



Celebrating Our Past
Imagining Our Future

ANNUAL REPORT

2022 - 2023



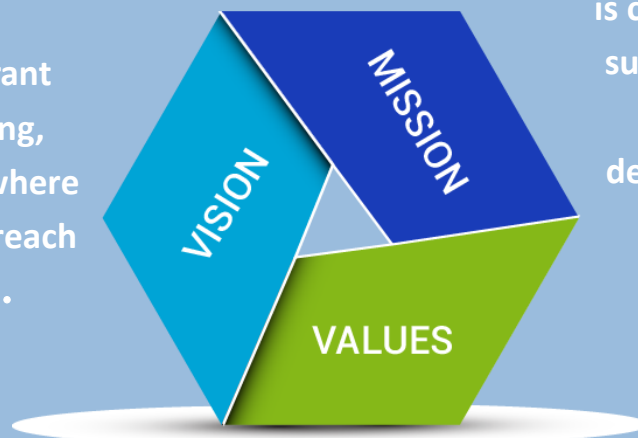


Celebrating Our Past
Imagining Our Future

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



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

Dignity and Full Citizenship
Inclusion and Community Engagement
Partnerships and Collaboration
Leadership and Excellence

PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

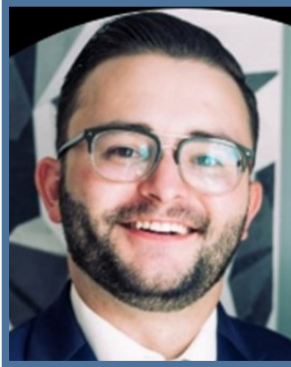
Annual Message

This year, Community Living Brant is celebrating 70 years of providing supports and services to people in our community. With this milestone, the tag line “Celebrating our Past, Imagining our Future” was created. There is no denying that both are equally important. We look to our future with excitement and hope for what is yet to be accomplished, and we look to our past with gratitude and pride as we reflect on how we came to be who we are today.

Our organization is rich with history. We need not look much further than the faces we see daily to understand how much we have achieved as an organization and as a community over the past 70 years. We acknowledge that we did not arrive at this place in time on our own, but rather with the support, perseverance and resilience of the people we support, their families and the staff who have understood that growth is not possible without the openness for change.

Our journey began in 1953 with a group of parents working tirelessly to find the funding and the resources to support their 5 children to attend school. Today, Community Living Brant supports over 350 people whose gifts and contributions to Brantford and Brant County serve to make our community richer and stronger!

As we continue to imagine our future as an organization, we are hopeful we will never forget the people who have carved out the path for us to arrive at this point in time.



Their work, advocacy, unwavering dedication and belief that nobody should ever be content to settle for less is what has prepared us now to take the work they have done the rest of the way.

We have seen that a good life happens when we support people to reach beyond our services and towards a life in a community where their contributions are as valued and appreciated as anyone else's. With our values and mission in mind, we hope we all have the good fortune to look back, many years from now, and once again be inspired and proud of how much further we've come.

Daniel Custodio

President, Board of Directors

Cristin Ladner

Executive Director

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES

Community Living Brant offers a wide variety of services and supports to people with a developmental disability (18+ years of age) and their families in Brantford and Brant County.

Intake into our services is through Developmental Services Ontario.

PEOPLE SUPPORTED

358

People who are
supported in
GROUP LIVING

30

People who
receive support
through
SUPPORTED
EMPLOYMENT

157

People who are
supported in
LIFESHARE

14

People who
receive respite
through MIN. OF
HEALTH "AGING
AT HOME"

18

People who are
supported in
SUPPORTED LIVING
AND COMMUNITY
PARTICIPATION

163

People who
receive
RESPITE

69

People who are
supported in
YOUNG ADULTS IN
TRANSITION

72

People with
PASSPORT/
INDIVIDUALIZED
FUNDING

205

STUDENT
PLACEMENTS
UNIVERSITY/
COLLEGE

14

OUR STAFF

Community Living Brant embraces a culture of diversity and inclusion. We welcome applications from all qualified persons. Of the more than 250 full-time and part-time staff employed by the agency, over 70 have been employed with us for more than 20 years. We were fortunate to welcome 43 new employees to Community Living Brant within the past year. We have a Collective Agreement with CUPE Local 181.

PERSON-CENTRED EXCELLENCE PLAN FACTORS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Community Living Brant continues to surpass the outcomes we set for ourselves in our Person-Centred Excellence Plan.

Factor 2

PERSON-CENTRED PLANNING

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ The Person-Centred Planning Team is striving to educate and hold sessions with teams and individuals.
- ✓ **Family Group and Brant Sibling Network**
We worked closely with this group, who have held several events in the past year. Arising from these events is a heightened awareness of the need for creative solutions to the housing crisis and resources to address caregiver burnout. Community Living Brant is committed to continued engagement in supporting its networks with these challenges. Here are the sessions and conversations held this year:
 - March 2022 - Housing Conversations - Stories of Possibility
 - May 2022 - Continuing The Housing Conversation
 - October 2022 - Sector Reform "Journey to Belonging" with Chris Beasley, CEO, Community Living Ontario
 - December 2022 - Brandon Pedigo, Assistant Director, Vermont Crisis Intervention Network
 - March 2023 - Caregiver Stress/Burnout with Katie Muirhead, from Ontario Caregivers Organization

Factor 4

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ **Community Connections**
The development of many social roles for the people we support.
Twenty-three active Belonging Brant Community Groups with two additional groups currently in development.
Three asset maps were developed with recent mappings of Eagle Place and Paris.
- ✓ **Asset-Based Community Development**
The Generative Journalism and narrative circle has created and posted fifty stories of "belonging" this year.
The Tiny Homes Working Circle meets every month to bring the goal of developing two single person/family dwellings to fruition. The group has secured a site location and is currently working towards sourcing funding for the builds.
- ✓ **ABCD Provincial Circle**
This group meets monthly and is in its third year. Participation includes over one hundred community members and agency partners.

