



Images

SPRING EDITION
2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PARTNERS FOR PLANNING.....2
 SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT3
 WORK AND VOLUNTEERING.....4
 CONTRIBUTING TO MY COMMUNITY....5
 WORKING TOGETHER SYMPOSIUM.....6
 OPTIMAL INDIVIDUAL SERVICE DESIGN..7
 ACCOMPLISHMENTS.....8
 HOBBIES AND PASSIONS.....9
 OUT AND ABOUT.....10-11
 MAY IS COMMUNITY LIVING MONTH...12
 OEYC: BRANT.....13
 IN MEMORY OF.....14
 GOLF TOURNAMENT.....15
 PASSPORT FUNDING/ACCREDITATION.16



Community Living Brant hosted their 19th annual Associate Family Appreciation Dinner at the Best Western Brant Park Inn on Thursday, March 12, 2015.

The Home Sharers prepared for the evening by crafting the centerpieces for the tables and thank-you cards, wrapping gifts, and writing and practicing speeches. It was a wonderful evening sharing stories and spending time together.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude to all our Associate Families for their continued support throughout this past year:

Joyce and Sandy Mick
 Dianne Brown
 Claudette Peever
 Joan and Walter Tracey
 Kim and Mark Mascarin
 Kathy Deane
 Kim and Delano Osmond
 Nancey Krug
 Lily and Samuel Estoesta
 Carolyn Jarvis
 Bonnie Wallingford
 Barbara Purdy
 Lynn and Peter Coleman

Susan and Kevin Walters
 Leanne and Dave Byrne
 Erica King and Scott Redin
 Josh Corrigan
 Glenda Baptiste
 Patricia Decoteau
 Kathy Richardson
 Vera Armstrong
 Sarah Walters & Kevin Goodfellow
 Dawn Sebyre
 Kim Verberk
 Tayna Robbins



A future planning resource for people with a disability, their families and caregivers

Partners for Planning is a FREE online resource for families. Several times each month there are interesting events, videos, and online learning opportunities.

<http://hub.partnersforplanning.ca>

FREE Online Events:

MAY 06	RD\$P	RDSP Webinar May 06, 2015 Interested in learning about the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP), a made-in-Canada, long-term savings vehicle designed specifically for individuals with disabilities?
Webinar		
MAY 07	G GOODLIFE SERIES	Financial Planning for a Loved One May 07, 2015 Time: 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM - This seminar provides an overview of financial planning strategies that will help families plan for the financial future of a loved one with a disability.
Seminar & Webcast		
MAY 28	RD\$P	RDSP Webinar May 28, 2015 Interested in learning about the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP), a made-in-Canada, long-term savings vehicle designed specifically for individuals with disabilities?
Webinar		
JUN 02	G GOODLIFE SERIES	Wills & Estate Planning June 02, 2015 Time: 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM - Join us for an overview of wills and estate planning for people who care for someone with a disability.
Seminar & Webcast		
JUN 10	RD\$P	RDSP Webinar June 10, 2015 Interested in learning about the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP), a made-in-Canada, long-term savings vehicle designed specifically for individuals with disabilities?
Webinar		
JUN 25	RD\$P	RDSP Webinar June 25, 2015 Interested in learning about the Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP), a made-in-Canada, long-term savings vehicle designed specifically for individuals with disabilities?
Webinar		

Its never too early or too late to start planning for the future of a child living with a disability. Recognizing this, Community Living Ontario, the Ministry of Community and Social Services and Partners for Planning have collaborated to produce a FREE, dynamic resource hub for parents and caregivers.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014/2015 (as of June 19, 2014)

OFFICERS:

- President:** Ryan Kirk
- Vice-President:** Martha Hillier
- Past-President:** Marylou Chatland
- Treasurer:** Greg Hall
- Secretary:** Pat Barter

DIRECTORS:

- Kristie Beckham
- John Farley
- Wendy Fries
- Gary Kusch
- Debi Pickering
- Claire Speirs
- Cate Breaugh

MISSION STATEMENT

Community Living Brant is committed to providing supports and services to meet the diverse developmental needs of people within the community.

