

SASHA BELLA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FAMILY-CENTRED INTERPROFESSIONAL CARE



BACKGROUND

This award is a tribute to Sasha Bella Stein-Blumberg and Labatt Family Heart Centre professionals who supported her and her family. Sasha was a sweet, loving, determined little girl born with Alagille Syndrome and pulmonary atresia on June 6, 2004. She lived with gusto until severe GI bleeds from portal hypertension after her second cardiac surgery at 18 months left her dependent on blood transfusions and a jejunal fistula left her dependent on TPN. The award is offered in thanks to the Labatt Family Heart Centre whose team tirelessly consulted, communicated and coordinated care across services and between units during multiple catheterizations, clinic visits, health scares, two cardiac surgeries (each with a return to site) and then liver failure and fistula which ended her life. LFHC professionals showed great sensitivity to Sasha as she struggled with unexpected adversity for 5 weeks in CCCU and almost five months on 4D and 6A and to her parents panic, grief and escalating need for open communication. Sasha returned home supported by Sickkids Palliative Care, the Max and Beatrice Wolfe Centre and TCCAC on May 17, 2006 and died on June 20, 2006. Her sister Mia was born a day later followed by sister Eve in November 2007 and brother Bram in January 2011.

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

An award of \$1000.00 will be presented to one **Labatt Family Heart Centre nurse** and one **Labatt Family Heart Centre allied professional** in recognition of exemplary interprofessional family-centred practice. The nominee has cared for a child and family whose hospital course involved multi-organ, multi-service and palliative challenges and who demonstrates interest in improving family-centred supports. Any staff member or parent may nominate by providing a brief letter outlining the suitability of the nominee. Recipients are asked to write a reflective practice letter within 12 months of the award to

be shared with their manager and the Sasha Bella Fund that further considers evolving family-centered practice, education and research.

COMMITTEE and SELECTION PROCESS

A voluntary selection committee will be comprised of:

1. A nurse from 4D
2. A nurse from CCCU
3. A nurse practitioner or program manager
4. A nurse educator
5. A cardiologist
6. An allied professional cardiac or non-cardiac staff member (eg. Child Life, Social Work, Nutrition, Rehab, Palliative Care, Chaplaincy)
7. A member of Sasha's family or a parent requested by Sasha's family

Committee members are not eligible for the award.

NOTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

Successful candidates will be notified prior to Nursing Week and the award will be presented during Nursing Week and the appropriate allied professional celebrations.

DEADLINES FOR NOMINATION

Date: March 28th, 2011

SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO

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Labatt Family Heart Centre