



NEWSLETTER

Community Living Ajax-Pickering and Whitby
36 Emperor Street
Ajax L1S 1M7
Tele: (905) 427-3300

Spring 2004

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is my distinct pleasure to write these few lines for the Newsletter and be able to report to our members that their Association continues to make progress with its existing programmes and is fast developing new projects to better support individuals and families.

One such project will, with the co-operation of two dedicated employees of the Ajax Recreation Services and our own Wendy Holliday, involve fitness and recreational activities at the Ajax Community Centre for many individuals.

In January, Murray Miskin resigned from the Board of Directors, citing "major pressure on my time". He did commend the current Board for their excellent work and progress made since his reinvolvement began in 2002. He went on to volunteer to make his legal skills available at any time in the future. At the March meeting, John Muro was appointed to replace Murray until the Annual General Meeting in September.

I would once again solicit volunteers to help with our regular monthly bingo schedule. We recently lost the services of Lucille Curl, who was responsible for co-ordinating the volunteer team for the past several years. Lucille has opened a Fine Art and Custom Framing store on Brock Street in Peterborough. Fortunately for the Association Julie Wheeler has now assumed this awesome task, however, she will need your help.

Please mark your calendar for two important dates: -

- May 27/04 - Member meeting
- June 12/04 - First annual yard sale

For this event, we will need volunteers and the donation of those surplus items you have hiding in the attic, basement, garage etc.

TRAINING DEVELOPMENTS AT CLAPW

There have been many developments on the training front of CLAPW. In addition to the mandatory NVC training and First Aid/CPR training, medication administration training has also become mandatory for all agency employees. To date the majority of full time counsellors have received the training. Over the next couple of months the remainder of the part- time and relief staff will be trained as well. The training sessions have been running well and all evaluations/comments to date have been positive.

There are other projects in the works as well! Fire Safety training, another mandatory training event will be offered in the near future. I am in the process of securing appropriate trainers for this project and will inform everyone as soon as the details are finalized. I am also developing a curriculum for Policy and Procedures training. Details will follow when it is completed....hopefully soon!

The biggest and most exciting training initiative involves our partnership with Georgian College. The College is considering creating a part- time DSW (Developmental Service Worker) program here at CLAPW! Many of our employees have had difficulty accessing the DSW programs provided by the few colleges that offer it. Having the program offered here will overcome that barrier. Employees of CLAPW will be able to achieve their diplomas over 4 years of part time study while still working with the agency. There has been an overwhelming amount of interest in this project which will commence September 2004 pending formal approval from Georgian College. If anyone else is interested in this opportunity, please contact me as soon as possible and I will add your name to our growing list. I will be forwarding further information to those who are interested as it presents itself.

It has been very rewarding to me personally, having the opportunity to coordinate and present many of the training opportunities for the employees at CLAPW. I will look forward to being able to continue to offer beneficial, interesting and rewarding training in the future. I am always looking for new opportunities for our employees. If you have any ideas on what training you would like to see offered, or have knowledge and experience in a specific area that you would like to share yourself, please feel free to let me know!

Lena Reilly



Association membership dues are still outstanding for some members. Please consider renewing and contributing to your Association.



SO WHAT DID YOU DO AT WORK TODAY?

Occasionally I get a call from parents asking what their son or daughter did at work because they go home and say they did nothing at work today. It just reminds me of my own daughter who seemed to never do anything at school but managed to go to university. Well I thought you would like to know some of the things we did last year.

The guys bagged or labeled 1,775,884 magazines, put together 443,971 door vents for Ford trucks, folded 190,161 newspapers, cleaned 5,428 bus shelters, labelled 16,488 bottles of car wash, packaged 517,600 styrofoam balls, 517,600 craft sticks, 25,716 clothes pins, 17,304 mini clothes pins, 10,200 doll pins, packaged 82,808 gate stackers, 3,000 safety clips, 9,844 finger assembly parts and put together 65,075 kits containing multiple parts plus a few small jobs.

Therefore when your son or daughter arrives home and when asked what they did at Arc today, they are probably too tired to answer.

Submitted by Sue Taylor on behalf of the Arc crew

APPETITE FOR AWARENESS

May is Community Living month in Ontario. One of the ways to increase awareness of Community Living and the importance of inclusion is to participate in an event called "Appetite for Awareness." During this one-day only event (May 5/04) supported individuals from our Association delivered boxed lunches to local businesses. Typically, local businesses are approached with the option to purchase a good lunch at a reasonable cost that is delivered to their offices. The lunch provides an opportunity to hand out awareness and promotional materials such as pens, brochures etc.,

to foster knowledge about our Association and our Mission. This event has been implemented in communities throughout the province and has been extremely positive.

