



# Facing Forward

AboutFace E-Newsletter

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Summer is finally upon us after a long winter! AboutFace is gearing up for a great summer of programming including Camp Trailblazers which you can **SIGN UP NOW** for! Be sure to check out the events section for info on our Adult Retreat, Leadership and Life Skills Conference, and other exciting upcoming events!

AboutFace is also pleased to announce some new additions to our Board of Directors. **CLICK HERE** to read more about our new Directors and view our **FULL BOARD LIST**.

In this issue...

Events

Resources

## Feature Volunteer: Laura Bonnell



My most valuable learning experience took place in October 2012 at Camp Trailblazers NL, where I volunteered as a camp counselor. The camp is run by AboutFace for children with facial differences. The camp is intended to provide a peer group for the children, and for them to be able to discuss similar battles they all must face. I expected the camp to be a learning experience for all of the children attending...[read more>>](#)

## FUNDRAISING

## I'm A Celebrity, What's Your Superpower?

by Jane McGowan



My name is Jane McGowan and I was born with Hemifacial Microsomia. I'm 23 years old and for the first time in my life I'm ready to tell my story and share it with you all. I was very fortunate growing up and was never really picked on other than a handful of times. The kids in my community were, for the most part, accepting and okay with my appearance. I'm not... [read more>>](#)

## How I Deal With Being Stared At

by Dawn Shaw



For the last several years, I've been exhibiting two or three of my Icelandic horses at the Western Washington State Fair as part of the Animals of the World exhibit. Tens of thousands of people pass through our barn during the five days we are there, parading past the educational display which sits in front of my two stalls. Given the curiosity of children regarding my facial difference, I find myself all...[read more>>](#)

## An Inside Look at Being Outside of Ordinary

by Charlene Pell

## IDEAS

### "Penny Drive"

A great, easy way to fundraise for AboutFace is to hold a Penny Drive!

Check out the picture below of the Penny Drive and display Nurse Coordinator Cindy has started at the Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre in Manitoba.



#### How to start your own Penny Drive:

1. Use any large jar or bucket.
2. Create your own label to put on it, or AF can provide you with one.
3. Create a display for your penny jar with information on AF.

Contact AboutFace for information or visit our website for more

[FUNDRAISING IDEAS](#)

**Happy Fundraising!!**

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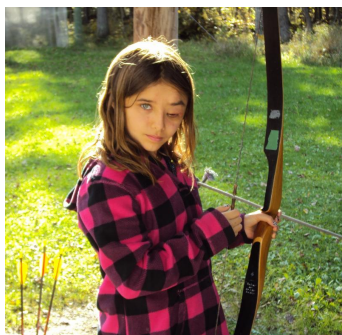
"Of all the things that you wear, your expression is the most important."

-Janet Lane

If you have a facial or physical difference that causes you to look out of the ordinary, odds are that you have been the target of a stare. Your "response," not "reaction" to a stare often determines the outcome of that experience. If you use positive, nonverbal body language like a simple smile when you meet a stranger, you express a desire to interact and put the stranger at ease. Worldwide, a smile is...[read more>>](#)

### Why I Raise Money For Camp Trailblazers

by Samantha Seadon, edited by Emily Tye



Hello I'm Samantha Seadon, and I was on the cover of the first issue of the AboutFace Magazine last year. I am 13 years old, and was born with Neurofibromatosis (NF1) which has been passed down through my family on my mom's side. I have had around 8 surgeries on my face, all around my left eye, and will probably need more in the future. The surgeries are to try and thin my eye lid, so I can keep it open. I have also had surgery to remove...[read more>>](#)

### Join Team AboutFace at the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon!



On Sunday, October 20, 2013, Team AboutFace will be participating in the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon. Join us and get your family, friends and colleagues to walk or run with you - together we can help raise awareness about facial differences and the positive impact we have in our communities! You can Walk/Run (5km), Half-Marathon (21km) or Marathon (42km). Raise \$250.00 or more and receive a refund on your entry fee and a limited edition of the AF tee-shirt!

**Our Team Captain and AF Director, Matthew Milne-Smith will be running the full marathon and leading the charge! Join us....**

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!!](#)

We hope you have enjoyed this E-newsletter! If you have a story to share or would like us to cover a topic or issue of interest, send us an [email](#).

Thank you for your ongoing support and interest in AboutFace.

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Sincerely,  
Anna Pileggi  
Executive Director