Factor 5

WORKFORCE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ **Staff Engagement Committee**
This Committee is currently in its third year. The Committee is comprised of staff, Directors and CLB Administration.
Community Living Brant has held three staff appreciation events, including our annual celebration for staff who have reached a milestone year of service with the agency.
- ✓ **Staff Wellness and Mental Health**
Community Living Brant is excited to be presenting at the 2023 OADD Conference.
Four Leadership Staff Certified in Continuing Ed Mental Health in the Workplace from Queens University.
Community Living Brant now offers Mental Health First Aid and training internally. It is the goal of the organization to ensure that all staff receive certification in this training. One member of the Supervisory Team is certified as a Mental Health First Aid Trainer and has trained over thirty staff in the past year.

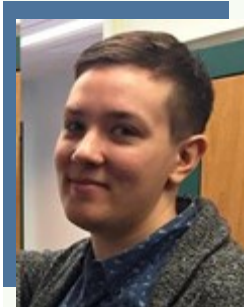
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DANIEL CUSTODIO, PRESIDENT

“By participating in a wide range of on-site and off-site events, I have gained valuable insight into the pulse of our community. Attending these events has provided me with a unique perspective on the challenges and triumphs experienced by individuals in our

community. It has been a profound privilege to witness firsthand the transformative power of our initiatives and witness the positive impact they have on people's lives. One of the most fulfilling aspects of serving on the Board has been the opportunity to hear the stories and accomplishments of our organization and the individuals we support. These narratives serve as powerful reminders of the dedication, resilience, and determination that drives our mission forward. Witnessing the impact our efforts have on individuals and communities, and hearing stories of personal growth and triumph, reaffirms the importance of our work and fuels my passion for being a part of this Board.



ZILE OZOLS, VICE-PRESIDENT

“Since joining the Board, I've learned so much more about Community Living Brant and the many, many ways staff provide support. I have not met more compassionate people so dedicated to promoting belonging and ensuring individual rights and dignity. I love being part of an organization that does so much for the people it supports, as well as the whole community!

PAM PAPEZ, TREASURER



“My experience on the Board has been an amazing, ever-changing journey. I have had the pleasure of working with three Executive Directors. Our Board revised all of the Governance Policies and Procedures and the Bylaws, achieved the highest level of Accreditation, and coped with the Pandemic.

I have been excited to witness the theories of Community Development that I studied in University come to reality in my own community. In the process, I have also worked with and met some amazing people who do life with CLBrant. We have great people in our community. I have hope for the future!

CRISTIN LADNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ SECRETARY



“Working closely with the Board is one of the highlights of my role as Executive Director at Community Living Brant. I am always appreciative of people who freely give their time to help make their communities stronger. We are fortunate to have a Board that is not only thoughtful in their decision making, but also takes such a

keen interest in getting to know our staff and the people we support on a more personal level. As a new Executive Director, I am grateful for such a positive and supportive group, and I look forward to the work we will do together in the years to come.

OUR AREAS OF KEY FOCUS

1. Monitoring our CQL Person-Centred Excellence Accreditation and Strategic Directions
2. Monitoring the impact of MCCSS “Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion” sector reform.
3. Asset-Based Community Development Implementation and Trillium Belonging Brant Project
4. MCCSS Quality Assurance Measures Compliance Review
5. Implementation of our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work with Mending The Chasm
6. Impact of Individualized Funding with MCCSS Reform

MEETING PRESENTATIONS

Leena Sharma Seth, Founder and Principal
Mending The Chasm

Sara Collyer, Director

Person-Centred Excellence Strategic Plan Update, Services/Mental Health Wellness Initiative, Core Gifts

Scott Murray, Cowan Insurance Broker

Rishia Burke, Director

Asset-Based Community Development, Belonging Brant, and Family Group/Sibling Network

Kathryn Dubicki, Senior Director

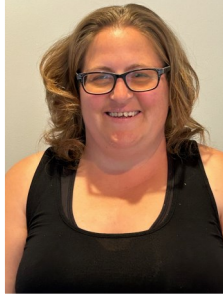
Financial and Administrative Services Update

Katie Gard, Director

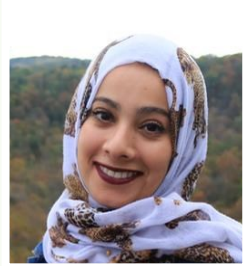
Passport/Individualized Funding, Pathways Services, Rights Committee and Lylla Cox Fund

**STEFENNIE JAGT,
DIRECTOR**

"I was interested in rejoining the Board to become a voice for those supported at Community Living Brant and to be included in making positive, lasting changes that benefit all. While serving on the Board this year, I felt that there were many discussions and decisions that I was able to be a part of and contribute to. I appreciate the opportunity to share my values and beliefs as a Director. I look forward to continuing to make an impact during my upcoming terms.

**NADWA ELBADRI,
DIRECTOR**

"Volunteering with Community Living Brant has opened my eyes to stories and information that I wasn't aware of. When I learned more about the organization, I felt that it was important for me to be involved with an organization that strived to make sure all members of our community felt included and supported.

**PHIL SCOTT,
DIRECTOR**

"My family has a long-standing history with Community Living Brant, so sitting on the Board was a natural fit for me. I have watched over the years as the agency has transformed with the times, and I am thankful to be part of such a dedicated Board that will lead the agency into the future.

