

Images

Supporting people with Developmental Disabilities since 1952

SUMMER EDITION

2012

INSIDE

THIS ISSUE

FLAG RAISING.....	2
BOX LUNCH.....	3
CLBRANT WITH THE JAYS.....	4
BAHA YOUTH GROUP.....	5
TEXTING AND DRIVING.....	6
JAMACIAN VACATIONS.....	7
MOOSE LODGE STORY.....	8
REACH OUT W/ DAVE LEVAC .	9
LAURIER BRANTFORD.....	10
SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT.....	11
COMING EVENTS.....	12

*Celebrating
Community Living
Month!*



FLAG RAISING

On Monday, May 14, Mayor Chris Friel joined Shaun Nott, from Community Living Brant in raising the agency's flag to celebrate Community Living month.

Community Living Brant provides a variety of services to over 350 people with a developmental disability so that they may experience a meaningful life. The agency has been supporting people with a developmental disability attain their goals and dreams for 59 years!

Throughout these years, Community Living Brant has helped people move from institutions into the community, supported people to live more independently, build significant relationships, find employment and further their education!



SEVENTH ANNUAL BOX LUNCH REACHED RECORD NUMBERS!



THANK YOU Brantford and surrounding communities for your support with our 2012 Box Lunch Fundraising and Community Awareness Campaign!!

The Box Lunch took place Friday, May 4, 2012 with the help of Moose Winooski's Restaurant selling over 1200 lunches and raising almost \$5000!!

This year, Community Living Brant teamed up with the Ontario Early Years Centre: Brant.

Proceeds from this event will support both the Ontario Early Years Centre: Brant and Community Living Brant's Opportunity Fund.

Much thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers who helped with the success of this event!!

For more information about our services or how you can get involved, visit our website at www.clbrant.com.



Debbie enjoyed delivering Box Lunches out to Polycon in Guelph. She met one of the happy recipients. Everyone that received them was very thankful and Debbie looks forward to delivering more next year!

Community Living Brant says.....
Thank-You!
 Supporting people with developmental disabilities since 1952
MUCH APPRECIATION TO OUR 2012 SPONSORS

COMMUNITY LIVING DAY WITH THE JAYS

On Saturday, May 19th, folks took a bus to Toronto to watch the Blue Jays game. This particular game day is dedicated to celebrating Community Living month.



MEET HOLLY

My name is Holly Broomfield. I am a volunteer at Northward Public School in the Brant Food for Thought program. I used to go to Northward Public School and have liked seeing the teachers that I know. I am very welcomed at the school. I start my volunteering by signing into the school and getting my volunteer tag. I then go and meet my team in the kitchen. My jobs include counting out cups, putting food in cups and sometimes serve drinks. I then like to take the snacks to my favorite teacher's class.

I finish my day by collecting all of the trays the snacks were served on. I went to a volunteer lunch at the Best Western to thank me. I have been invited to a volunteer breakfast at Northward. I know I do an amazing job!



BAHA'I YOUTH GROUP

A Baha'i youth group consisting of 14 people from Woodstock, London and Paris came out to Amelia Street and did the gardens as a service project. They weeded, enlarged the gardens, planted trees and put down mulch when they were finished. They spent three long hours in the sun and were very happy doing the work! Many thanks!



BURFORD HOME INITIATES COMMUNITY GARDEN



David is standing amongst the plots in Burford.

The residents of the Burford home have graciously offered some of their land to host a Community Garden.

Participants will have access to 10 foot plots to grow produce of their preference.

This garden will host several plots and one specifically to grow food for the local food bank.

Community Gardens are popular throughout Canada. This is the first Community Garden for Burford!

DON'T TXT N DRIVE



About a year ago a group of people using Community Living Brant services got together and decided there was an important message to share with the high school students across Brantford. This message was about the dangers of texting and driving.

From there, they developed a short yet powerful seminar to present to each high school student body. Along with this seminar, a challenge was put out to each school to obtain the most pledges. By signing these pledges each student commits to never text and drive!

After a pledge is signed, each person is given a thumb ring as a reminder not to text and drive! Each school was also given a plaque as a reminder of their commitment. On April 10th this initiative was kicked off and presentations were given to five area high schools.

