



Smilezone FAQs



Fact Sheet

What is Smilezone Foundation?

Smilezone Foundation is a registered children's charity committed to putting smiles on kids' faces. The Foundation's mission is to transform areas ("Smilezones") in hospitals, children's treatment centres, and other healthcare centres in order to improve the lives of children facing illness, disabilities, or physical and emotional obstacles.

How Did Smilezone Foundation Get Started?

The idea of Smilezone started when Adam Graves and Scott Bachly were approached to make a financial contribution to the construction of a local hospital in Oakville, ON. The request made Adam and Scott realize they wanted to make a difference, not only in their own community, but in communities across the country. As fathers themselves, they wanted to give sick children a place to experience a break from their day-to-day challenges; simply, a place that would put a smile on a kid's face! This determination led to the creation of the Smilezone Foundation, established in 2012.

What is a Smilezone?

A Smilezone provides a bright, fun, and accessible space in a healthcare centre for children and their families to enjoy. Smilezones can be transformed in waiting rooms, treatment rooms, playrooms, and other custom patient care. Each Smilezone is fully customized based on the needs of the children and families using the space on a regular basis. We offer inclusive and interactive opportunities to children of all abilities by incorporating accessible technology and sensory experiences in our Smilezones.

Who is Involved with Smilezone Foundation?

Smilezone Foundation is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, which consists of sixteen dedicated professionals who strongly believe in the mission and vision of the Foundation. Smilezone has four staff members who are responsible for the development, operation and administration of the Foundation. Finally, Smilezone is supported by a group of committed and enthusiastic volunteers.

What is the Smilezone Process?

Each Smilezone is fully customized to ensure smile satisfaction. A collaborative and client-centred approach to each Smilezone design is our top priority. The Smilezone Team will

identify, design, coordinate, and evaluate Smilezones in partnership with the centre's clinical staff team, in order to identify the needs of children and families utilizing the space. After months of planning, Smilezone transformations take place entirely over one weekend, from set-up to clean up – children, families and staff are all blown away by the changes they see when they walk in the doors on Monday morning!

How Much Does It Cost to Build a Smilezone?

Smilezone Foundation truly believes that you cannot put a price on a smile! Smilezones are designed to fit the unique needs of each partner facility we work with, which means that costs will vary from build-to-build depending on the scope of work required. The Foundation works diligently with our partner facilities and local funders to set a budget that will give every child who visits the Smilezone an opportunity to smile!

Where Does Smilezone Foundation Receive Funding From?

Smilezone Foundation relies on the generous financial support of individual donors and corporate supporters. Each Smilezone also receives a portion of funding from a local community funder. Additionally, the Foundation raises funds by hosting special events throughout the year, including our Annual Celebrity Golf Tournament and 24-Hour Hockey Tournaments.

Where Can I Find a Smilezone in my Community?

To date, Smilezone Foundation has transformed over 170 Smilezones in communities across Ontario! Thousands of children and families visit our Smilezones on a daily basis, bringing smiles to their faces every time they walk through the door. A full list of our completed Smilezones and upcoming transformations can be found on our website, at **www.smilezone.com**

How Can I Donate to Smilezone?

Smilezone Foundation is a registered charity (#825656507RR0001). General donations can be processed through the Smilezone website at www.smilezone.com - Visa, MasterCard and American Express are all accepted methods of payment, and tax receipts will be issued within 48 hours. Cheques can also be mailed directly to the Smilezone office, at 557 Chartwell Road, Oakville, Ontario, L6J 4A8.

I Have an Idea for a Smilezone! Who Can I Contact?

That's fantastic, we love to hear ideas for potential Smilezones! Please contact us at info@smilezone.com or (905) 951-2978 with your suggestion ☺

Fact Sheet 2019

Impact Metrics as of Dec. 2019

Number of children who directly benefit from Smilezones each year

- 205,128

Number of Smilezone projects completed since 2014

- 51

Number of Smilezones completed across Canada

- 265

Number of communities that have Smilezones

- 32

*For more information view our Research page on www.smilezone.com