



Media Release

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For Immediate Release

Nolan's SMILE Foundation Launches Mobile Snoezelen Cart Program to Bring Multi-sensory Comfort to Windsor Regional Hospital Patients

WINDSOR, ON – Nolan's SMILE Foundation has officially launched the "Nolan's SMILE Snoezelen Cart Program" at Windsor Regional Hospital, bringing multi-sensory therapy directly to the bedsides of pediatric and adult patients at Met and Ouellette campuses.

Nolan's SMILE Foundation was established by Beth and John Trepanier to honour the legacy of their son, Nolan, following his brave battle with Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia. Through community events like the annual Nolan's SMILE Run, the foundation raises funds to improve the quality of life for children and families whose lives are shattered by life altering diseases like Cancer.

"For us, this is about taking something that meant so much to Nolan and using it to help other families," shared Beth and John Trepanier. "Hopefully, this program can provide even just a little bit of comfort, distraction and a sense of peace when families need it most."

During his time at Children's Hospital in London, Nolan enjoyed visiting the Snoezelen room – a therapeutic environment that provides a blend of soothing and stimulating sensory experiences designed to reduce anxiety and improve emotional well-being. Inspired by Nolan's experience, the Trepaniers raised funds to purchase four Snoezelen carts and replicate that therapeutic sanctuary for patients back home in Windsor-Essex. The mobile units are equipped with items like water bubble tubes, a fiber optic light spray and other auditory, visual and tactile tools.

"Many people across Windsor-Essex support Nolan's SMILE Foundation each year, and we feel that impact right here within the walls of our hospital," said Cristina Naccarato, Executive Director of Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation. "You all carry forward Nolan's bright spirit and it's inspiring to see how that grassroots work is actively improving the patient experience."

Bringing healing directly to bedsides, these carts ensure Nolan's legacy of love and comfort continues to touch the lives of patients old and young.

About Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation

Windsor Regional Hospital Foundation raises funds to enhance care at Windsor Regional Hospital. Over the past 10 years, through the generosity of donors, the Foundation has raised approximately \$40 million to support equipment purchases at Windsor Regional Hospital. In addition to ongoing needs at Windsor Regional Hospital, the Foundation is raising funds to support equipment and technology at the new acute care facility, the Fancsy Family Hospital.

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