Newsletter

COMMUNITY LIVING
Campbellford / Brighton
Inspiring Possibilities

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

APRIL 2009

OUR VISION

A diverse community that respects the dreams and aspirations of all its members.

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Spring is in the Air!

Spring is in the air… the signs are everywhere we look. The birds are singing, the fresh scent of new growth is fragrant and May—Community Living Month is upon us. We have several exciting events planned to commemorate Community Living Month this year. In fact, the celebrations started even earlier than usual.

On March 31, Community Living Agencies throughout Ontario commemorated the closing of the last institutions for people with intellectual disabilities. A dark era has come to an end and people everywhere are celebrating.

CLCB participated in the commemoration, with several people attending the screening of *The Freedom Tour* film, held at Ryerson University, followed by a candlelight reflection. This film, which is a reflection of the lives lived in institutions, was produced by People First of Canada and the National Film Board.

The celebrations continued on April 1 with the 10th Annual Community Living Day at the Legislature, organized by Community Living Ontario with several people from CLCB attending.

CLCB has a copy of this important film and would encourage everyone to view it so they have a better understanding of the philosophy of our Agency. We will be having a screening locally at the Aron Theatre in Campbellford for anyone who would like to see it on **May 13th at 6:30 pm** with discussion and refreshments to follow — mark your calendar!

People supported by CLCB chose to "Reflect on Lives Lived" during private celebrations. People, their families and support staff came together to share stories and celebrate the many changes in their lives.

Canadians who believe people who have an intellectual disability should live in the community and <u>not</u> in Institutions can express their support by adding their names to a petition. As of Feb. 23, 5,408 people had signed with the goal being 10,000 signatures.

To view the declaration and petition go to www.institutionwatch.ca

FAMILIES TAKE NOTE!

April 7—Photosensitive

The launch of the Photosensitive Project takes place at BCE Place in Toronto on April 7. (Details about this project is featured on Page 3).

April 28 6:30 pm, The Acorn Room — You Are Invited Membership Meeting re: RDSP

We want to ensure all families are aware of how to take advantage of the newly announced Federal Tax Initiative, the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) option. We have arranged for Joel Klassen, CFP, of RBC Wealth Management to speak to families about this benefit and how to prepare for the RDSP before next year's deadline.

Come to the Membership Meeting on April 28th, 6:30 pm in the Acorn Room at 65 Bridge Street and find out all about how the RDSP can help you!

RSVP by April 23rd to hcurrah@communitylivingcampbellford.com or call 705-653-1821 X208.

Month of May - Kids Belong Together

Advocates for Community Education (ACE) will be making presentations to local schools to educate students about people with intellectual disabilities, their capabilities and the importance of inclusion.

May 13, 6:30 pm—Freedom Tour Film Screening

A screening of the *Freedom Tour* film will take place at the Aron Theatre in Campbellford on May 13th at 6:30 pm with discussion and refreshments to follow. This film, which is a reflection of the lives lived in institutions, was produced by People First of Canada and the National Film Board to follow.

May 17—Community Living Day with the Blue Jays!

For every ticket sold, the Blue Jays will contribute $3.00 to Community Living.

To order call 1-888-654-6529 X14945 or andrew.haley@bluejays.com

May 21— Appetite for Awareness

CLCB has partnered with the grade 7/8 class at Kent Public School to make this year's Appetite for Awareness a great success. Brown bag lunches will be delivered to local schools and businesses. Place your orders soon. Last year we ran out of lunches early. We don't want you to be disappointed. To place an order, contact Angela Clarke at

aclarke@communitylivingcampbellford.com

May 24—May Day for Me

This annual event has become a local favourite for the ladies in the community to participate in. Just think, a day to relax and be pampered. Come and enjoy! For more information contact Donna Desjardins at **dwinters@communitylivingcampbellford.com**

May 30 - Downtown Yard Sale

This is a "first" for us this year! Keep your eyes open for our Agency's and the Community Resource Centre's participation in the Downtown Yard Sale.

ACE IN ACTION!

Advocates for Community Education A.C.E. LET US SHOW YOU WHAT WE CAN DO!

This group of people are dedicated to raising public awareness throughout the year. The following are just a few of the activities they have been involved in and some of the events they have planned:

On March 28th, members of ACE attended a regional meeting hosted by Community Living Ontario held at Plainfield in Belleville with several ACE members participating.

On May 20th, ACE representatives are scheduled to speak on the topic of building social capital at the "Pay it Forward" Conference for Self Advocates presented by People First.