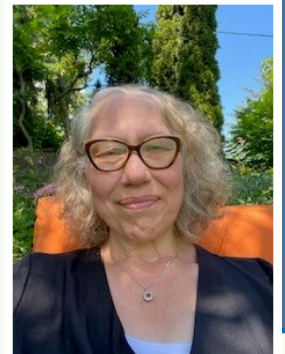
**BECKY CHAPPLE,
DIRECTOR**

"Serving on the Board has allowed me to expand my involvement in the community. It has provided me with the opportunity to learn more about Community Living Brant and the meaningful work they

do with the people they support. I have enjoyed working together with all of the Board Directors for the past six years and am sorry to see my terms come to an end. Best wishes to the agency on its 70th Anniversary!

**TRICIA KLUNDER,
DIRECTOR**

"The reason I joined the Board was that it gave me better insight into what my adult son with ASD would be navigating, as we were new to Brantford while he was transitioning into adulthood. What I get out of being on the Board is not only the above, but also a wonderful feeling of being part of a community of like-minded people who value all people and what all people bring to the community.

**DUNCAN ROSS,
DIRECTOR**

"Living in an inclusive community that is welcoming and supports a high quality of life for everyone is important to me. Community Living Brant is a leader in this regard and I am proud to be a part of this great organization. I am truly impressed with the organization's strong governance model and the incredible passion Community Living Brant staff display in executing their mandate to assist community members in reaching their full potential.

**DARLENE MANZER-HALL,
DIRECTOR**

"As a parent involved in the special needs community, I find it is important to stay current on decisions being made on behalf of individuals with intellectual disabilities. I have been on the Board long enough to see the transition of three different Executive Directors. The focus of the Board has stayed consistent in ensuring the best interest of our family members.



ASSET-BASED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ABCD continues to be the fundamental practice that drives how we engage in our work.

Community Living Brant hosts an **ABCD circle** that welcomes self-advocates, family members, and staff from across the province. As a result of the success of this group, Community Living Brant was approached to provide ABCD training to two other organizations in 2022/2023.

Axiom News is a generative journalism organization that has supported Community Living Brant to learn more about creating dialogues that lead to action. As a result of this work, the Tiny Homes Initiative and the Housing Summit were brought to fruition. The vision to create tiny homes is becoming a reality. Thank you to the Catherine Donnelly Foundation for its support in this community-led initiative.



Discussion topics that were covered in the Housing Summit:



- New funding models required to move forward.
- Supporting people to stay housed through peer support and collaboration amongst community resources/supports.
- Alternative forms of housing, tiny homes, home shares.
- Accessibility in every solution.



Jane's Walk

For the sixth year in a row, Brantford and Brant County citizens participated in the international walking festival, Jane's Walk, with 200 people participating across the county.



BELONGING BRANT

Belonging Brant is in the third year of its Ontario Trillium Foundation Grow Grant (OTF). As we approach the end of its funding, we reflect on the past three years and celebrate the stories of belonging and the participation of citizens in building community.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Twenty-three active community-based passion groups with two currently emerging.
- Belonging Brant Team has provided support with the organization and facilitation of gatherings in the Burford and Paris communities that engaged community members to mobilize.
- Belonging Brant has also been the lead in planning for the launch of a local youth initiative called “Raising Youth Voices” aimed at transforming youth hopes for Brantford into reality.
- Each week the Belonging Brant Team meets with people at “A Place To Be” located at the Brantford Library. This adult drop-in space draws people looking to connect. Each Friday, “A Place To Be” takes to the trails for a meet-up walking group, which has been exploring the parks and trail assets throughout Brantford and Brant County.
- The 4th Annual Celebration and Symposium of ABCD in 2022 featured keynote speaker, John McKnight, the co-founder of ABCD. Two hundred people attended in person and virtually.
- The 5th Annual Celebration and Symposium entitled “Belonging” was held May 31st in person in Mohawk Park and was a sold-out event.



ACTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED GROUPS

AP2B: Walking group!
Connect with your Belonging Brant friends over a weekly walk and chat! All are welcome!
WHEN: Friday at 11:00am
WHERE: Meeting at the Arlington Hotel in Paris

BRANTFORD - BRANT COUNTY RAISING YOUTH VOICES
TUES, JULY 12TH 6:00 - 7:30 PM
Bring Issues Community Center 3rd Floor "Youth Room"
This group is just getting started! Ages 16-19 all welcome. Come out and share your community voice heard! Help create, form and mold this group!
LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING: belongingbrant@gmail.com (519) 758-5394 ext 204
BROUGHT TO YOU BY: LSPFPG, YOF, FPI

KINDNESS CARD PROJECT
Make, Take & Create Event
WHAT IS IT? The Project seeks to reduce isolation & loneliness by spreading kindness through Cards.
HOW CAN YOU HELP? Week 1: Thursday September 16th 2:00pm - 3:00pm
WHERE: Brantford Library (Conference Room)
Join this event by hand-writing letters! These letters will be included in the project & shared to someone nearby.
belongingbrant@gmail.com (519) 758-5394 ext 204

Belonging Brant Presents ARTS SPACE WITH JASON WHITE
WHEN: 2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 2:00 - 3:00 PM
WHERE: BRANTFORD LIBRARY - OPEN SPACE BY COLLEGE ENTRANCE
ALL ARE WELCOME! SUPPLIES PROVIDED! NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Spanish Community Circle

Photography Group Meet-Up
Thursday August 11th Waterworks Park! 6:30pm
All are welcome!
Come and shoot outdoors together!
No commitment or experience necessary!
For more information: belongingbrant@gmail.com (519) 758-5394 ext 204

East Ward Echo Place Drum Circle
Saturday October 9th at 10am
Mohawk Park - Home Shelter 1
Let's make some noise together! Bring a circle, bring an instrument! All are welcome!
Contact: belongingbrant@gmail.com (519) 758-5394 ext 204

Belonging Brant Presents A PLACE TO BE: In Person
Board games, arts and crafts!
When and Where: Thursday's 2:00 - 3:00pm, Brantford Library, Open Space by the entrance off Colborne
What is it? A space to gather and connect in the spirit of friendship and community. Coffee and snacks!