Since this is the first year our Association has been involved in this event, we are hoping to make it a spotlight occasion. By involving the people Community Living supports in all aspects of the event, we hoped to put a face on our organization that will create future opportunities for inclusion.

To the Board members, Aktion Club members, volunteers and staff, your participation in "Appetite for Awareness" was vital to the success of the event and the strength of our message. Thank you for your help!

BERNIE CORK



GORD PETERSON

Gord Peterson, our 84 year old senior at 20 Harman fell on November 23/03 and broke his hip and right femur. Gord had successful surgery at Ajax Hospital. He was transferred to Whitby Hospital on Dec 16/03 to commence rehabilitation.

On February 27/04 Ruth, Paul and myself (Hannah) attended a meeting with Gord's team at the hospital for an update on his progress. Unfortunately, Gord did not progress well during his rehab. As a result his rehab has been discontinued and Gord has been confined to a wheelchair. The team informed us that it takes two staff and sometimes three to attend to Gord's needs.

Paul spoke with the Ministry regarding funding for extra staff so Gord could return to his home. Unfortunately, we were declined. As such, Gord has been put on a waiting list for a Nursing Home (Fairview Lodge, Sunnycrest, Taunton Mills). Ruth, Rocca and Hannah have visited these locations (Fairview is our favourite).

At this time we would like to thank Whitby Hospital for the outstanding care they gave to Gord. Also to Ruth Alambo and her children for their numerous weekly visits. They are very devoted to Gord. Rocca and Art visit Gord regularly as well. Gord is very happy at Whitby and we wish he could stay. We miss Gord terribly at Harman but we will always stay in his life.

Hannah Thompson and Keith Webb

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

The Community Participation Program continues to evolve and build strong relationships with our community partners. This fosters a sense of belonging, equal opportunity for participation, and allows for new friendships to develop for those who participate. Over the last six months the program has grown quickly (as you can see below).

October/03 – December/03

- Baking \ nails \ movies \ quilting\ exercise\ Literacy (at Head Office)
- Roller-skating at Wheelies
- Sisters gym
- Bingo\ arts & crafts (now at the Youth Games Room).
- Literacy at the Ajax library
- Ajax Legion

January/04 – April/04

- Aktion Club
- Act 1 (originally named O'Leary School of Drama)
- Youth Games Room at the Ajax Community Centre
- Fitness memberships – Town of Ajax, Ajax C.C. and McLean's Centre
- Bun King and St Paul's on the Hill food bank
- Student Co-op program
- Volunteer program

(Continued on Page 5)

Wow! There are now forty-six participants involved in activities and everyone talks about their experiences in a positive and enjoyable fashion.

The student Co-op program has had the pleasure of mentoring eleven students so far this year with eight more students to come on board as of Apr. 27/04. Students have responded with positive feedback and will let other students know that C.L.A.P.W. is the place to experience the best placement. Thank you to all of our students!

The volunteer program would like everyone to welcome two new volunteers who came with many years of experience and a friendly smile – Nazreen Ashraff and Angela Ejumudo. Welcome and thank you for joining our Association.

The Community Participation Program will continue to plan and assist individuals to be involved in positive and meaningful activities.

Thank you to everyone who participated and support the program. Your enthusiasm, genuine interest and hard work is what has made “Community Participation” what it is today.

I would like to thank the following for their generous donations of material for the quilting program (Joyce Maguire’s program): -

- Mrs. Kamlade
- Mrs. Burry
- Mrs. Muro
- Mrs. Masterson
- Mrs. Ferrevehio

If you would like more information on how to get involved, please feel free to call me at 905-427-3300 ext. 228.

WENDY HOLLIDAY

Summer Respite Dollars 2004

MCSS have notified us there will be ‘Summer Respite Dollars’ available this year. Summer Respite dollars are used towards enhancing summer opportunities or providing extra support to individuals with an intellectual disability. This is a limited fund and we are just one of many agencies applying on behalf of individuals and their families. MCSS have notified us there is a change in the funding criteria; that these ‘Summer Respite Dollars’ will only be available to individuals 18 yrs. and older. In the past, these dollars have been available to children and adults; this change will impact dramatically on many of our families. We welcome letters from families who will be affected by this change in the funding criteria. As your association, we will advocate on behalf of these families for children’s summer respite dollars.