Throughout the month of May, ACE members are giving presentations to students at schools throughout Northumberland, Hastings and Peterborough counties focusing on community inclusion.

ACE has a number of **Summer Fundraisers** planned including, a bbq, selling fresh strawberries and a dance.

Planning for the 6th Annual ACE Conference is well under way. It is scheduled for September 18 and 19th, 2009 and will be held at The Holiday Inn in Trenton. There are many exciting speakers booked and it is certain to be an event not to be missed. **For more information about the ACE Conference, contact Bev Dunlay at the Administration office, 705 653-1821 X241 or admin@communitylivingcampbellford.com.**

June 23rd, 2009—Annual General Meeting

The time for the Community Living Campbellford/Brighton Annual General Meeting is coming up soon. It will be held on June 23 in the Acorn Room at 65 Bridge Street. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting. **For more information, contact hcurrah@communitylivingcampbellford.com or call 705-653-1821 X208.**

Campbellford Community Resource Centre

At the Resource Centre we hear
It's a brand New Year
And we haven't stopped celebrating!
Take a course just for fun
Italian, Thai or Dim Sum

Or decorate a cake you've been baking.
Angie Quinn teaches Word
She's not a geek or a nerd
Excel, email - she'll even use Vista.
Don't show your belly, just dance;
The Cha Cha from France

Or right hook and box with your Sistah.
C.O.P. is just great
When your pay cheque is late
They help you find the job you are after.
Barb, Morgan and Karin
Have info for sharin'

Amid all the fears and the laughter.
Carrie gets your confidence to soar
With a resume that's top-drawer
Her reputation is glowing.
Now Lesley is new
She's now part of the crew
Vicki loves the whole gang and she's crowing.

Spring courses are ready to bloom - pick up your catalogue. Call 705 653-5161 or visit www.campbellfordcrc.ca

Jennifer Grol and Jason Rae are an important part of Community Living Cambpellford/Brighton. They work, volunteer, participate, and advocate on a regular basis within the Agency and community. If there are things to do you can be sure that they will be involved and helping make things happen.

On a beautiful Saturday October 18, 2008 Jennifer and Jason were married. We wish them all the best in their exciting new future. Jennifer and Jason very kindly agreed to share their special day with an important project — Photosensitive.

Mr. Jason Rae &

Mrs. Jennifer Grol—Rae

Photosensitive!

Photosensitive is a group of photographers creating a visual celebration of Community Living success throughout Ontario.

Jennifer, Jason and Yvonne attended the launch of the Photosensitive Project this year at BCE Place in Toronto on April 7.

Yvonne & Franny—Church Greeters

Yvonne and Frannie were also involved in this important project. Their photos were taken at their local church service where they are greeters. Both ladies have developed fantastic connections through their involvement with church.

The Photosensitive Photos will be displayed at BCE Place at 181 Bay Street Toronto throughout the month of April.

LOCATION UPDATES

On February 4, there was an All Staff Meeting where updates were shared with the staff. It was also a perfect opportunity for the staff who work at the different locations to provide a brief update to everyone on some of the events from 2008 and what everyone was looking forward to in 2009. We want to continue this wonderful sharing of information. Here are a few words from the hard-working staff …

Administration Office

We have had some changes to staff at the Administration office. Please welcome, Amy Widdows, the new Coordinator of Supports and Services. She can be reached by calling the Administration office at 705 653-1821 X214.

99 Centre Street

The gentlemen at 99 Centre Street have had a wonderful year settling into their new home and getting to know their new community. Many new life experiences have happened, new family connections and the rekindling of past relationships have taken place. They look forward to an even more active spring and summer in 2009.

55 Centre Street

It has been a busy time at Centre Street. People have been enjoying time with their families and different activities. Just a few examples include, one person celebrated their 65th birthday, another had a fantastic trip to Florida, and another is planning on moving into their own apartment this spring! Everyone is involved in making plans for the summer.

County Road 50

What's new at County Rd 50? The ladies have been very busy trying new experiences, meeting new people and having lots of fun. From eating in restaurants, shopping at a fish store — and picking out their own fish, reconnecting and developing relationships with family, and being involved members of their church, to going to their first live concert, dancing the night away with friends, going on trips to Toronto to see a show or to a spa to enjoy their first facial and massage — the ladies are actively enjoying their lives and their community.

124 Church Street, Warkworth

It has been an eventful year with people becoming more involved with their church and community. Everyone has enjoyed an assortment of events related to their priority outcomes such as concerts, trips and making new family connections. The spring and summer are bound to be full of wonderful events.