BIPOC ZINE: Art Event
WHEN: Thursday, August 11th 6:00pm
WHERE: Grand Anglican Church (New St.)
WHAT: Have a BIPOC zine day with all sorts of fun and creative projects!
CONTACT: belongingbrant@gmail.com (519) 758-5394 ext 204

Butterfly Garden Planting Event
WHEN: Thursday, August 11th 6:00pm
WHERE: Grand Anglican Church (New St.)
WHAT: Have a butterfly garden with all sorts of fun and creative projects!
CONTACT: belongingbrant@gmail.com (519) 758-5394 ext 204

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN Diamond Dot Painting?
If so, come and visit your Belonging Brant team on the third Wednesday of every month. Here you can learn how to diamond dot paint from our hosts, Jackie and Sherry. All skill levels welcome to join and create!
WHEN: 2:00 - 3:30 pm
WHERE: Brantford Library Programming Room

Belonging Brant Presents Therapeutic Horticulture
Do you want to learn to grow plants and garden?
Are you looking for a place to relax, heal and grow?
We will be meeting throughout the summer to plant, tend to and harvest a community garden!
Location is in Brantford, provided upon request.

Spotlight on Brant Book Club
A bi-monthly book club for those working in the Brantford-Brant social service sector.
Also highlighting local small businesses!
Contact: belongingbrant@gmail.com (519) 758-5394 ext 210 OR Check out the FB Page!

WE NEED LISTENERS AND STORY CAPTURERS
We are looking for individuals interested in taking part in a project to capture the stories of our elders in Brantford, Brant County & Six Nations.
Email us here: belongingbrant@gmail.com

Calling all Community art enthusiasts!
Imagine Brantford as a place where art flourishes and community comes together to create art for all to enjoy. If this idea gives you energy then please join a group of like-minded folks to talk about what might be possible.
Date: Thursday August 10th 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Where: Programming Room Brantford Library (Colborne)
Contact: belongingbrant@gmail.com for more information.

Jane's Walk Meeting
Who is Jane Jacobs? What is a Jane's Walk? How does this help my community? How can I help?
Join us for our 1st Meeting! February 3rd at 6:30pm VIA Zoom

REPORT FROM THE RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Celebrating 25 years!



**Jason Richardson- 25 Years
Self-Advocate Member**

A committee member since it was originally developed, Jason most enjoys ensuring that people have their voices heard, and seeing people grow as they learn more about rights and freedoms.

Jason brings a unique perspective and experience as someone who has received supports from CLB for many years, as well as having been employed within the agency. He provides valuable input as a self advocate.

Jason currently works part time at a local family owned and operated business and is an active member with his neighbourhood community association, fulfilling various volunteer roles.

In his spare time Jason enjoys sports (currently an athlete on a curling and bocce ball team). He is very proud to have represented Canada at the Special Olympics World Games in Beijing winning Gold in power lifting!

The Rights Committee is an External Committee that has the responsibility of reviewing and making recommendations with respect to restrictions placed upon people who receive services through Community Living Brant

This year, the Rights Committee is celebrating it's 25th Anniversary!

In recognition of the committee and their commitment to the people who receive services, we would like to introduce you to the members and say thank-you for the work they do...



**Patrice Burke- 25 Years
Chair of the Committee**

Patrice has a long history with Community Living Brant-dating back to 1977. She was employed for many years by what is now the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services as an advocate for children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities.

She is a committed and dedicated volunteer, having coached Special Olympics for many years. She is a past member of numerous Boards and Foundations in Brantford.

Patrice is a strong believer in protecting and ensuring that individuals are valued equally, and are encouraged and promoted to fully participate in the community. She advocates that people with intellectual disabilities exercise their rights in all aspects of their life.

Thank you!



**Sandra St. Louis- 25 Years
Parent Representative**

Sandra is a retired high school teacher having taught from 1976 to 2021, taking 10 years off 1980-1990 to be a stay-at-home mom with her three children.

Sandra has coached Special Olympic athletes for over thirty years, many having competed both provincially and nationally in sports such as floor hockey, soccer, softball, alpine ski racing and curling.

Sandra firmly believes that learning happens by doing and experiencing! Her family has travelled extensively, visiting 75% of the National Parks in both the US and Canada. These trips have enriched and shaped the lives of her children so they are now outdoor sport enthusiasts and are passing their love of the outdoors to their own children.

Sandra is driven by the satisfaction that comes with meeting the individuals who attend the Rights Committee meetings and watching their lives progress over the years. She states it is interesting to be able to collectively brain storm and come up with new and creative ways to help individuals increase their independence. It is vitally important to me as a parent to meet other people, understand their stories, and allow their experiences to guide me with the decisions I support my son to make.

thank you!



**Juliana Weberman- 3 Years
Community Member**

Juliana Weberman is a Senior Field Underwriter and Business Development Manager within the Engineering, Global Corporate Specialty Division at Aviva Canada.

She was born and raised in Brantford and is very active in her community. She has been a member of The Rotary Club of Brantford since 2014 and has co-chaired the Brantford Classic Run and Perch Fry events for the last several years. She is the current Board Chair of Enterprise Brant, a member of the Parent Teacher Council at Our Lady of Providence school and volunteers on the CLB Circle of Friends Charity Golf Tournament Committee.

Juliana and her husband, Patrick, also have a business specializing in family photos, weddings, and special events. They reside in Brantford with their 7 year old daughter and 3 pets.

