## BEST BULLETIN



No. 02

## VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 2nd Edition of The Best Bulletin - Winter Edition! As the year unfolds, we're excited to bring you another edition of The Best Bulletin, celebrating the dedication and impact of our incredible volunteers. This winter, we're sharing inspiring stories, upcoming opportunities, and ways to stay connected with our community.



## CENTRE SPOTLIGHTS

#### THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Development Office at The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre focuses on fundraising, donor relations, and community engagement to support our programs and services.

### — MEET THE TEAM LORRIE HAGEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lorrie is the Executive Director for all programs at the centre; she loves being a part of the Development team because she can see the difference it makes in the daily lives of staff, patients, volunteers and the whole community. She is always happy to be a sounding board for feedback and truly enjoys being the voice of the centre.



#### AMY SPRING, DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



Amy is the Development Officer at The Best Centre and enjoys working with the community and volunteers on a daily basis. Amy understands the importance of the centre to the T1D community and passionately strives to fundraise every dollar needed to continue to support our patients and families.

#### VONNETTE FORDE, DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Vonnette has the pleasure of Volunteer overseeing our donations Program, securing sponsorships and for our exciting events and advocating for the centre in the community.



Vonnette is passionate about creating meaningful partnerships and engaging our community in impactful ways.

#### **VOLUNTEER JACKIE HILL**



Jackie's daughter, Catherine, was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes in 1987 at the age of 7. Jackie then began volunteering with the Canadian Diabetes Association in Thunder Bay Ontario. started by supporting the doorto-door campaign and later sat

sat on the board for NDHN and CDA.

Jackie began volunteering with the Best Centre in 1997. She and Marlene planned and executed the first BEST Gala event in 1999, which led to many more years of amazing galas.

Jackie continues volunteering as the Bingo Leader, a Founder's Day and Yard Sale committee member, and anything else she can get her hands on. "nothing is too big or too small for a true volunteer." - Jackie Hill

#### PATIENT DALE IRWIN

Dale was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at the age of 41. Since, he has proven that living with T1D was not going to impede his athletics. He has had many athletics achievements in including climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and cycling from Ottawa to PEI in support of the Best Centre.



Along with his family, Dale credits the Best Centre and his endocrinologist, Dr. Blumer, for supporting his health to make his goals achievable. "They are knowledgeable, thorough and caring. I am so lucky to have them in my court," said Dale. continues to achieve greatness and exceed expectations that he sets for himself. He is a true inspiration in the T1D community!

#### STRATEGIC PLAN: 2025-2030

Our new strategic plan, launched April 2<sup>nd</sup>, was built on the voices of our patients, families, staff, volunteers, donors, and partners. this plan sets a clear path forward to expand our reach, enhance our programs, and strengthen the support we provide. It reflects our new vision and mission, shared goals, the values that define us, and the priorities that will shape our work as we evolve to meet the changing needs of those we serve. To read the full plan visit: www.charleshbest.com/strategic-plan-2025-2030

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## **VOLUNTEER EVENTS**

SPRING CLEAN UP



Spring is just around the corner, and we are excited to freshen up our space with a fantastic Spring Cleanup! We need your help to make this day fun, rewarding, and successful. Join us as we clean and organize our space, making it shine with the spirit of spring.

You can sign up today on Better Impact for the Spring Clean-Up on Saturday May 24th. We truly believe that many hands make light work, and your participation will make a significant difference.

#### **VOLUNTEERS MAKE WAVES!**

National Volunteer Week 2025 is April 27 – May 3, and The Best Centre is excited to celebrate the incredible difference our volunteers make every day.

This year's theme, highlights the impact of your time, talent, and dedication and how your support creates ripples that lead to lasting change for our T1D community.

To show our appreciation, we'll be launching a social media campaign during Volunteer Week with a chance for our volunteers to win a prize.

Keep an eye on our socials — we can't wait to celebrate you and all the waves you make!

#### EVENT HIGHLIGHT: VOLUNTEER LEADERS APPRECIATION LUNCH



A heartfelt thank you to our incredible Volunteer Leaders who joined special us for a appreciation lunch. This dedicated group works yearcommittees round on and planning groups to support the mission of the Best Centre.

It was a wonderful afternoon filled with well-deserved recognition for the impact you make every day. Your commitment, generosity, and leadership continue to inspire us — and we are truly grateful for all that you do!

#### HELP MAKE WALK FOR THE BEST A SUCCESS

As we get ready for our annual WALK for the BEST event, we're reaching out to our amazing community of supporters for a little help. We're currently looking for prize donations for our silent auction and raffle, and we'd love your support! If you have any connections to local businesses or individuals who might be willing to contribute, please consider sharing those with us. Every donation — big or small — makes a meaningful impact and helps us raise vital funds for our Best Centre. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. We truly couldn't do this without you!



#### ONGOING BINGO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We're looking for more helping hands! Whether you have a few hours a month to spare or want to get more involved, your time and skills can have a big impact. If you're interested in volunteering or in learning more about this opportunity, please reach out to <a href="mailto:fundraising@charleshbest.com">fundraising@charleshbest.com</a>

#### **BETTER IMPACT**

If you have not yet registered on the Better Impact web page, please do so today. Better Impact is an online hub for the Best Centre and our volunteers to communicate, share opportunities and track progress. Register Today!



**SCAN TO REGISTER** 



Your opinions matter and we want to hear from **YOU!** Please send feedback regarding your volunteer experience to **fundraising@charleshbest.com** 

WWW.CHARLESHBEST.COM