

# INTEGRATIVE CARE FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER



A cancer diagnosis is extremely difficult for children, adolescents and their families. Parents and caregivers often seek complementary therapies to give additional support for their loved ones as they go through hospital-based treatments.

## What is integrative cancer care?

Integrative cancer care is the provision of complementary medicine alongside chemotherapy, radiation, etc. This evidence-informed approach to care may help:

- Improve quality of life
- Decrease side effects of cancer treatments
- Support physical, mental and emotional well-being

## Supportive cancer care therapies

The Centre for Health Innovation (CHI) offers a variety of integrative and complementary medicine practices in support of hospital-based care.

- naturopathic medicine
- functional integrative medicine
- acupuncture
- nutritional counseling
- reflexology
- craniosacral therapy
- hypnotherapy
- yoga therapy

## The Centre for Health Innovation

The CHI provides evidence-informed integrative medicine, research, and education across the spectrum of chronic and acute health care conditions. All therapies are provided in a manner that is ethical, supportive, safe and in consultation with CHEO clinicians and pharmacists. Our approach emphasizes quality of life, support for the body, care of the spirit, and active prevention of disease. The CHI came into being in October 2020 and is the new home for the Ottawa Integrative Cancer Centre (OICC) which previously operated as part of the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine for nine years.  
[www.thechi.ca](http://www.thechi.ca)



Ottawa Sun Photo, Tony Caldwell

# BRYAN MURRAY LEGACY FUND SUBSIDIZES INTEGRATIVE CARE FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER

## What is the Bryan Murray Legacy Fund?

The Bryan Murray Legacy Fund subsidizes integrative cancer care at the Centre for Health Innovation (CHI) for CHEO families in need of financial assistance. Bryan Murray, former General Manager of the Ottawa Senators, was a cancer patient himself and he wished to make integrative care available to all, no matter their financial circumstance. This Fund is managed by the CHEO Foundation in memory of Bryan.

## How may we apply to the fund?

Pediatric cancer families are able to apply directly to CHEO for subsidies from The Bryan Murray Legacy Fund. This allows eligible children and youth at CHEO to access subsidized integrative cancer care at the CHI. Interested families are to speak with their care team.

*“Dad absolutely adored children. He often shared that it was most unfortunate to watch young people receiving chemotherapy. He embraced and absorbed stories of young and old, and kept them catalogued in his mind and his heart. Dad, from the get-go of his diagnosis with colon cancer, was open minded to the integrative cancer care approach. I truly believe he would be delighted about the Fund being extended to provide subsidized integrative care for cancer patients of CHEO.”* – Brittany Murray, Bryan’s daughter

## “Love is more important than anything” – Rosalina

*“We cannot be more thankful for this Fund which permitted us to give Rosalina the best supportive care. The idea that allopathic medicine can be supported through naturopathic means is undeniable.”* – Rosalina’s parents and grandparents



## Raffi survived brain cancer at age 17, and donated his Children’s Wish to Bryan’s Fund

*“Integrative care allowed me to sustain an empowered, happy, and optimistic life while undergoing treatments for brain cancer. Not only did it help me through my cancer, it offered me a more engaged way of looking at my life and to really take charge of how I want to live.”* – Raffi

*“About half of the patients with a new diagnosis at CHEO ask their oncologist about integrative cancer care options. Being able to offer a subsidy for our patients in need of financial support to access integrative care makes a huge difference to families struggling with a diagnosis and wanting access to integrative care.”*

– Dr. Donna Johnston, Chief, Division of Hematology/Oncology at CHEO