Doxsee

We are looking forward to another exciting year. We would like to thank the community for all of its support. A special thanks to the Campbellford and District High School. Each year we provide placement for Co-op students, in return we get the chance to spend time mentoring some truly amazing teens!!! Each student makes a world of difference to our team and the people we support.

Job Zone

The Job Zone is gearing up for the spring season. We are looking forward to a year full of rewarding contracts. Take Five Café continues to develop and has become quite an asset to the medical center. Thanks for all your support in this endeavor and special thanks to all the employees who make the Job Zone and Take Five Café possible. Please contact Amelia at the Job Zone office at 705 632-0680 or Amy Widdows at ext#214 if you have any interest in being employed at the Job Zone or you know someone who might be interested in attaining rewarding employment.

Foundations

For those of you who haven't yet met Ashley, we would like to introduce her as our newest Foundations team member. Ashley will be supporting the Campbellford and Norwood Schools and Amy will now be supporting at ENSS in Brighton. We are looking forward to the many fun adventures that are to come in Spring and Summer 2009.

Family Home & SIL

Supported Independent Living (SIL) supports people to live independently in their community, providing support when needed in the areas of finances, medical appointments, outcomes, apartment management, and developing community and employment connections.

Family Home supports people to live in a natural family setting and to be treated and included as part of the family. People are included in special family events such as weddings, holidays, birthdays, trips, etc...

The Family Home and SIL programs are busy currently investigating creative housing options and supporting people to plan for summer vacations. For more information on the Family Home or SIL programs or to receive an application, please contact Angela Clarke at **aclarke@communitylivingcampbellford.com**

Brighton Location

Many new and exciting things took place in Brighton over the past year, just a few highlights include …

- Welcoming new staff, Katrina and Lee-Ann.
- Kicking off the summer with a family and friends BBQ.
- An invitation to sail with friends from The Brighton Yacht Club.
- A new connection was formed, inviting people to stay at a Beautiful cottage.
- Applefest was a huge success! With an award for “Best Agricultural Float.”
- Getting Brighton families together at the local Apple Crate Café to discuss Brighton’s progress.

Everyone is looking forward to more good times this spring and summer!

FAMILY REUNION!

Cathy is Reunited With her Brother

At CLCB we love to share happy stories. Recently reunited with her brother in Florida. They hadn’t seen each other in 5 years!

What an exciting reunion!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HARRY!

On March 22nd we got together to celebrate a monumental birthday!

Harry Bensinger, who has been an important part of Community Living Campbellford/Brighton for years, was surrounded by friends, staff and dignitaries to celebrate his 85th birthday.

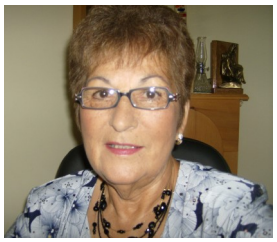
Harry was presented with a plaque from the Mayor of Campbellford, Hector MacMillan, to commemorate the occasion. We were thrilled to be a part of the celebration.

Happy Birthday Harry!

Your Volunteer Board Members

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves.

We look forward to serving you and would be pleased to hear from you at any time.



Marion Fennell - President

Marion has been a member of Community Living Campbellford/Brighton for the past forty years and is currently the Board President for the Board of Directors. Her daughter Mary, receives supports through CLCB and enjoys working at the Office Supply Store. Marion brings extensive knowledge and dedication to her Board position.

Christopher Park – Vice President

Chris first became a member of the Board in September 1997. During his tenure with the Board, he has been Treasurer, Vice President, and President. In addition to his work with Community Living Campbellford/Brighton, he is the Board President of CQL Canada, the organization that accredited CLCB in 2000, 2003 and 2006. In 2005 he became the Board Member at Large on the Board of CQL in the U.S. Closer to home, he is a member of the Keystone Community Supports Corporation Board.

Lynne Hanasiewicz – Secretary

Lynne Hanasiewicz lives in Brighton and is an active member of the community. Lynne is a positive leader with the ACE Executive Committee and is the past Chairperson for ACE (Advocates for Community Education). Lynne was profiled in Business Woman Canada magazine in 2001 and has spoken at numerous conferences, schools and other agencies promoting Rights and Advocacy for People with Intellectual Disabilities.

Donna McDonald - Treasurer

Donna is a resident of Brighton and owns and operates her own business in town. She was involved with CLCB in Brighton for quite some time before becoming a member of the Board. A parent of a child with a disability, she is fully engaged and understands the issues that face parents like her.