Juliana states that being on the Rights Committee has given her opportunities to meet and collaborate with people who receive supports and Community Living Brant staff in a meaningful and constructive manner. She enjoys hearing updates on how people are feeling, what's new in their lives and it's provided her with valuable insight and better understanding of issues and challenges in the sector.

Annual Right's Restriction Data

Number of people with approved restrictions - 38 (25 for psychotropic medications only)

New people with approved restrictions- 1

New restrictions presented to the committee- 12

Extensions of existing restrictions- 54

End reports presented to the committee- 6

New Members of the Rights Committee



**Brad Murray– New Member
Community Member**

Brad is a long time Brant resident who is truly passionate about his community and the wellness of its citizens.

Brad has dedicated the past 20 years of his professional career to law enforcement and is committed to serving his community. In his spare time, Brad enjoys spending time with his family

As a new member to the Right's Committee, Brad states it is an honour to contribute to solutions and collaborate with others on the committee. He is excited to learn more and is grateful to meet the people who receive supports from Community Living Brant and get to hear their stories.



**Bethany Mansour– New Member
Community Member**

Bethany was born and raised in Brantford and currently resides here with her husband and their two teenage daughters, one of whom experiences autism.

She is a stay at home mom and helps run their family business. In her spare time, she enjoys being with her family and friends, reading, learning new things and having new experiences.

Bethany is looking forward to her first meeting with the Rights Committee and getting involved with such a great organization within our community!

Thank you!

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Community Living Brant was active over the past year organizing community and staff events.

As the pandemic restrictions lifted, our events grew in size and in number, all the while staff and volunteers remained extremely vigilant about the safety of staff, those we support and the general public.

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

Community Living Brant connects well in the business sector, as demonstrated by the two business networking events we hosted. In March, we transformed The Dunn Building into a mini-conference centre and had 80+ members of the Brantford Business Chamber networking and sharing information. In May, we hosted the Business After 5 event with the Paris and District Chamber of Commerce at the new Cowan Community Health Hub in Paris. Chamber members and Community Living Brant mingled outside on a sunny day enjoying food from Strodes BBQ and ice cream from "What's the Scoop."



Celebrating Our Past
Imagining Our Future

CELEBRATING 70TH ANNIVERSARY AND COMMUNITY LIVING MONTH IN MAY

Community Living Brant is celebrating by hosting events to commemorate this milestone. A number of community and business partners are also joining in on these festivities, including the Sanderson Centre, who has added our name and logo on their illuminated marquee for the month of May.



ANNUAL CIRCLE OF FRIENDS GOLF TOURNAMENT



This year's tournament was a great event that was attended by many new and returning golfers. Its success would not have been possible without the generous support of our many loyal sponsors.

PRE-SEASON HOCKEY GAME IN TORONTO

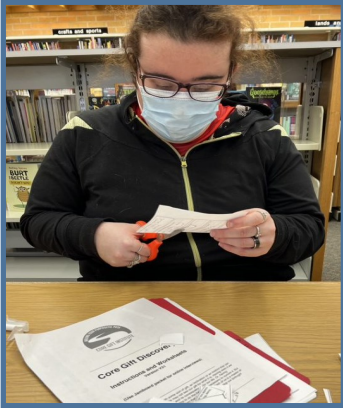


Our staff "work hard and play harder". This is evident by many fun activities and events organized by our Staff Engagement Committee. Sixty plus staff, family and friends attended the Maple Leafs vs. Montreal Canadiens pre-season hockey game in Toronto.

On May 29th, we joined local businesses, Dairee Delite, also celebrating their 70th Anniversary, and McGonagalls Pub for fun activities for our staff and their families.



CORE GIFTS



- On October 17, 2022, we formed a Core Gift Blitz and began working hard to facilitate Core Gift interviews between multiple pairs of agency staff.
- The Core Gift Interviewers have also worked on **Team Signature Core Gifts** and identified what each team brings to their location to provide ongoing meaningful and quality supports. Teams that have participated include Belonging Brant, Enhanced Supported Living, LifeShare, Pathways, and various residential teams.
- We continue to reach out to new staff to do these interviews to assist with best matches across the agency.
- On February 7 and 8, 2023, Bruce Anderson trained 9 additional staff in Master Core Gift Facilitation.
- In April, we started reaching out to some of our community partners to complete Core Gift Interviews and are in the beginning stages of an Art Project that will encompass the coming together for community members to display everyone's core gifts.



MY CORE GIFT IS

Truthfulness, genuineness and spontaneity

I give it by:

Seeing and validating people for who they are and building strong morals so that every moment matters.



OUR SIGNATURE CORE GIFT IS:

Being courageous as we help others explore the world, conquering their fears, while sometimes facing our own.

We bring it by

Being compassionate, empathetic and understanding for those we support and our colleagues, being detailed orientated, often managing behind the scenes. We celebrate the look of pride on the faces of everyone as we carry on facing the obstacles with resilience.



MY CORE GIFT IS:

Creativity

I give it through:

Spirituality, building trust, providing new opportunities and active listening and providing a safe space without judgement.



MY CORE GIFT IS:

Helping others to achieve acceptance

I give it by:

Seeing people through a different lens, allowing people to be heard, enabling them to talk about anything and encouragement to never give up.



SIGNATURE CORE GIFT

Belonging Brant is a citizen-led, action-oriented team, helping people imagine, discover, dream and create community connections.

We bring it by seeing the value in community collaboration and celebrating the joy in people that reminds us that community IS the answer, even when it is unpredictable, and we never know what the next move will be.



Through a holistic approach, we shape our work to pave a trail of happiness for those who have fallen into the gaps of our community. We do this through keeping a sense of mischief, not dwelling in the "stuck" and embracing the fringe. It is in this mindset that we land in the silver linings of challenging situations.