VISION STATEMENT

Community Living Brant envisions a welcoming, inclusive community where all are encouraged to reach their full potential.

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2015
@ 7:00 p.m.
Best Western, Brant Park Inn

Supported Employment Update

Hard Work Pays Off - Matthew has been working on getting his Security Guard License for 2 years now. He completed the training course and has just passed the final exam with 75%. He had tried before but had been just under the mark needed. Matthew didn't let that slow him down. He hit the books and studied hard for 3 months. It really paid off as his grade went up by 15%.

Keep your eyes peeled;
soon you may see him on the streets of Brantford in uniform.



Making it Happen! - Nicole is now a volunteer for Ontario Early Years Centre: Brant where she will be working with children. Nicole is hoping to gain new skills and experience through this opportunity so that one day she can work in the field. Nicole was given a tour of the Centre and is really looking forward to getting started.

Congratulations, Nicole!



On The Ball At City Hall - Jacky started her new job with Fame Janitorial Maintenance back in December and hasn't missed one day. Jacky has cleaned the courthouse and even the jail cells, but she much prefers cleaning the Mayor's office every night. Jacky has made many new friends and really likes being part of the great team at City Hall. Her boss Fred, said that not only does she get her work done, but she always makes time to help others and everyone loves working with her.

Way to go Jacky!



Brandon has always dreamed of working with cars or in a garage. His dreams came true.... he recently was hired at Morrell Tire!

Brandon works twice a week and is enjoying working there. His co-worker has commented that he has a hard time keeping up with Brandon ...he has a lot of energy and enthusiasm and even needed to be encouraged to take a break!

Congrats Brandon!



Terry's on a Roll! - Terry has been working hard this year. He has achieved certification in Food Handling and Emergency First Aid. Terry began a job at Zehrs, where he gathers carts, packs groceries, assists customers with carry outs and empties waste containers. Terry loves his job and the people he gets to meet. Now that summer is around the corner, his job gets better and better!

My Work and Volunteering



Brian has had a busy past year with a lot of changes. He was married in December 2014, and shortly after the wedding, decided that he would like to find a job.

Williams was the first place he went for an interview for the part time position as dishwasher. He had gained experience working as a dishwasher at the Dunn Building, which helped him to secure the job at Williams.

Brian started working at Williams in March of this year. In the beginning, the job was quite overwhelming as the restaurant is very busy for most of the day. When he arrived the first day of work he had stacks of dishes to do right off the start. He worked away and got caught up but he had to keep going as the pace is very fast.

After a few shifts, Brian was able to keep up. He no longer requires job coaching to complete his work. Brian likes to arrive a few minutes early for his shift, with his wife Sherry, to enjoy a free coffee.

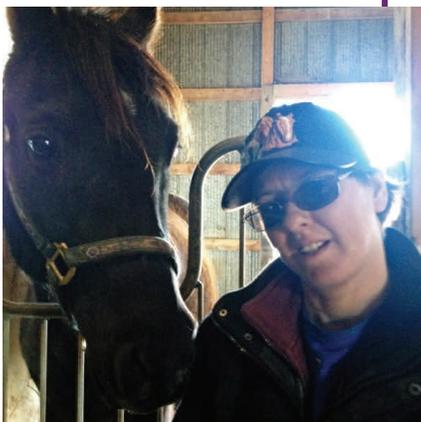
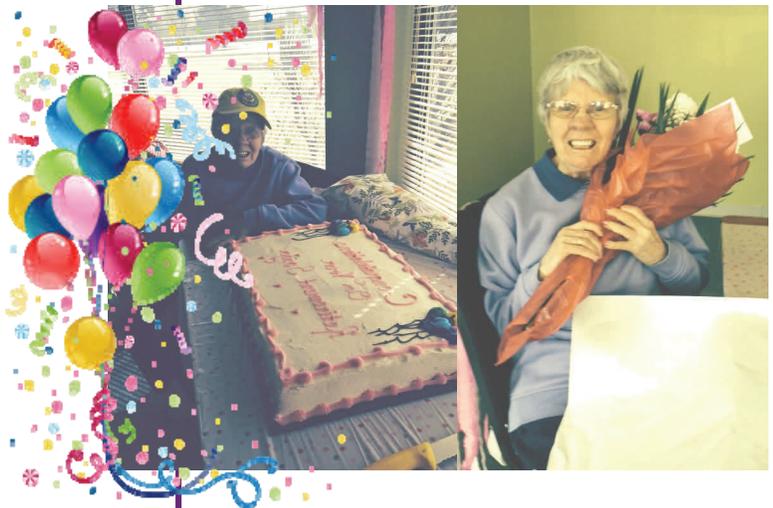
"I was really happy to get my first pay cheque" Brian said, "It's great working for Williams and to earn a pay cheque. I want to save some money in order to go out west for Stacey's brother's wedding. Working in the community and earning a wage will make this goal possible." he added.