Gay Gray

Gay is a resident of Brighton and has served in a number of positions over the years on the Community Living Campbellford/Brighton Board. As a grandparent of a healthy young grandson who has a disability, Gay is no stranger to the challenges that parents of disabled children face in the school system and during the transition years after school. As a member of our Board she is very much engaged with the community and families.

Yvonne Smallwood

Yvonne Smallwood is a Certified Financial Planner and holds the Branch Manager position responsible for compliance. Yvonne works with a team of Financial Advisors in association with Foxgrave Financial here in Campbellford providing clients with advice on Investments, Insurance, Education Savings Plans, and Retirement and Estate planning to help her clients reach their financial goals. Yvonne has been working and living in our community for many years and has a strong understanding of the needs of individuals, community and our staff.

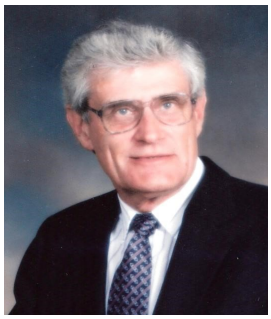
Shelley Storace

Shelley Storace has worked for the RBC Financial Group for 25 years. Her role currently is Senior Account Manager, Commercial Markets. She partners with business owners and her focus is with medium to large size businesses. Shelley is a dedicated Account Manager in the Cobourg/Port Hope market with access to specialists and extensive resources to enable her to support her clients in meeting their business goals. She holds a Financial Analysis Certificate and Personal Financial Planning Diploma.

Janet Jones

In 1963, Janet Jones immigrated to Canada with her family from Gwent in South Wales. She loved this country and soon realized that they would be here to stay. In 1973, Janet and her husband, Bryn, felt called to the ministry, so entered the Salvation Army Training College in Toronto where they spent two years. After Ordination and further training and studies, they served as Salvation Army Officers at various locations across Canada and Bermuda. After twenty-five years, they retired in 1998. Bryn passed away in 2005. He was previously a board member with Community Living Campbellford/Brighton. Janet has four children, three married daughters and one son, Daniel who still lives at home.

George Wilkinson



George Wilkinson (PhD., C. Psych) is a semi-retired minister and psychologist who makes his home in Brighton, Ontario. A registered Psychologist in Ontario since 1974, Mr. Wilkinson has diverse counseling experience, including a private practice, serving as Director of Counseling at an Ontario College and working with social service agencies. Mr. Wilkinson has counseled couples, people seeking employment, persons with special needs, clients involved with litigation and people experiencing grief and loss, to mention a few areas of practice. His academic background is also diverse. He holds a diploma in Agriculture as well as his doctorate in Psychology and Bachelor's Degree in Theology.

Nancy Brown

Executive Director

To contact Nancy Brown or any member of the Board leave a message at the Administration office.
705 653-1821 or 1 866 528-0825
admin@communitylivingcampbellford.com

MINISTRY UPDATE (MCSS)
Increasing Community Capacity

This year each of us are feeling the restraints of the economy in our own way. The Agency too has to face these difficult times by working together.

The Ministry of Community and Social Services has determined that Agencies in the Industry must meet a 2% increased community capacity.

What that means in short is that we have to increase the number of people we support in our Agency by 2% of our budget within the same amount.

We have to do more with the same amount — together we can do it!

We are being creative and staff and Management are working together to find ways to meet this challenge together while maintaining the quality of supports.

We will keep you posted on Ministry updates that affect the Agency and the families we support.

Congratulations Keystone!

We are all well aware that there is a housing crisis on for families. Keystone was developed largely to address this issue, specifically with regard to how it affects parents of aging children with intellectual disabilities.

There is no time to wait for traditional funding to become available. Keystone is making this happen with a fundraising campaign. Many people in Northumberland have already generously supported this initiative, including Mr. Lou Rinaldi, M.P.P., for Northumberland who is the Honorary Chair for Keystone.

After years of hard work and advocating, the very first Keystone House is becoming a reality! The chosen site is in Parkview Hills, Cobourg. Al Leblanc, the developer and builder of Parkview Hills, has been very supportive of the Keystone House Project. We are excited that this location became available and meets the needs. We are really looking forward to working with Al Leblanc on making this first Keystone House outstanding. We will keep you posted on the progress of this first Keystone Home!

For more information, contact (705) 632-2099, keystone@communitylivingcampbellford.com or www.keystonehouse.ca

Communities are stronger and healthier when all its members are able to participate and contribute in a meaningful way. As people acquire stable and appropriate accommodations, they do not overload community services.

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