The generous Workforce Development and Healthy Kids funding received from the Ministry of Education and the City of Brantford during this past year provided us the opportunity to create many new and innovative programs for parents/caregivers and early learning professionals. This two-fold funding assisted us with our long-term community goal of workforce recruitment and retention and supported quality early learning and childcare in our EarlyON Centers. We have seen an increase in parents/caregivers and children attending our EarlyON centers. This is due to the specialized funding we received from Healthy Kids, as well as the promotion of our EarlyON centers through Facebook. The City of Brantford has given us the opportunity to manage all Facebook posts for EarlyON Centers in Brantford/Brant and this has resulted in over 2000 followers/supporters for our EarlyON Facebook page.



- Workforce Development funding allowed us to revamp our lunchroom and created a Café Bistro theme which has been booked by community partners for prenatal training sessions for parents and meetings.
- Participated in 3 Job Fairs and purchased items to promote our Early Years profession.
- Created a Career Tree in partnership with Mohawk College and the R and R Committee to help Early Childhood Educators, students in ECE and the community at large to understand the diverse career pathways available for an ECE graduate.
- EarlyON Community Living Brant staff partnered with Lansdowne Children's Centre to develop an innovative PowerPoint presentation about the importance of Professionalism in the ECE field. They have presented this workshop called "Let's Chat" to 8 different Early Learning and Child Care Centers which resulted in positive changes in the childcare profession.
- Little Scientist and sensory specials for parents/caregivers and children also continued to enhance our EarlyON programming this past year.



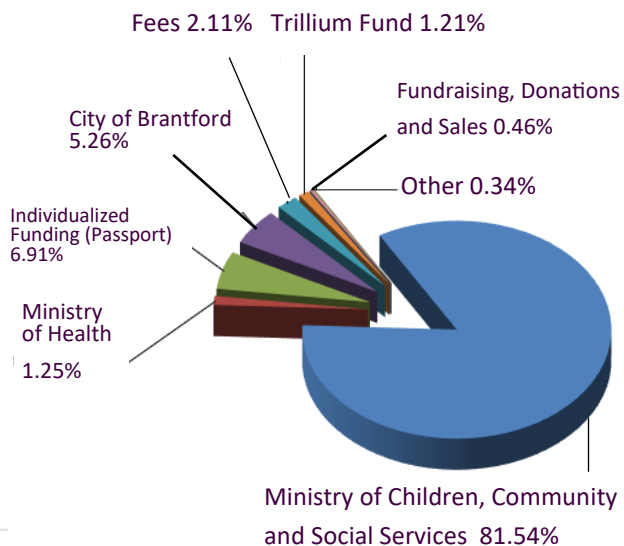
- Workforce Development funding was used to purchase new staff training resources, both digital and hard copy books, to support the creation of new workshops on the topics of Leadership, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for early learning professionals.
- Booked 3 professional study group sessions with renowned Lorrie McKee Baird, the Executive Director of Pedagogy with Compass Early Learning and Care. The Study session with community partners inspired a collaboration with Lansdowne Children's Centre to support a new way to support educators.
- Workforce Development funding was received for the creation of an innovative hybrid training room with specialized technology which will offer participants the option to attend meetings, workshops, or training series either face-to-face or virtually.
- Developed a new professional learning series "Striving for Excellence", which is a back-to-basics series about the importance of Building Relationships.
- Posted different monthly story walks outside of 30 Bell Lane to support literacy for young children.



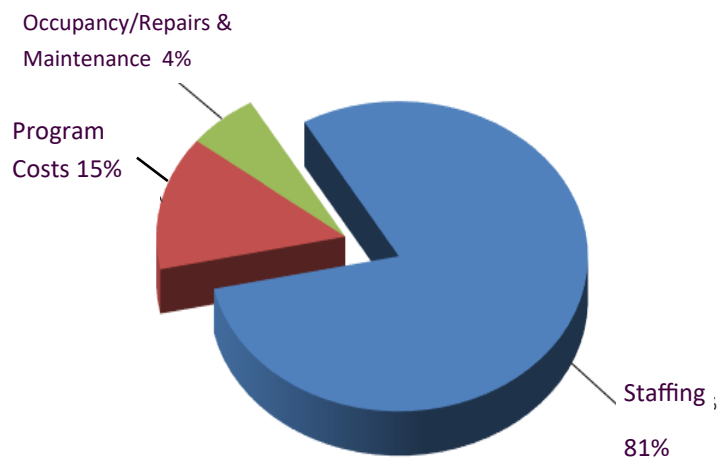
- Joint Professional Development Committee for two school boards, ASCY Haldimand Norfolk and the City of Brantford planned and implemented two successful professional learning events with Dr. Erin Watkins and Dr. McLeod about Trauma Informed Care and Approaches.
- Little Chefs Program was a huge success and we had parents/caregivers and children cooking in a virtual workshop learning about nutrition and healthy eating with our EarlyON staff.
- EarlyON was chosen to lead an Early Childhood Educator Conference in partnership with Lansdowne Children's Centre for 400 Educators in Brantford/Brant. It was a huge success which recognized and showed the importance of their roles.

We are so proud of the EarlyON Team for their fluidity, focus and diligence in continuing to create innovative programming to support healthy child development and learning for families, children, and educators in Brant.