Sonja Retires after 40 years at The Dunn

Sonja Madsen has been a familiar face at the Dunn Building for as long as anyone can remember. She went from being full time to part time and she has always said that she will retire when Greg retires - So she worked until she was 75!

At her party she had a wonderful time sharing her cake and refreshments with all her friends and staff. She gave a beautiful speech thanking everyone for the party and saying how much she will miss them all!

Thank you to everyone who came to her party!



I have always loved being around horses and decided I wanted to work with them. My worker, Michelle, asked if I would like to volunteer at Whispering Hearts Horse Rescue in Hagersville. We looked at the web site and read the stories about the horses that had been rescued from being abused and neglected and I knew I wanted to become involved. I filled out the application and attended a training session. I was accepted as a volunteer and started working there in November 2014. My jobs include cleaning out the stalls, feeding and watering the horses and grooming them.

I am planning to adopt a horse once I have saved enough money and the owner, Brenda Thompson, said she will give me a great deal and I can keep the horse at the farm as long as I volunteer there. So maybe next year you can see me and my new friend! ~ Julie Sproul

Contributing to My Community



Anyone who knows me knows how much I LOVE and RESPECT Terry Fox. I love participating in the annual Terry Fox Run, and doing all the fundraising that I do. I always enter in the Run in my home town of Burford with my mother.

In 2014, I set a goal of raising \$1000.00 with my fundraising; that was \$200 more than I was able to collect in 2013, when I collected \$800.00! And guess what? **I REACHED MY GOAL OF \$1000.00!!**

I was able to have my photo taken for the local newspaper along with the other participants, and even got to blow the start whistle for the run! Also, my mother won second place at the Burford Fair when she entered a quilting contest; she made a Terry Fox quilt out of all my old T-shirt's that I had acquired.



I'm getting ready again for another great year of fundraising! I am going to do my best and try to break my record of \$1000.00. So if you see me out and about this summer, please stop and chat with me to see how things are going with all the fundraising. I'm always on the lookout for new donations, and fellow Terry Fox supporters!! ~ Trudy Whitehead



Brian and Bonnie selling daffodil pins for the Cancer Society



Giving Back!

Chris Gusciora volunteers every Thursday by delivering Lunches through a program called Fighting Childhood Hunger, with the help of the Colborne Respite staff team. Every Thursday he goes to Grace Anglican Church where he picks up totes of lunches for two elementary schools here in Brantford. Chris then goes to each school, unloads the lunches from the totes and then returns them to Grace Anglican Church.

Chris thoroughly enjoys his volunteer role and is very proud to be giving back to the community.

Working Together Symposium

The Working Together Symposium which is in support of parents, educators and service providers of children, youth and adults with special needs and developmental issues was held recently at Assumption College on February 7. There were approximately 260 people in attendance enjoying a variety of workshops and a keynote address from Michael Lewis.

