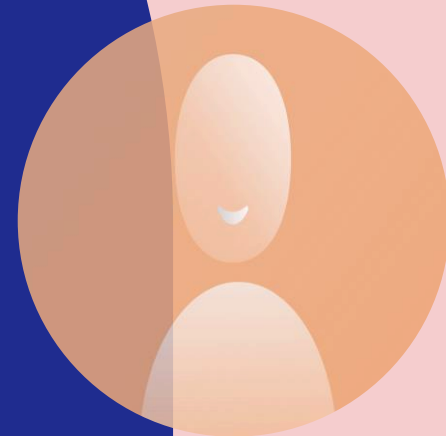


FAMILY AS PARTNERS YEAR 3

SEPT. 17, 2025



WELCOME!

This Family as Partners Group was established in September 2023. I am still excited about my role as the Parent Lead of this group, especially since I get to work closely with Wendy Holliday! Wendy is now in her 41st year as an employee of CLAPW. She has worked tirelessly in many roles, including Emergency Response. Her knowledge and hands-on experience is of immense importance, but it's her unwavering Love for the work that she does that is most valuable.

Not everyone chooses to come to our meetings; some prefer to look at what our meeting postings are online, some participated virtually and some just look at emails that I send out. We also have a Family Group Tab on the CLAPW Webpage.

It is to everyone's advantage for this group to grow. A family does not need to be connected to CLAPW in order to participate, so if you know of anyone in the Durham Region that you want to reach out to, please feel free to do so.

Family Group

Our Vision

The Community Living Family Group will enable family members of youth, adults, and seniors, who have an intellectual disability explore options for creating a good life in the community.

Members of the group will hear from guest speakers including parents from across the province who have established unique and creative support options.

Members of the group will learn about available community resources, supports, and will be supported through exploring options for their loved ones.

The family members participating in this program will learn about available community resources and planning tools and techniques available to support their loved ones. This information will be shared by a variety of sources including other parents and caregivers who have planned successfully for their family member.

We want to empower families to seek information and explore creative options for helping their loved ones to be fully engaged in the life of the community whether that is through work, recreation, or home life.



WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED!

The Ontario Caregiver Organization's Grant Program has given us the opportunity to have Family as Partners exist and to continue to grow.

Having this group has enabled us to connect with families/caregivers providing important information in the DS Sector, and have opportunities to discuss concerns and issues, as well as, supporting each other. Family members have shared how, after six months, they felt more empowered, informed and no longer on their own. They have all expressed their desire to continue to meet and expand.

Monthly Virtual/In-Person Meetings Opened up to the Community: Pamphlets for distribution at our Community Participation Program and at Chestnut Hill Recreation Complex in Pickering and the Pickering Library and Doctor's offices.

WHAT WE WANT TO DO!

- To continue to have speakers, whenever possible, present to us. Let me know if you have a topic or Presenter in mind.
- To continue to watch **P4P Planning Network** website for important and interesting subjects. I have attached some upcoming virtual topics.
- To have another event similar to our Paint Event where our loved ones can have their own activity. Any suggestions are welcomed.
- To host another Family as Partners Family Forum Event, but with a more varied list of presenters.
- To obtain a Grant for all Family Networks to come together in a Conference Environment, to meet, discuss and to share information, and to offer other associations to attend; Down Syndrome Association, Autism Ontario.

COMMUNITY LIVING
Ajax-Pickering and Whitby
Inspiring Possibilities

Holiday Party

AJAX CONVENTION CENTRE
550 BECK CRESCENT AJAX, ON

**FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 21ST**
6:00PM - 12:00AM

\$50 PER PERSON

 **DINNER AT 6:45PM**
 **RAFFLE TABLES WITH FESTIVE PRIZES**
 **HOLIDAY TUNES AND DANCING**

RSVP to info@clapw.org

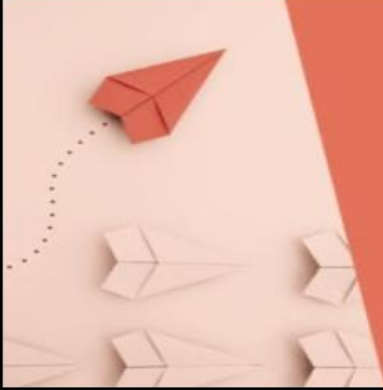
TICKETS GO ON SALE FROM SEPTEMBER 15TH UNTIL NOVEMBER 14TH

NO EXTENSIONS THIS YEAR

Tickets are on sale now!

**Do you know of any
businesses that can
donate product or be a
sponsor ?**

P4P FREE ONLINE WEBCASTS



Sep 22
Alternatives to
Guardianship



Sep 29
Microboards:
Sustaining
Your Future



Sep 30
Introduction to
the RDSP -
Sept 30

FREE
ONLINE
WEBCAST



Click Here
to Register



There has been an increase in discussion around parents and caregivers seeking guardianship for their adult child with a developmental disability. This webcast will help families understand the implications of guardianship and how it is usually unnecessary. It will also delve into decision making alternatives in Ontario and different ways to think about a person's rights and ability to make their own decisions.