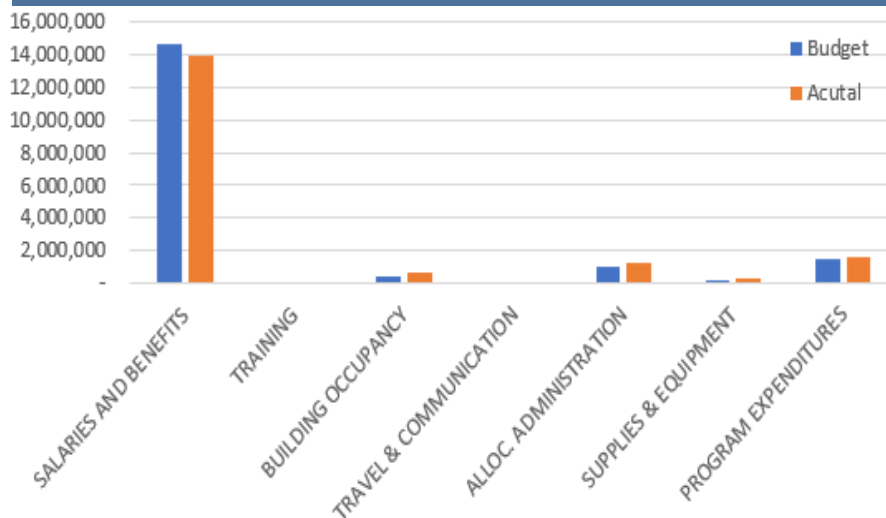
REVENUE 2022/2023



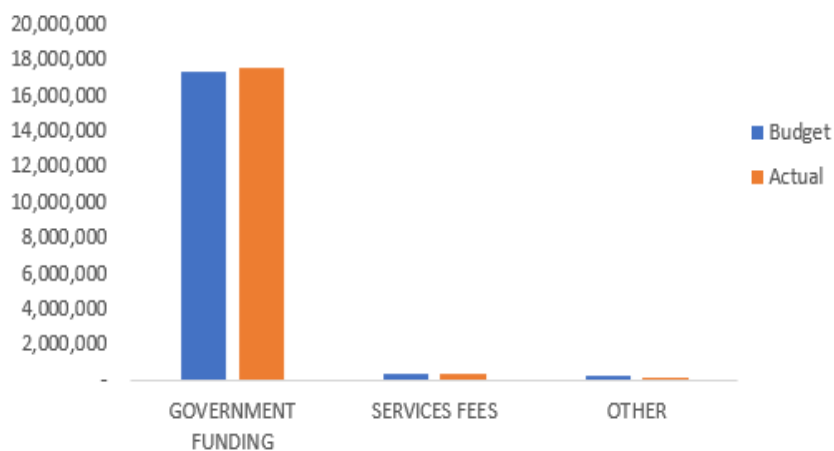
USE OF FUNDS YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2023



2022/2023 Budget vs Actual Expenditures



2022/2023 Budget vs Actual Revenue



We acknowledge our funders, donors, partners, supporters and volunteer community, and say ...

Thank you!

Through your financial support and donations this year, we have been able to continue our work towards improving the quality of life for the people we support.



Welcome to our new MCCSS Program Supervisor, Jonathan Haskins

PASSPORT REPORT

CONTINUED GROWTH

Community Living Brant continues to grow as a Transfer Payment Agency for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. In addition, there was growth in purchase of service supports for individuals and families choosing to have the flexibility to self administer their funding. We currently support 205 people with their passport funding.

GUIDELINE CHANGES

In April 2023 we saw the expanded guidelines come to an end. There are now new categories included in the updated permanent guidelines.

TECHNOLOGY

This category allows the recipient to use their funding to pay for technology related goods and services up to a maximum annual reimbursement amount of \$3,000.00 per fiscal year. This includes the purchase of laptops, tablets, cell phones, phone or data plans, internet provider fees.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT

This category is for the recipient to use their funding to pay for supplies and equipment to support organized and general social, leisure and cultural activities, such as sports, recreation, fitness, arts and crafts, etc. up to a maximum annual reimbursement of \$2,000.00 per fiscal year.

PASSPORT NETWORK

Community Living Brant continues to be part of the Provincial Passport Services Network meeting monthly with other service agencies to discuss our journey and learn from each other new ways in providing supports to people and their families.

Contact us to discuss your Passport Funding!

Email: IF@clbrant.com

Website: www.clbrant.com

Telephone: 519-756-2662



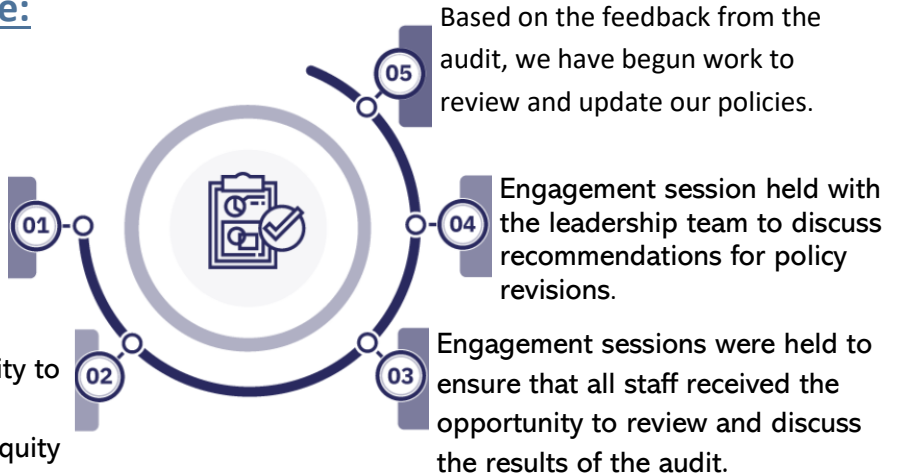
DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

As part of our three priority Factors in our Person-Centred Excellence Strategic Plan, we made a commitment to further our work in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Community Living Brant is committed to examining opportunities to strengthen our strategy for achieving equity while engaging in the work of dismantling systemic racism, bias, and prejudice.

Accomplishments To Date:

Invested in one year of education and dialogues with Mending The Chasm for all staff.

Completed an organizational audit which identified areas of opportunity to improve Community Living Brant's transparency, accountability, and equity to all its stake-holders.