Michael's talk entitled "Another Bad Hair Day... How to Roll with Life's Ups and Downs and Come Out with Success" was very well received as it provided humour plus insight into the stresses of working and supporting people experiencing challenges. He also presented a workshop on "Dealing with Difficult People: Seven Simple Steps to Success!"



Along with the keynote presentation, there were also 23 workshops presented throughout the day. These included:

- An overview of Developmental Services Ontario and the Passport Program – What's new
- Enjoying One of Life's Greatest Pleasures – A Guide to Eating and Drinking Safely
- Mindfulness
- Planning for the Future – An integrated approach for families, schools and services
- And many more

All participants and presenters enjoyed a continental breakfast, a variety of snacks and a hot catered lunch from Strode's Deli and Barbecue. The cost for parents was \$10 for the day and \$25 for educators and service providers inclusively. Feedback generated from the participant evaluations was very positive. Affirming comments about the quality of the workshops, great food, wonderful networking opportunities and low cost of the event were widely expressed.

Michael Lewis expressed the theme of the day very well with this quote that he began his morning address with:

*If you do what you've always done
You'll get what you've always gotten!
If you think what you've always thought
You'll get what you've always got!
New results require new thinking and new action!*

Respectfully submitted by the Working Together Symposium Committee 2015

Community Living Brant Hosts “Optimal Individual Service Design” course with Michael Kendrick

“Imagine Better” is a simple way to summarize our experience with Michael Kendrick and his teaching of the Optimal Individual Service Design course. Our agency was honoured to host an intensive two week training for our staff and staff from local developmental services agencies that was aimed to help us change our view of what services and supports can look like for people in order for them to have full, rich, meaningful lives.

Michael Kendrick has conducted this training over fifty times around the world and in three different languages. The course is designed as a combination of learning and practical experience where the participants had an opportunity to work very closely with a person receiving supports and their natural support network to design an individual proposal. Michael challenged us to dream big, think beyond what we know and to imagine better. He brought expertise from other agencies to share their experiences in changing how they deliver their services. Our guests included: Mary Kealy, previous CEO of Clare Services, Ireland, Susan Stanfield from Spectrum Society for Community Living Vancouver and Janet Klees, formerly of the family governed Deohaeko Support Network in Pickering.

The reality is that the full and positive lives of

people with disabilities that we hear and read about do not happen by accident. Those stories came to life because someone had a vision and belief in what is possible by imagining

better. Our trainers challenged us to think about how to ensure people we support have a variety of socially valued roles as a vehicle to getting access to good things in life: home, family, acceptance, belonging, security, variety of relationships and the opportunities to grow and learn. As human beings we are all interconnected and the biggest disability is often the loneliness and the lack of natural, unpaid supporters that we all have in our lives. Our learning reinforced that positive



Mary Kealy and Michael Kendrick

social roles are born when a person is present in typical community spaces and typical pursuits, where they participate in and contribute to their community in and amongst others in a wide range of relationships where at least some are natural and unpaid.

The Optimal Individual Service Design course was exceptional learning opportunity for our whole community. As an agency we feel energized and are working hard on implementing what we learned and helping people have better lives by imagining better. We are looking forward to hearing Michael Kendrick speak again at Community Living Brant's Annual General Meeting on June 18th, 2015.

My Accomplishments



I have had a busy year in 2014!

I went to Ripleys Aquarium with my housemate and friend Virginia. We rode the Go train and met many people on the train! Took a selfie at the bottom of the CN Tower it looked very tall!

Virginia and I went to the Toronto zoo. At the end of the summer I went with a staff to the CNE! We rode lots of rides, played the games and ate lots of yummy food!

