



## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Swing for Kids Sake Golf Tournament



Mother Nature cooperated with us for another fabulous day of golf at Glen Abbey. During the day, golfers had a chance to compete in contests, Beat the Junior Pro with Sam Denton, Closest to the Keg for the Men and Pin for the Women, longest Drive and a chance to try out some high-end clubs at Play like a Pro with Nick Parke. Via Mia restaurant provided pick me up fruit kebobs and shots out at the 17<sup>th</sup> hole. Scotiabank matched package sales of \$5300 with an additional \$5000.

The evening dinner which was sponsored by Ken Cheung, was highlighted by our live auction with professional auctioneer John Medley and wife Greta.

John brought a great deal of fun to the live auction which was also being matched by Scotiabank up to \$5000. We made a new record of \$9475 which was \$4000 more than last year on the live auction.

We also welcome a new sponsor this year, Sanford, makers of the Sharpie. Sanford generously donated the gift bag that each golfer went home with at the end of the day.

Thanks to all our golfers and sponsors for helping us reaching our largest total ever of \$40,000 which will be directed towards the 700 at-risk children in our mentoring programs.

## Nintendo Canada Event

Nintendo Canada and Wii may have reinvented the wheel but at recent launch of their new video game MarioKart, they put little brothers and sisters from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton, in the driver's seat. The children who attended the event with their Big Brother or Sister were invited to be one of the first to try out the new MarioKart Wii video



game, experience 'real life' driving behind the wheels of an actual go cart, as well as meet icon Mario himself. During the media launch, Elaine Collins, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton, was presented with a cheque for \$5000 from Nintendo Canada.

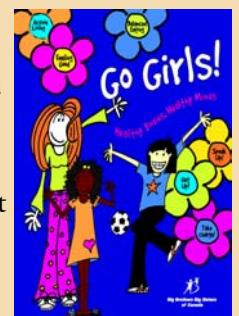
## Go Girls! Successfully Launched

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton launched the Go Girls! Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds program through the generous support of the Ministry of Health Promotion Community In-Action Fund, the Halton Healthy Community Fund, Cogeco and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada in elementary schools in Georgetown, Milton and Oakville, .

Each program was led by two trained volunteer Go Girls! mentors. A maximum of ten girls are chosen for each session from grades 6, 7 and 8. Each session is

structured around the three key Go Girls! themes: active living, balanced eating and feeling good about oneself.

The girls themselves now have many positive things to say about themselves with one participants realizing "what a special, unique person I am" after attending the mentoring workshops.



## Leadership Breakfast



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton hosted more than 120 of its leaders and supporters recently at an event featuring keynote speaker and former Toronto Argonaut Orlando Bowen. Hosted by CIBC, with Master of Ceremonies, Kevin Flynn, guests heard not only an inspiring speech from Bowen, but from little brother Julian, and Principal Shawn McRae. Also during the morning, three cheques were presented to Big Brothers Big Sisters from third party supporters: Appleby College on behalf of the Toskan Casale Foundation (\$5,000), Oakville Newcomers Club (\$1,300) and Upper Oakville Shopping Centre (\$5,602).

## Cheung's Taekwondo

A number of little brothers and sisters have had the opportunity to participate in the Town of Oakville recreational Martial Arts programs. This has been made possible by a donation from Ken Cheung. Ken, a strong supporter of taekwondo and owner of Cheung's Taekwondo, wanted to share his passion for the sport with our littles. The feedback from those taking the programs has been overwhelmingly positive.



## Donors, we need your help!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton launched a BIG campaign recently to find 100 men in 2008.

The agency is appealing to everyone, including current donors, to get the word out to men who think they can make a difference in the life of a child. They could be a father, brother, cousin or friend. Most importantly, they need to know that for as little as one hour a week, being a buddy to a boy will change, empower, educate and liberate both child and adult.

The campaign is a response to a severe shortage of male volunteers in Halton. Look for campaign notices through mobile signage, media coverage, posters and presentations.

Visit [www.bbshalton.ca](http://www.bbshalton.ca) for more details.

## Message from the Board Chair



Supporters of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton, all recognize the importance mentoring makes in the lives of at-risk children. In 2007, we served over 700 children, many of whom came from single parent or impoverished homes. Unlike many charitable organizations, BBBSH does not receive any on-going government funding; we raise resources through events such as our very successful golf

tournament, and through donations and grants from corporations, local businesses, and individuals. For all of you who have given us this much needed support, my heartfelt thanks on behalf of the board of directors, staff and all of our families.

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Website: [www.bbshalton.ca](http://www.bbshalton.ca)

464 Morden Road,  
Oakville, ON L6K 3W4  
Tel: 905-339-2355 • Fax: 905-339-2354

410 Bronte Street South,  
Milton, ON L9T 0H8  
Tel: 905-878-8840 • Fax: 905-339.2354

Email: [info@bbshalton.ca](mailto:info@bbshalton.ca)

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