HEALTH AND SAFETY

Community Living Brant strives to achieve best practices to promote a positive health and safety culture and work environment for all staff and people who receive service.

Community Living Brant continues to provide training to all employees on various health and safety topics, including safe lifting, emergency preparedness, Violence in the Workplace and safe driving.

During 2022, we again had to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic addressing all guidelines, protocols, and safety measures for the health and well being of all staff, visitors, and the people we support. We are appreciative of our continued partnership with the Brant County Health Unit, who assisted us to stay up-to-date on the most current information and direction.

In 2023, Community Living Brant will be working with all agency health and safety representatives to focus on health and safety basics. Additionally, we will again be a part of the WSIB Excellence Program, which helps guide our health and safety agenda.

"Do your work with pride - put SAFETY in every stride" Author unknown

VISIT BY MINISTER OF CHILDREN, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Community Living Brant was honoured to host Minister Michael Parsa and his Team on Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the people we support to speak directly with Minister Parsa about their services and about how the Ministry can support them and the work of Community Living Brant in the future as we move forward with “Journey To Belonging”.

Minister Parsa and his Team also used this opportunity to bring greetings and present the agency with a Certificate from the Provincial Government on the occasion of our 70th Anniversary.



Thank You for the visit Minister Parsa!

"Celebrating Our Past And Imagining Our Future" Our Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of Community Living Brant

On June 29th, Community Living Brant celebrated 70 years of providing supports and services to people in Brantford and Brant County. We were incredibly grateful to the people we support, their families, our staff and community partners who attended our Open House and who work alongside us each day to help make our community stronger!



COMMUNITY LIVING BRANT
70th Anniversary
Open House
THURS. JUNE 29, 2023 - 2:00-4:00PM
WE WELCOME ALL TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
OUR PAST AND IMAGINING OUR FUTURE.







Community Living Brant's Staff Service Year Award - Recipients

35 years

Patty Bester Heather Rutter

30 years

Catherine Charlebois

20 years

Hilda Balaga	Jason Clark	Debbie Eberth
Cheryl Smith	Amy Roberts	Lisa Romano
Alice Newstead	Sally Boyle	Donna Kindree

15 years

Sandra Blackmore	Bozena Holik	Samantha Splinter
Jessica McMillan	Tara Buchanan	

10 years

Jessica Azzopardi	Irshad Tabassum	Annette Wilks
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5 years

Stephanie Braund	Elizabeth MacMillan	Gary James
Tracy Culbert	Sara Collyer	Kristin Asquith
Deborah Skitch		



Staff Appreciation and 70th Anniversary Masquerade Gala

This year's **Staff Appreciation and 70th Anniversary Masquerade Gala** was held on June 29th at the Marriott Hotel and Convention Center. Twenty-seven staff received service awards totalling 420 years of employment with Community Living Brant.

We would like to thank all staff who attended such an enjoyable evening, as well as those who were unable to attend. We appreciate all you do to ensure Community Living Brant remains such a valuable part of our community.

**Thank you and
Congratulations to all of
our Award Recipients!**



“Life is a balance of holding on — and letting go”



**Ryan
Vansickle**

March 22, 1983 - June 26, 2022

Ryan had a strong will and zest to live his life to the fullest. He enjoyed singing karaoke and was quite a comedian with his quick wit and jokes. Ryan's smile, friendliness and welcoming approach made him an ideal candidate for the position of our Receptionist at Head Office. He greeted all staff and visitors with his kind spirit and all who knew him will remember him for that.

August 27, 1955 - July 12, 2022

Mikel's larger-than-life personality, infectious laugh and immense love for his friends and their pets will be remembered by all who knew him. He will be missed!



**Mikel
Milan**



**Herman
Mussche**

September 12, 1954 - December 12, 2022

Herman was a very kind and gentle man with a great sense of humour and infectious smile. He took great pride in the work he did and would share his stories often. Herman loved to help people and would flex his muscles and give a little wink to everyone he would meet. We miss you so much.

In Memoriam continued

**John
Kingelin**

June 6, 1949 - March 10, 2023

John was a determined man. He was very caring with a warm heart. He enjoyed Johnny Cash and sitting in the sunshine while surrounded by nature. He will always be remembered for his curious smile and love of singing. His journey on this earth has ended, but his memory will remain in our hearts forever.

December 12, 1995 - June 15, 2023

Watio was a warm, caring and spiritual person. Watio's family, friends and his community were very important to him. Watio's generosity shone through with everyone who knew him. He will truly be missed.



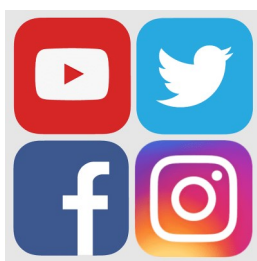
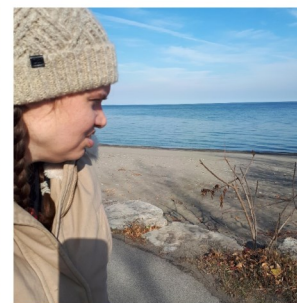
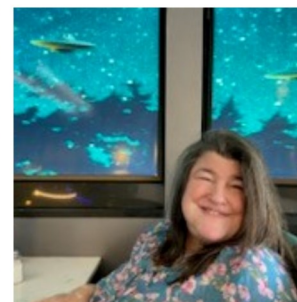
**Watio
Miller**

August 28, 1977—June 23, 2023

Josh could light up a room whether dancing or with his infectious smile. He always remembered a face and met everyone with a handshake. Josh's presence will never be forgotten.



We fondly remember additional family, friends, staff, and family of staff who have passed, and we dedicate this Annual Report to their memory.



STAY CONNECTED:

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Website: www.clbrant.com

Email: communitylivingbrant@clbrant.com