Last year was a year of opportunity for AboutFace.

We worked towards our current goals of expanding our programs and services while amplifying the voice of the facial difference community. We also worked to break down the significant barriers which impede opportunities and affect the quality of life for individuals with facial differences.

Through our 2018 Annual Report we are pleased to feature our successes, providing examples of our work in action.

Increased donations and community engagement provided many opportunities; we supported more than 1,000 members of the community through our programs, services, and events. Highlights included:

• Holding three sessions of Camp Trailblazers,
• Re-establishing our Family Camp programming,
• Providing employment training and mindfulness training,
• Launching a new website at www.aboutface.ca, and
• Holding facial difference community events in locations across Canada.

As a charity, our success and the expansion of our work is a direct result of the generosity of our donors as well as our volunteers. We wish to extend our many thanks to our staff, volunteers, board directors, and donors who made this momentous year possible.

Looking ahead, AboutFace will continue to focus on our commitment to increase our presence in Canadian society and build our programs, services, and public awareness, to ensure every person with a facial difference has the resources to continue to reach their goals.

Warm regards,

Bobbi-Jean White
Chairperson & President

Danielle Griffin
Executive Director
MISSION
To promote and enhance the emotional and mental well-being of individuals with facial differences and their families through social and peer support, information, educational programs and public awareness.

VISION
To inspire people with facial difference to find the confidence and the courage they need to live life to the fullest.

VALUES
To make our vision a reality, we work on three core values:

Empowerment
Building on strength and character helps develop our sense of purpose. By offering programs and services like youth camps, adult workshops and retreats, we help people with facial differences gain self-confidence, learn essential life, social and leadership skills, and experience personal enrichment and a sense of empowerment by being connected to a valuable and relatable community.

Encouragement
Knowing you are not alone is the first step in embracing the journey. AboutFace offers support and encouragement through discussion groups, peer support, and networking opportunities.

Education
Education is critical to nurturing understanding and acceptance. We believe the most effective way to promote inclusion and diversity is through early education in the school community, in the workplace, on the internet, and in the media.
Our Impact

Camp Trailblazers & Family Camps

Camp Trailblazers is a unique camp for kids with facial differences, ages 8-17; we held sessions in Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Manitoba last year. Camp provides a safe place where kids can talk about their difference, surrounded by their peers, in a fun environment.

Family Camps were held in Newfoundland and Labrador and in British Columbia. Family Camps connect affected families and help build support networks. Families share resources, build bonds, and get to participate in fun camp activities.

Almost all campers rated our camps as awesome or great!

AboutFace Community Events

Our biggest area of expansion in 2018 was through our facial difference community events. Last year, almost 700 community members and family members attended our events in locations across Canada, including: Calgary, Edmonton, London, Montreal, the Greater Toronto Area, and Winnipeg. These vital events provide support, comfort, and encouragement in a safe, inclusive environment.
AboutFace Anna Pileggi Post-Secondary Scholarship
This scholarship supports youth living with facial differences who are attending post-secondary school. The recipient of the 2018 scholarship, valued at $2,000, was Camryn Lum from Ontario. We send many good wishes to Camryn in her studies to become a nurse!

Adult Retreat and Workshops
Our annual adult retreat gives individuals the opportunity to network with others who have similar life experiences and enjoy a weekend of self-discovery. And, new workshops launched in 2018 for adults living with facial differences focused on employment training, to help individuals overcome barriers in the workplace, and mindfulness training, to support mental health and well-being.
VOLUNTEERS

Throughout 2018, 75 volunteers donated more than 1,700 hours, helping advance our work and supporting the facial difference community.

Volunteers planned community events and helped coordinate The Light Up the Night fashion show. They also supported our administrative work, fundraisers, and vital outreach opportunities.

Thank you to all our volunteers across Canada!
GOVERNANCE

Our Board of Directors is comprised of volunteers who ensure AboutFace’s operational activities are progressing the charity and the needs of the facial difference community forward.

2018 Board Committees

Executive Committee
Bobbi-Jean White
Chairperson

Constituency Committee Co-Chairs
Kariym Joachim and
Karen McKinney

2018 Board of Directors

Chairperson & President
Bobbi-Jean White
Partner, KPMG Enterprise LLP

Vice Chair
Dan McMullen
Senior Program Manager,
Canadian Tire

Secretary
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Partner, Dentons Canada LLP

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Nicholas C. Bader
Partner, Campbell Bader LLP

John Balogh Principal
Owner - John Balogh Coaching
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CEO, Quikcard Inc.

Dr. Michael Bezuhly
Plastic Surgeon, IWK Health Centre

Harry Howie
Retired Social Worker

Kariym Joachim
Clinical Researcher, SickKids Hospital

Jennifer Little
Mental Health Nursing, RN, MN

Matthew Milne-Smith
Partner, Davies Ward Phillips
& Vineberg LLP

Suzy Stead

Cheryl Strickland
Retired Teacher

Dr. Ilke van Hazel, DDS PhD
Dentist

Margaret Waddell
Partner, Waddell Phillips
FINANCIALS

AboutFace is a registered charitable organization with Revenue Canada – Registration Number 126761410R0001.