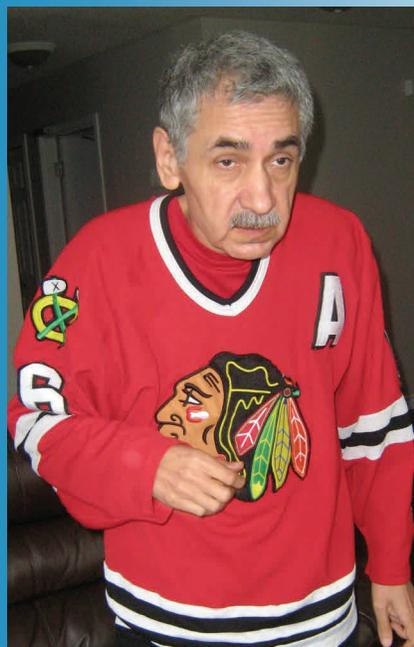
My mom and dad just celebrated being married for 50 years! They had a party at a golf course and I saw many people and met people I never knew. I danced and sang and had a really good time

~ Deborah Rockefeller



Jeremy passed and got his G1 license.

You did it!
Congratulations



John was able to fulfill a lifelong dream on April 3rd. His favourite team is the Chicago Blackhawks and he was able to go across the border to Buffalo to see the team play. He had good seats and was happy when his team won.

Go Chicago!!



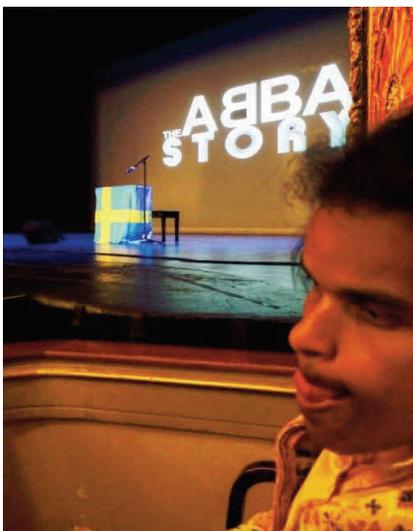
Diana had a recent appointment with the ladies from the foot care clinic. This was a definite hurdle that Diana was able to conquer with courage! Here is what she has to say about her experience. "I was afraid, scared and nervous. That was before. After my visit, I felt good and felt like dancing. Great Job Diana!

My Hobbies and Passions



Ken was introduced to a gentleman in the community who owns multiple tarantulas.

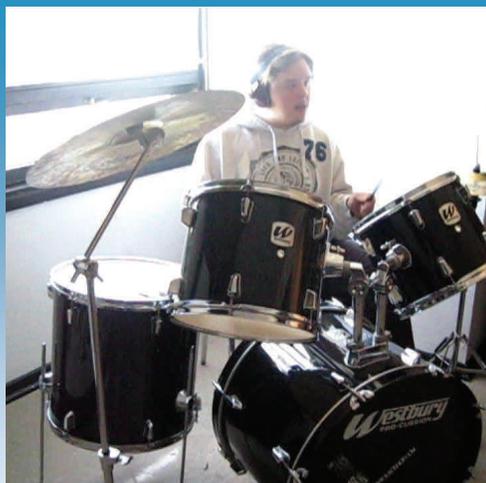
Ken is very passionate about these spiders, and when he found out that his staff had a friend with the same interest and who owns them, he asked if he could meet him and see the spiders.



In November, Kathleen went to the Sanderson Centre to see "ABBA" the tribute band. Our seats were quite close, and from the very first song, Kathleen was totally mesmerized by the music.
~ Bev and Kathleen.



I have wanted to be a photographer for 5 years. Recently, I borrowed a camera and went walking around Brantford to take some photos. It feels good to take photos. My plan is to buy my own camera.



I love different types of music, however I feel so alive, refreshed and energized when I lose myself in a rock beat and some hard drumming.

Several months ago I was asked if I wanted to participate in an artistic contest and share my passion and love for drumming during a Conference in Hamilton that will take place on May 7th. I was very excited about the opportunity and I worked hard on recording my CD.

