

October 12, 2007

### **A NEW DAY.....**

Friday, October 19, 2007 at 10:00 am marks a New Day, a special day. It's a day we should mark on our calendars.

Do you have a moment to read more?

I hope that your answer is "yes".

Friday is the much anticipated ground breaking ceremony for the new Ottawa Rotary Home. You should already have an invitation to attend.

I'd like to take you back a little in time. Actually for our family it's quite a long time ago. Our son, Saul, is amongst the alumni of The Ottawa Rotary Home. We began using the Home in the mid-1980's, not so long after it had first opened. Saul was very young then and all the fears and insecurities of dealing with his needs as well as trying to navigate through the system were just beginning. What would we have done without the capable, caring staff at the Rotary Home?

Now at age 23, Saul is one of the 130 plus, post-21 group, who have passed through the doors of 30 Rochester Street. Like you, my days are still focused on my son, my child. We continue to deal with health-care needs, care-giver schedules, day programming availability, and searching for respite care.

It is so encouraging to know that the Ottawa Rotary Home is still there for us, whether our child is currently benefiting from the facility or not. It won't be long now before the dream of a new Home is a reality.

Can you take a moment, perhaps right now, as I am doing and make a donation? Any amount would be welcome, or maybe your family would like to make a gift together in honour of your child in lieu of those difficult to purchase birthday or Christmas gifts. Gifts over \$1,000.00 will be recognized on the donor wall, or maybe you would like to see your family name on a bedroom or garden bench? It doesn't matter whether your gift is large or small. It matters that we all do what we can to offer our support. Try to remember what life would be like without the Rotary Home, whether it's now or in the past.

I urge you to consider making a pledge. There are a variety of ways to make a contribution. You can send a one time gift, give a little each month, or you might even like to designate your

United Way workplace contribution for the next few years.

Wouldn't it feel wonderful to know that you were somehow able to give back something to this great organization? I know you are busy, please take a moment to think about this, discuss it with your family and return the enclosed pledge sheet soon. Our children will thank us, that's for sure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Brownstein', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Margaret Brownstein  
Parent, (a.k.a. Saul's Mom)

P.S. To designate your workplace United Way contribution to the Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation, simply choose the "other" option on the bottom of the form and write in The Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation – Charitable # 89418 7962 RR0001