

**“LAUGHTER
CAN BE THE BEST MEDICINE”**

Humour lightens our outlook on life, gives us hope, connects us to others and keeps us grounded, focused and alert.

Studies show that ***laughter*** strengthens and boosts our immune system by alleviating anxiety, diminishing pain and warding off depression, thus supporting a patient’s recovery.

Therapeutic clowns bring warmth and caring for patients and their families encouraging inclusive play, healing humour and lighthearted laughter. A clown helps ***empower*** a patient who may feel powerless in a hospital.



HELP US HELP THE CHILDREN

Make checks out to: **CCFA Toronto**

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You will receive a receipt and **tax credit**
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For more information:
ccfatoronto@sympatico.ca
or phone Sharon: + 1 905 951 8499



Our Team:

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**Therapeutic Clowns
International
(TCI)**

Presents

**Therapeutic Clown
Project for Children’s
Hospitals in Cuba**

In June 2012, TCI submitted a proposal to the Cuban Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP) for the training of therapeutic clowns in children’s hospitals in Cuba. It was approved and the first phase of the pilot project was held in March 2013.



**Every child has the right to
play**



CLOWNING AROUND IS SERIOUS BUSINESS

Therapeutic clowning offers an effective complementary therapy

Creates

CONNECTION

Opens pathways to healing

COMMUNICATION

Builds trust and preserves dignity

COMPASSION

Feeds the spirit and offers hope, courage and love

Therapeutic Clowns International

BACKGROUND HISTORY

1993: A therapeutic clown program is launched by Joan Barrington at *The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids)* in Toronto, Canada, and continues to achieve wonderful success.

1999: Joan Barrington and Mary Hirst establish Therapeutic Clowns Canada (TCC), a not-for-profit foundation, created to seed programs and train therapeutic clowns. TCC launches programs in pediatric facilities across Canada.

2005: The Canadian Association of Therapeutic Clowns (CATC/ACCT) is formed to support the profession of therapeutic clowning nationally.

2009: Therapeutic Clowns International (TCI) is established to facilitate the momentum of therapeutic clowning around the world.

2012: TCI holds the first therapeutic clown hospital training workshop in Havana in partnership with "La Colmenita", the National Children's Theatre Group of Cuba.

www.lacolmenitacuba.com

2013: Lucy Ibarra initiates a TCI pilot project in the *Hospital Infantil del Estado de Sonora, Mexico*.

2013: TCI holds workshop in Havana, Cuba, at the request of the Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP), to train health care personnel to be therapeutic clowns in children's hospitals throughout Cuba. This is Phase One of the MINSAP-TCI pilot project.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Therapeutic Clowns International (TCI) Cuba- Canada

**DEMONSTRATION OF WHAT A THERAPEUTIC CLOWN DOES
WILLIAM SOLER HOSPITAL, HAVANA
2010**



**TRAINING WORKSHOP
LA COLMENITA, HAVANA
2012**



**MINSAP-TCI TRAINING WORKSHOP
WILLIAM SOLER HOSPITAL, HAVANA
2013**

