

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Cortellucci Family Sets the Pace with Lead Gift to the Building On The Best Campaign**

*The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre has received gifts totalling \$500,000 toward the Building on the Best Expansion Campaign from Brookvalley and Zancor Homes*

**(Whitby, ON. – March, 2022** – Brookvalley Project Management Inc. and Zancor Homes are among the first in the builder and developer community to join the Centre on their quest to expand the current footprint to meet the demands of a growing Type 1 diabetes community. With a history of supporting important community causes, the two companies, owned and operated by the Cortellucci family, have gifted a total \$500,000 towards the campaign.

The Best Centre announced the Building on the Best campaign this past May. With a goal of \$5 million. The Centre is working to raise funds to renovate and expand their current heritage site. The building expansion will include construction of a new Welcome and Reception area that will connect the two existing structures, as well as renovation of the main house.

“The donation made by the Cortellucci family will go a long way toward reaching our goal of expansion” said Lorrie Hagen, Executive Director at The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre. “Expanding access to our site is a necessity; we expect patient demand to double in the next five years.”

The Cortellucci family has been building homes in the Durham Region for many years, and plans to build thousands of homes over the next 10 plus years. “Giving back to communities we build in is something we feel passionate about. We have made it our practice to support the people of Durham; and are very proud of the communities we have built.” said Nick Cortellucci, President and CEO of Brookvalley Project Management Inc. “The Best Centre is an integral part of the community and we are very proud to be making sure families with Type 1 will continue to get the support they need.”

The Best Centre has been a part of the Durham community since its founding in 1989. The Cortelluccis own land that surrounds the Best Centre in North Whitby. “Building houses in a community is very different than building homes and raising families in a community, and the Cortellucci’s understand that” said Serge Babin, Chair of the Board of The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre. “Their dedication to supporting the development and growth of communities is inspirational”.

### **About the Building on the Best Expansion**

The Building on the Best Campaign goal of \$5 million will allow for a renovation of the two existing structures and an addition of a supplementary conjoining space. Upon completion, the new centre will have full first floor accessibility, 18 patient counselling spaces, a new large event and education space, 6 meeting rooms, and an additional clinic room with a children’s play area.

### **About the Cortellucci Family**

Nick and Fabrizio Cortellucci are two members of the prominent Cortellucci family that own and operate several real estate development companies. Having been very successful in their field, the Cortelluccis are also well known in the GTA as being very philanthropic, especially towards causes that improve health and wellbeing. Their donation history includes \$40 million to open the Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, \$3 million to Hospice Vaughan, and a \$1 million home to Wellspring Chinguacousy.

### **About The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre**

The Best Centre delivers one-of-a-kind patient centred healthcare exclusive to type 1 diabetes. As Canada's only stand-alone centre and charitable organization specializing in type 1 diabetes, the staff provides highly responsive and individualized care. The interdisciplinary care team includes registered nurses, dietitians and social workers who provide frontline healthcare and education throughout patients' lifetime.

### **Quick Facts**

- Type 1 diabetes is an incurable, complex disease. It must be managed 24-hour a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Without insulin, death is certain.
- Type 1 diabetes is a disease in which the pancreas does not produce any insulin. Insulin is an essential hormone that is required to control the level of glucose (sugar) in the blood.
- The Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre sees almost 2,000 patients and conducts more than 20,000 healthcare interactions per year to support patients living with type 1 diabetes.
- Roughly 5-10 % of people living with diabetes have type 1 diabetes, insulin-dependent diabetes. Type 1 diabetes generally develops in childhood or adolescence but is also diagnosed in adulthood. People with type 1 need to inject insulin or use an insulin pump to ensure their bodies have the right amount of insulin to survive.

### **Associated Links**

[www.charleshbest.com](http://www.charleshbest.com)  
[www.buildingonthebest.ca](http://www.buildingonthebest.ca)

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