Just a few weeks ago I received a phone call with the great news! I won the contest in a music category and my work will be shared at the Conference in Hamilton. I always knew how much I loved music, however I was never sure where to go with my talent. As a result of this most recent success I now know that I want to expand on what I already know by signing up for a class and learning more about drumming. ~ Chris Drysdale

Jeremy Tomlinson-Willis and David Hutcheon had a fun trip to Buffalo/Niagara Falls. This was to celebrate Jeremy's 25th birthday. They enjoyed Go-Karting, mini-golfing and lots of shopping. Next year they plan to stay longer!



Jack went to the Sportsman Show in Toronto at the Energy Centre February 6th. There were lots of fishing boats and trailers to look at, as well as lots of equipment. Jack purchased a new reel for his love of fishing.

Jo-Anne and Steven went to the Hamilton Warplane Museum. - Airplanes have always been a passion of theirs.



I made this apple pie from scratch. I love cooking! ~ Kayla-Marie

I went to the Medieval Times with my housemate Katrina and staff. I had a lot of fun screaming and shouting at the knights on the horses; there was a bad guy and a good guy and the good guy won. I would like to go again sometime. ~Mathew Laberge

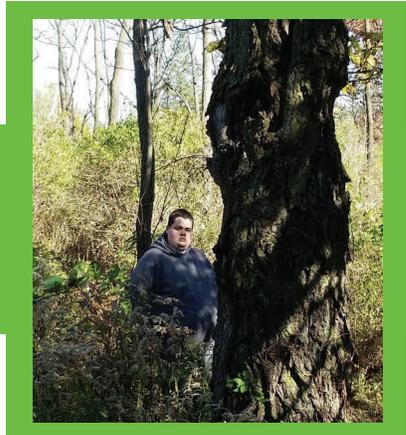


Kayla Hill is quite the bowler. You can see in the picture how excited she is after bowling a strike!



Josh Willitts has been hiking a lot lately, and has recently gotten into a new hobby geocaching. He's always curious to see what things we will discover when we go for a hike.

Bradley Smith has also joined with a group of hikers and enjoys his time on the trails.



Victor Bartlett has started using the pool at Brantwood. It's been years since he's gone swimming and he's having a great time!

Brenden VanBelleghem helped us to paint the new chalkboard wall at Bell Lane. Everyone has really enjoyed using it.



MAY IS COMMUNITY LIVING MONTH

HERE IS HOW WE ARE CELEBRATING....

LOOKOUT for Community Living Brant's Street-Wide Banner

Located on Wayne Gretzky Parkway between April 27 - May 10, 2015



We will be featured in the Expositor on

Saturday, May 9, 2015



Please join us on **Monday, May 11, 2015 at 11:30 a.m.**
for our 9th Annual **Flag Raising** at City Hall as Mayor Chris Friel officially
dedicates **MAY** as Community Living Month in the City of Brantford.

Please join us immediately after for refreshments and snacks!

Community Living Day at the Jays

Saturday, May 23, 2015



VS



Tickets with transportation - \$60 each ~ Tickets only - \$45 each

Please contact Donna Blackmore at 519-756-2662 ext. 231 or
via email at donnablackmore@clbrant.com



IPC "The Davies Moffat Team"
Community Curl
In Support of
Community Living Brant



Saturday, November 21, 2015

For more information please visit
our website at www.clbrant.com

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Community Living Brant's Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2015
@ 7:00 p.m.
Best Western, Brant Park Inn

Ontario Early Years Centre: Brant

30 Bell Lane
PO Box 25040
Brantford, ON N3T 6K5
www.eycbrant.ca/oeyc
oeycbrant@execulink.com



Kids Summer Celebration Day

The OEYC: Brant is happy to co-host the 18th annual Kids Summer Celebration Day at Mohawk Park on Thursday, June 18th from 9 am to 2 pm.

There are service providers with information on their programs and free entertainment for the children including pony rides! Parents/Caregivers with children ages birth to 12 are encouraged to join us for this exciting event.

CHANGE Conference

The OEYC: Brant extends a huge thank you to all of the donors and sponsors. The 17th annual child care and early learning conference was held on April 10th and 11th with over 186 delegates per day from throughout northern, southern and central Ontario.

What's New!