Police Chief Jeff Kellner joined us at the BCI presentation and was one of the first people to sign the pledge, along with Principal O'Connor and Constable Crawford to sign a pledge!

Mayor Chris Friel also joined us in this commitment and signed his pledge.

In the end over 2000 pledges were signed!



MY TRIP TO JAMAICA



With Norma's dedication and perseverance she was able to save enough money to join 30 of her family and friends for 7 glorious days and nights in Runaway Bay, Jamaica.

She enjoyed soaking up the sun and all the amenities the resort had to offer! Norma also hit the hot tourist spots such as Dunn River and Glistening Waters. But most memorable was her one day trip to Kingston, her cousin's house for a huge family reunion/BBQ! She was able to see friends and relatives who she hadn't seen for a very long time. Some family she had just met for the first time.

Not only did this trip give Norma some Rest & Relaxation and family time but also a chance to enjoy her culture, food and dance.

Norma is very much looking forward to visiting Jamaica again! Ya Mon!



On February, 24 2012 I headed to Jamaica! I have wanted to go to Jamaica for a long time; where the sun is shining and it's warm every day. I loved the plane ride there I was very happy. I stayed at Riu in Ochos Rios. It was a long bus ride to the resort from the airport which made me even happier! It was a large resort to adventure on. I enjoyed swimming in the ocean but the pool outside my room was the best. It had a bar and I could walk across the pool to get drinks whenever I wanted too.

The food was great especially the "Italian Piccolo Halia" restaurant which was my favourite place to eat while there. I enjoyed walking on the beach and was thrilled when I found a huge shell, so I took lots of pictures. I saw a cruise boat in the water and I wanted to get a picture of that for sure. It was way out in water but it was still very big.

I was so happy when we explored the resort and I found all the gift shops there, they had my favourite things like pens, wallets, drinking mugs, key chains and so much more in them with the "Jamaica" logo on them.

The Reggae music that the locals played on the different instruments made me feel like dancing a little here and there!! I enjoyed talking with the resort staff and we always said "Ya Mon" every time we seen each other. It was the best trip I have ever had, and I am hoping to go somewhere else warm again in the future.



I GOT MY LEGIONNAIRE JACKET!

It all started when I attended a New Years Eve party at the Moose Lodge with some friends. That night, I met several members of the lodge who talked about the volunteer activities they were involved in. I have always enjoyed doing my part and helping out in my community, so I was curious to find out more. In 2008, I became a member of Moose Lodge and have found a place where I belong, am included as part of a family and am able to make a difference in the lives of others.

During my first 2 years, I was asked to be the Sergeant at Arms and in my third year, I was voted into the position of Pre-lay. Each of these positions has given me a bit more responsibility at the lodge. This year, I was elected as Junior Governor.

Now that I have this position, I will be going to Kitchener to take a course for "Officer Training". I am really looking forward to this. One goal that I was working towards was to become a Legionnaire. In order to be a Legionnaire, you need to bring in 2 new members and be a member for 1 year. It didn't take me long to reach that goal. In March of this year, I received my burgundy jacket! I was so happy and proud! There are so many things that I have been involved in since I have been a

member of Moose Lodge. I spend at least 3 times a week there.

I help with a lot of maintenance work to the building, am involved in social activities like the dart and euchre league, help with banquet meals/hall rentals and help with fundraising for various

charities. I have helped with dances and dinners that support Moose Heart (a program that helps children) and Moose Haven (a program that helps Seniors). This spring I have been extremely busy! I am part of the Moose Lodge Relay for Life team, as well as helping out with the Annual Jim Walsh bike ride events that support Help a Child Smile. I helped at the kick off event, fundraising barbeque honoring Jim and will be in Port Dover the day of the event helping with the beach

party that all the riders attend.

My next goal is to receive my Fellowship jacket. To do this, I have to be a member for 5 years and bring in 5 new members. I already have my members, so I just need to wait one more year to reach this goal. The highest honor is to be a Pilgrim. In order to become a Pilgrim, you need to bring in 100 members. Who knows what the future will bring?



