

Help save Meaghan's music room

My name is Danielle Zaremba. I am Meaghan's mother.

I watched my beautiful daughter make history June 13, and carry the torch for the 2015 Pan Am Games.

I was emotional beyond belief. As I took in the atmosphere that surrounded her, everything faded for a moment as I flashed back to the day I almost lost her when she lay dying on a gurney after the car accident.

"She's only a baby," I told the doctors.

They looked at me sadly, shook their heads and told me, "There is no hope . . . Let her go."

Would you have done that as a parent? Well, I couldn't. I was prepared to care for her as a vegetable. What ever it took.

But my child had other plans. She walked out of the hospital three months later "brain injured, challenged, sick, but very much alive. And here she is today, in one of the biggest events our country has ever seen.

I am as proud as any mother can be of her child.

I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Town of Caledon and the organizers of the 2015 Pan Am Games for recognizing Meaghan's contribution to our community by funding music lessons for disabled individuals, as well as for families who can't afford music for their children. Meaghan knows that music saved her life, so she started the Meaghan Zaremba music room for disabled individuals. Even with her brain injury, she understands the importance of giving back and helping her community.

Sadly, and in spite of her inspiring story, she fell short in her fund-raising efforts, and it is with a heavy heart that I now announce that Meaghan's room is now at risk. With the help of Dig-Con International, Argo Development Corporation and other donors, we managed to provide some happiness and smiles during the time that Meaghan's room was alive and full of promise.

As a mother, I am making an urgent appeal to our business community to please help this unselfish and generous young girl keep her music room operating, so that many organizations and families in need can benefit from something so wonderful.

There are approximately 55 disabled individuals who are using Meaghan's music room. It is the one bright star in their lives. None of us have the heart to tell them they can't come any more. I hope that day never comes. Our community needs this program.

In closing, and as I share my heart with all of you who have children of your own, I want everyone to know that I thank God every day for blessing me with this very special child who lives a life of innocence and gives unconditional love and support to her community.

I ask now for a miracle to have our community save her music room.

Please contact me at 416-704-7214.

Danielle Zaremba,

Mother of a true hero