- We hosted the College of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario Round Table Strategic Planning in February.
- We have partnered with the University of Nipissing on a research project on collaborative inquiry.
- We lead the development of a new quality measures tool for Brant early years programs called *Fostering Brants Growth*.
- Our 4th annual Parent & Child Touch a Truck event has been booked for September 2015.

For more information on events/programs visit www.eycbrant.ca.

Website: www.eycbrant.ca/oeyc
Email: oeycbrant@execulink.com
Phone: 519-759-3833

"Parents and children together in the magic of play."



Keep up to date on OEYC: Brant drop-in programs, workshops and events.



In Loving Memory

Of A Life So
Beautifully Lived
And A Heart
So Deeply Loved



Dianne Hopkins

10/28/1956 - 04/02/2015

Dianne was a vivacious lady who loved life. You were always welcomed into her home with a huge smile and a hug. Dianne brought smiles and laughter to all that knew her. We will miss those smiles and her laughter.

~Beaver Team



James "Jim" Gamble

06/13/1950 - 03/21/2015

We say goodbye to a wonderful man. He lived his life with passion and joy!

~Chris Ross



Thursday, August 20th, 2015

1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start

Northridge Golf Course, Brantford

Join us and **Walter Gretzky** for our 28th Annual Circle of Friends Golf Tournament

All-inclusive registration: **Before June 20th ONLY \$125** per player, after June 20th \$135. This includes:

- * 18 Holes of Golf
- * Golf Cart
- * BBQ Lunch
- * Giveaway
- * Tax Receipt
- * Chicken and Beef Dinner

Funds raised at this tournament are dedicated to the agency's Young Adults in Transition - a program which receives limited funding, but which provides invaluable support to the community.

For more information, if you would like to enter a team or sponsor this event, please contact: Kim Walsh, Community Relations at (519) 756-2662 ext. 213, kimwalsh@clbrant.com or visit our website at www.clbrant.com

PASSPORT FUNDING

Respite Person Focused
Education Employment
Volunteering Flexibility
My Community
Customized Supports

Community Living Brant: Invested in Inclusion. Invested in You!

All supports we offer are focused on the goals, interests and needs of each person.

- ◇ Contact us to develop your individual supports
- ◇ Get involved in your community
- ◇ Literacy and education
- ◇ Employment and volunteering
- ◇ Respite (in and out of home)
- ◇ Person directed planning

Have you received Passport Funding?
We can help.

Providing supports and services to adults with an intellectual disability through Brantford and Brant County.

- ◆ Customized supports
- ◆ Flexible options and reliable services
- ◆ Experienced, trained support staff
- ◆ Let's figure it out together!

Make Passport Funding Work for You!

Community Living Brant offers a broad range of services that are person focused, as well as a large qualified team of staff ready to support you and your family with your Passport Funding.

Contact us today!

Donna Blackmore; Supervisor, Ph: 519-756-2662 ext. 226 E-Mail: donnablackmore@clbrant.com

PERSON-CENTERED EXCELLENCE ACCREDITATION

Creating a Shared Vision

Community Living Brant is very excited to be in the final stages of planning our Accreditation review with The Council on Quality & Leadership later this year. The key elements of the accreditation process include;

- Four year accreditation term
- Builds on Basic Assurances®, Shared Values®, and Personal Outcome Measures®
- Focused on engaging stakeholders in establishing an organizational plan, based on What Really Matters to people. This plan will include the specific goals and objectives for the 3 priority Person-Centered Excellence Factors that will form our agreement with CQL



Criteria to Achieve Accreditation

- CQL validation of Self Assessments and 100% compliance with Shared Values® and Basic Assurances®
- CQL validation of implementation of Personal Outcome Measures®
- CQL facilitation of Person-Centered Excellence and What Really Matters
- Commitment to implement Accreditation Partnership Agreement

For more information about accreditation or our involvement with CQL, please contact Debbie Cavers at 519-756-2662 Ext. 205 or via email debbiecavers@clbrant.com

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