proved to be especially effective during Carley's difficult journey however, were not available in hospital and proved difficult to access. It was this challenge that inspired the partnership with SickKids in hopes that the fellowship can help provide support, guidance and psychological assistance to patients and their families through all phases of their cancer journey.

"We are deeply committed to recognizing and supporting the psychosocial needs of kids with cancer and their families. This fellowship is making a marked difference in the way we care for our patients," says Dr. Jim Whitlock, Chief of the Oncology/Haematology Division at SickKids.

Carley's Angels continues to grow Carley's legacy by working to unite traditional and holistic cancer care in hospitals, all while spreading Carley's message of Always Smile.

For more information on the Launch of this innovative program click here <https://youtu.be/ql0QDmSoo2M>. To get involved please visit www.teamcarley.ca

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Media requests: Lindsay Singer LSinger@live.ca 416.629.5956

