

OSHAWA, ON, Oct. 3, 2013 /CNW Telbec/ - On October 12, a unique fundraiser, Love from Max, will be held in Oshawa to support the autism community. All proceeds from this evening of entertainment and emotion will benefit Autism Speaks Canada and three local charities.

The event is inspired by Max Begley, a 13-year-old boy with autism from Newcastle, Ontario, whose family received a hate letter in August suggesting he should be euthanized. The incident made international headlines, becoming a springboard to raise awareness of autism and fight ignorance. Since then, Max and his family have received countless messages on Twitter and other social media networks.

"After being horrified by this letter, we're now overwhelmed by the outpouring of support Max has received," said Karla Begley, Max's mother. "They've truly rallied behind him and shown such empathy - now we feel safe, secure and welcome in our community."

Love from Max has been organized by the teenager's family and friends to raise funds and show support for Max and the entire autism spectrum disorder community. The event will feature local performers united by their passion for this cause, including some Begley family members.

Toys "R" Us has generously agreed to cover all event costs, meaning 100% of the proceeds will go directly to benefit Autism Speaks Canada, as well as The Geneva Centre for Autism, Grandview Children's Centre and the Kinark Foundation.

For more information: www.autismspeaks.ca/event/LoveFromMax www.facebook.com/lovefrommax

SOURCE Love from Max