This webcast will:

- Help people and families better understand where guardianship would be necessary and where it probably isn't
- Explain decision-making alternatives in Ontario
- Provide alternative ways of thinking about a person's ability and right to make their own decisions
- Explain the drawbacks to guardianship

A live Q&A will follow the webcast. The webcast will be



Register for our upcoming
FREE WEBCAST

Microboards: Sustaining your Future

As a parent or caregiver, you may have asked yourself the difficult question: who will care for my loved one with a disability when I no longer can? A Microboard is one solution that can ensure that people with disabilities are surrounded by those who truly know and care for them, both now and long into the future.

Join us on **September 29, 2025 at 7pm EDT** as we explore this innovative concept, and discuss some of the things that families should consider when deciding if a Microboard is the right fit for them.

What's in it for you:

- Definition, overview and core values underlying Microboards
- Steps involved in creating and operating a Microboard
- First-hand experience from parents engaged in the process
- Related online resources for further information and inspiration

Panelists:



Karen Bell

Karen is the Executive Director of Microboards Ontario. She has over twenty years' experience in progressive positions in the developmental services sector, almost all of it at Community Living Toronto. She has an extensive background in communications, government relations, and strategic and operational planning.

FREE
ONLINE
WEBCAST



The Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) is a made-in-Canada, long-term savings vehicle designed specifically for individuals with disabilities.

What's in it for you:

- An understanding of the RDSP and potential government contributions
- Knowledge of the latest updates and changes to the RDSP
- Tips and advice on free resources that can be consulted for additional information

A live Q&A will follow the webcast. The webcast will be recorded and made available following the live event for one month.

DSO WEBINAR SEPT. 29, 2025



Webinar on Accessory Dwelling Units - September 29th, 2025

Join DSO Housing Navigators as we discuss accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). Topics covered will include the different types of ADUs including laneway suites, basement suites, tiny homes and the benefits of adding an ADU to your home.

This session will be hosted in a virtual format and is open to people with developmental disabilities, their family members and/or support networks, as well as developmental services professionals in Ontario.

Mon, Sep 29, 2025 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Register

8:38 PM Tue Sep 16

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89%

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JOIN US

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RESOURCES

A SOCIAL HUB FOR AUTISTIC ADULTS

AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM

I AM

An Autistic adult (18+)

LOOKING TO

Become a member

NEXT

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

MEET FRIENDS AND FAMILIES **JUST LIKE YOURS**

8:39 PM Tue Sep 16

autismhomebase.com

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MISSION & VALUES

OUR VISION & MISSION

Our vision is that Autistic adults and their families lead rich, active lives in an accepting, supportive community.

Our mission is to create opportunities that inspire our Autistic and neurodivergent community to discover new interests, develop social skills and networks, and live their best lives.



WE SUPPORT LIFELONG RELATIONSHIPS

OF FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

Autistic adults and their lifelong family caregivers can be

READ MORE

Our Partners

Our Members

Member Meetups

The Hub

TAKE ACTION

DONATE

BECOME A MEMBER

PARTNER WITH US

VOLUNTEER

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE SUPPORT OF THESE PARTNERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS



Canada

Ontario

DONATE ONE-TIME →

CAN YOU HELP US?

DONATE MONTHLY →

NAVIGATION

Homepage

Member Login





Act on Care

Register

Summit details

November 3 – 4, 2025
Fairmont Château Laurier |
Ottawa, Ontario

A brighter future of care is possible. Following the release of *A National Caregiving Strategy* for Canada, the Canadian Caregiving Summit, hosted by the Azrieli Foundation's Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence, will mobilize caregivers, care providers, systems leaders, policy makers and researchers across the aging, disability and healthcare communities to work together to make caregiving a national priority. It's time to *Act on Care*.

Iwegbu



Stay in touch

Subscribe to our Canadian
Caregiving Summit
newsletter to stay informed
about new developments
and news related to this
event.

Subscribe now

DSO – DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES ONTARIO

Have you updated DSO ?

TOPICS OF INTEREST

- **CANADA DISABILITY BENEFIT – What was your experience?**
- **CANADA DENTAL PLAN**

IMPORTANT DATES

- **October 15th** – Family Group Meeting, CLAPW office at 36 Emperor Street, Ajax, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- **October 30th** - Halloween Dance. 6:00 – 9:00 pm. Ajax Legion
- **November 21st** – CLAPW Holiday Party – Ajax Convention Centre, 6:00 pm – 12:00 am - You can buy your tickets now!



THANK YOU !

Sylvia Thornton

sylviathornton99@icloud.com

&

Wendy Holliday

Community Living Ajax,
Pickering and Whitby (CLAPW)