In 2018, our funds were generated through Ontario’s Break Open Ticket program, Bingo, special event fundraising, foundation grants, and corporate and individual donations.

Revenues
AboutFace’s revenue for 2018 was $458,239.

- 32% Foundation Grants
- 26% BOT and Bingo
- 16% Special Events
- 14% Individual Donations
- 7% Corporate Donations
- 5% Other

Expenses
For every dollar raised, 76 cents went directly towards our programs and services.

- 76% Programs and Services
- 12% Operations and Administration
- 12% Fundraising
SUPPORTERS

We are very grateful to all the donors who make our work possible - every day your generosity helps build awareness and advances our programs and services. Thank you!

**Partners Circle**
- Rexall Foundation

**Patron’s Circle**
- Anonymous
- Educational Computing Network of Ontario (ECNO) Charity Golf Tournament
- Harrison McCain Foundation
- Mackenzie Investment Charitable Foundation
- NAV Canada Gander FIR Charity Golf Tournament

**Gold Circle**
- Access Communications Children’s Fund
- Alice and Murray Maitland Foundation
- Anonymous
- Arthur J. E. Child Foundation
- Ben and Hilda Katz Charitable Foundation
- Cadillac Fairview Corporation Ltd.
- Dental Services Group of Toronto
- Dr. Russell Boyce
- Frederick and Douglas Dickson Memorial Foundation
- IBM Canada Ltd.
- Matthew Milne-Smith
- Move It Challenge
- The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation
- The McCain Foundation

**Friends of AboutFace**
- A & A King Family Foundation
- Alpha Omega Foundation of Canada
- Anita Zvonar Photography
- Anjani Koneru
- Apri Insurance Services Inc.
- Bobbi-Jean White
- Bradley Waddell
- Chaplin & Co.
- Craig Humber
- Dan McMullen
- Danielle Griffin & Fergal Kerins
- Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
- Dental Student Society, University of Toronto
- Donald & Elaine Triggs
- Dr. Michael Taylor
- Dynacare
- Elaine Osin
- Garden Oaks Dental Centre
- Georgian College Communicative Disorders Assistant Program Gala
- Greenwood Creative Print
- Harry A. Newman Memorial Foundation
- Harry & Kathy Howie
- Hylcan Foundation
- Industrial Alliance
- John Hardie Mitchell Family Foundation
- J.P. Bickell Foundation
- Leilanie Flores
- Mackenzie Investments
- MacMurray Foundation Inc.
- Mark Spiro
- McAdams Foundation
- Newfoundland and Labrador Credit Union Charitable Foundation
- Pilkington-Henniger Charitable Trust
- Richcraft Homes Ltd.
- Robert Pielsticker
- Robin Taylor
- Rotary Club of East York
- Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton
- S.C. Johnson and Son, Limited
- Terracon Development Ltd.
- The Linda Frum & Howard Sokolowski Charitable Foundation
- The Winnipeg Foundation
- University of Toronto Dental Students Society
- Webware.io
- Workplace One Business Centres Ltd.
LARKIN’S STORY

A smile - a universal welcome that triggers not only dopamine, endorphins, and serotonin spikes in your brain, but is a feel-good communication that says “Hi” or “I like that.”

But, what if those 42 facial muscles didn’t activate when you smiled? What if you couldn’t smile or move your face at all? That is the reality for 9-year old Larkin.

Larkin was born three months early and weighed only two pounds. After nine months in the NICU at Sick Kids Hospital Larkin was diagnosed with Moebius Syndrome, an extremely rare congenital neurological disorder which is characterized by facial paralysis and the inability to move the eyes from side to side. Most people born with Moebius Syndrome have complete facial paralysis and cannot close their eyes or form facial expressions.

When Larkin was 2-years old she told us about her desire to smile.

At a very young age she noticed that she was visibly different from her peers, and that her speech wasn’t as clear as theirs.

Larkin would often use her fingers to push the corners of her mouth up to give herself a smile. In 2016 at the age of 6, Larkin underwent two Facial Reanimation surgeries pioneered by the very doctor who originally diagnosed her.

Larkin still shies away from large crowds, and sometimes socializing with other children is hard for her because of her speech, and because she has been told by other children that she looks different.

Camp Trailblazers gave Larkin the ability to spend a week with children who have faced, or are facing, the same social issues she faces every day. Camp Trailblazers gives children a safe place to be who they are, and not worry about their facial differences. Camp gives children the power to talk to others about their worries, their strengths, and to develop long-term friendships with others who understand.

Shared by Larkin’s mom, Rhonda