Summer Employment Opportunity

Once again, the Environmental Youth Project is gearing up for another successful year. We will begin taking applications in May for summer employment. We are looking for young people between the ages of 18 to 25 who are interested in working outside for the summer, as part of a crew. We invite anyone interested to apply by submitting their resume no later than June 4/04 to the attention of Paul Rosebush at 36 Emperor Street, Ajax, ON L1S 1M7.

RHONDA ALCOTT

COMMUNITY LIVING AJAX-PICKERING AND WHITBY

YARD SALE/BAR-B-QUE

WHERE: Head Office – 36 Emperor St., Ajax

WHEN: June 12, 2004

TIME: 8 AM – 4 PM



ACTIVITIES: -

Yard sale, Pick-a-jar

B-B-Q - peameal on a bun \ hot dogs \ hamburgers \ pop

RAFFLES: -

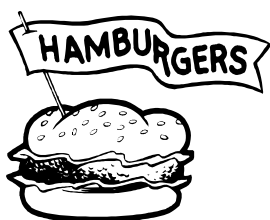
Quilts, one month membership at Sister's Gym
50/50 draw

Donations of gently used items (clothing exempted) would be greatly appreciated for the yard sale. Pick-a-jar event needs jars with assorted items i.e. beanie babies/chocolate bars/wrapper candies/ small toys

Volunteers welcome!

Please call Wendy Holliday (905) 427-3300 ext. 228

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!!





Will
And Estate
Planning

CLAPW has some good literature available on Estate planning. There have been several changes in the law over the last few years and it is helpful to keep abreast of developments in this area. Please contact Paul Rosebush for further information. You may also want to visit the website of the Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN) which deals exclusively with this topic. www.plan.ca
Lots of good ideas available here!



UPCOMING PRESENTATION

Protecting inheritances/saving taxes/maximizing ODSP benefits!

SPEAKER: Kenneth Pope, LLB

WHEN: May 19/04

TIME: 7: 00 PM – 9:00 PM

WHERE: Christ Church Of Today, 42 Nassau St., Oshawa

COST: \$10.00 per participant

To register please call 1-866-536-7573

Regrettably, a highly valued friend of the Association passed away in February
Geoph Curl

Geoff was an extraordinary beloved man and is sadly missed by all who knew
him.



Our deepest condolences are extended to Inez and her family

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I would like to report on some of our recent accomplishments and undertakings. The Association received two United Way awards in February. One was for best Agency Campaign Co-ordinator – Julie Wheeler (well done Julie!) and the other was for outstanding agency support award for our efforts to assist the United Way and our affiliated partners.

In March, we successfully hosted a Community building breakfast along with Central Seven and Oshawa Clarington featuring John McKnight from Chicago. John is well known to those connected to the developmental service community. John was able to promote other benefits of “Inclusive Communication” to area business lenders and public officials from the region. John also provided staff training and met with local self advocates.

New faces at CLAPW include our Finance Director – Paul Thompson, MBA, CGA and Tracy Caughy, our new Finance and Administration manager who have helped to successfully revamp our finance department. Paul Thompson provides our Association with instant financial management credibility based on his extensive professional experience, which include senior bank appointments in Canada and the United States as well as from his work

as a University professor in a distinguished MBA program. He is objective, enthusiastic, and motivated. Tracy came to us from the business community and has a wealth of experience in financial reporting, accounting and financial controls.

A warm welcome to both!

The Association continues to move forward on internal recognition and with developing a sound financial foundation to sustain our ability to support individuals well into the future.

As always I am happy to report the calibre of our employees continues to impress me and the Association has embarked on an aggressive professional development program to enhance the skill and knowledge base of our employees.

On April 29th, CLAPW held a General Staff Meeting that all staff were invited to.

Presentations were made by WSIB on workplace safety, by Paul Thompson on Association finances, and by all program supervisors. I delivered a presentation on my goals for the agency. The theme for our General Staff Meeting was “Don’t Stop Thinking About Tomorrow” to emphasize the positive future that our Association has.

I would like to invite all Association members to contact me at any time when questions or concerns arise. Problems can only be resolved when there is healthy communication.

Paul Rosebush
Executive Director