R.E.A.C.H. OUT WITH DAVE LEVAC, MPP



R.E.A.C.H. Out, the Self Advocate Committee of Community Living Brant was thrilled to be able to host an educational seminar featuring our Member of Provincial Parliament, Mr. Dave Levac, on Friday, May 4, 2012.

Dave talked with the enthusiastic group of people about his job as the MPP for Brant and what his job responsibilities are. He talked about staying overnight during the week in the

Parliament Building in Toronto (he is the only person who sleeps there and has his own apartment inside the Parliament Building). He even described several ghosts who many believe walk the halls of the Building late at night. He assured everyone that he is not scared that he will see one of the ghosts, but at the same time, he has no desire to walk around the Building by himself at night!!!

Dave also talked about meeting Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and how he was in charge of organizing her visit to Brantford during her visit to Canada in 1997.

Lastly, Dave informed everyone that, as their Member of Provincial Parliament, he will advocate for increases to ODSP on behalf of all recipients, as well as better services for people with disabilities across the province. He encouraged self advocates to meet and put their thoughts on paper about these issues and he will present this to Premier Dalton McGuinty.

Thank you, Mr. Dave Levac, for taking the time out of your busy schedule to meet with us!



COMMUNITY LIVING BRANT PARTNERS WITH LAURIER BRANTFORD STUDENTS

Community Living Brant is pleased to have been offered the unique opportunity to work with a class of students from Laurier Brantford on a project beneficial to both the students and people supported from Community Living Brant. Students in Joanne Benham Rennick's Issues in Development course are studying Canadian and international forms of community development: what it is, how it has been done historically and what we can learn from communities concerned with improving the lives of people who live within them.

In February 2012, Joanne and her students came to the Dunn Building for an afternoon of presentations about projects within our agency that take place to improve the lives of people that we support. Students heard presentations about: R.E.A.C.H. Out Self Advocates, Rights and Responsibilities Training for people supported, Complaints Procedure Video, a personal experience with Supported Employment, Diane Richardson's new Bullying presentation, Poverty and Disability, our hiring process with people supported participating, one person's recollection of life lived in an institution and personal accounts of experiences with being called the "R" word. The Transition program provided delicious homemade chocolate chip cookies as a snack after the presentation. The representatives from Community Living Brant who did the presentations, many of whom are people we support, did an excellent job conveying a message of empowerment and personal growth.



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

The Supported Employment Program (S.E.P.) supports people with a developmental or intellectual disability in obtaining and maintaining competitive (minimum wage or better) employment in the community.

S.E.P. provides a variety of services that benefit both the employer as well as the employee:

- Development of an employment plan to identify employment goals, develop an action plan and determine the supports needed to achieve the persons' goals.
- Job matching designed to match the person to the job and the skills the person has to do that job.
- Job Placement – When an employer is interested in hiring, the person suited best to the position is placed.
- Job Coaching - provides on the job support to learn job tasks, develop skills and speed.
- Supportive Follow Up – S.E.P. continues to act at the liaison between the employer and employee, to negotiate any workplace problems, should they arise. Follow up is scheduled based on individual needs and preferences.
- Employment Workshop – This is a ten week workshop SEP offers to people with topics including self esteem, conflict resolution, hygiene, resume writing, interviewing skills, creating vision boards, etc.
- Job search and employment counselling – This is an ongoing part of supports. If people decide they would like another job, S.E.P. assist with job searching. If they are having any kind of problems with their job, S.E.P. staff will assist with employment counselling.
- We are an O.D.S.P. approved service provider.

Supported Employment has successfully assisted approximately 90 people to find and maintain employment.

Supported Employment has been thinking “outside of the box” as far as finding jobs for people. We are working with a local garage, car dealership in the parts department, as well as the police department.

We continue to focus on people's abilities to successfully obtain employment.

The Supported Employment Program is located at the Dunn Building.

COMING EVENTS

Join *Walter Gretzky*

For Community
Living Brant's

25th Anniversary
Circle of Friends
Golf Tournament



*Thursday, August 16th,
2012*

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

Saturday, October 20, 2012

Brant Curling Club



For more information or to register
for these events, please visit our
website or contact

Stephanie Bennett from our
Community Relations Department
@ 519-756-2662 ext. 222