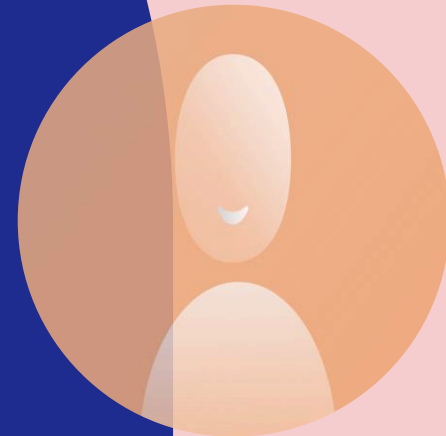


FAMILY AS PARTNERS YEAR 2

SEPT. 18, 2024



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 40th 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.

At the end of our October 2023-June 2024 year we had 25 families registered. 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; and you will see what that looks like on our next page of this presentation.

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.

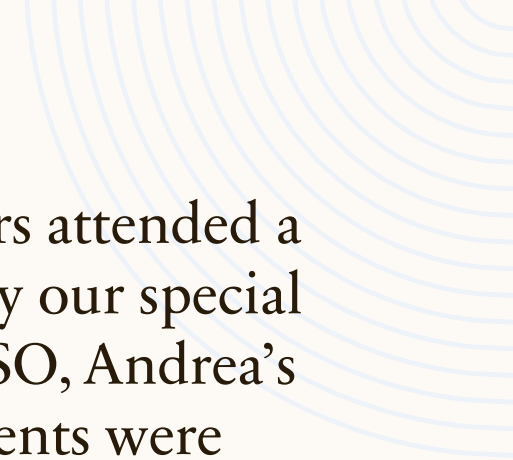


WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED!

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.



We held an event on a Saturday afternoon, March 16 where parents/caregivers attended a paint event, while their loved one participated in a music session provided by our special guest musician and his guitar. Stipends were provided to our Presenters; DSO, Andrea's Condo Presentation (Mother), and Instructor at our Paint Event. Refreshments were provided at all our meetings and at our paint event. We purchased "Person-Directed Home Living Options Handbook for Individuals, Their Families & Support Network Teams" by the Family Voice of Lanark County.

We ended our first year on June 19, 2024 by hosting the Family as Partners Family Forum Event held at The Abilities Centre in Whitby. The Agenda is shown on the following page. This event was well attended and the feedback we received showed a strong desire to have this type of event again.

Come in and hear directly from families about innovative support plans!

FAMILY AS PARTNERS FAMILY FORUM

Sponsored by the Ontario Caregiver Association

Wednesday June 19th, 6:30pm-9:00pm

Abilities Centre Theatre

1 Jim Flaherty Street, Whitby

Presentations from Family Groups, including:

- Achieve
- Our Daughter's Home
- Shared Dreams
- Haliburton Smith Family

Refreshments

Door Prize

Information Booths from partners including:

- Adult Protective Service Worker
- CLOC
- Durham Housing
- Canopy
- DSO
- Respite Now
- CLAPW
- Durham Family Resources
- PH
- Deering Financial & Insurance
- CLDN
- Homemakers Program

In Collaboration With



Limited Capacity. Please book your spot by emailing dana.sullivan@clapw.org.

Agenda

6:00-6:30 - Information Booths Set Up

6:30-6:40 - Doors Open and Welcome

6:40-7:00 - Family Group Presentation 1

7:00-7:20 - Family Group Presentation 2

7:20-7:40 - Refreshment Break and Visit Booths

7:40-8:00 - Family Group Presentation 3

8:00-8:20 - Family Group Presentation 4

8:20-9:00 - Questions



WHAT WE WANT TO DO!

- To continue to have speakers, whenever possible, present to us. At a future meeting we are hoping to have Sharon Burgess speak to us about the Volunteer Program at CLAPW.
- To continue to watch **P4P Planning Network** website for important and interesting subjects. One hosting on **September 25 is Tips for RDSP Plan Holders at 7:00 pm.**
- To have another event similar to our Paint Event where our loved ones can have their own activity. Any suggestions 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.



**FREE P4P
WEBCAST**

Tips for **RDSP** Plan Holders

Opening a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) is a critical start but once an RDSP is open there is much more that Plan Holders can learn to ensure they are getting the most out of the plan.

This webcast provides tips and strategies for Plan Holders so they can manage an RDSP effectively, receive the maximum amount of government contributions including retroactive grants and bonds, learn about the withdrawal process, and understand how an RDSP can integrate with other disability benefits and a longer-term financial plan.

The webcast will give guidance on what you need to do before and AFTER opening your RDSP to make an RDSP work for you or your family member.

Tips for RDSP Plan Holders

HOLIDAY DINNER & DANCE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2024
6PM - 12AM

TICKETS - \$50

Purchase tickets at Dowty and Head
Office, or e-transfer
nicole.landell@clapw.org
(Must be purchased by November 15th)



AJAX CONVENTION CENTRE
550 BECK CRESCENT P., AJAX, ON L1Z 1C9

IMPORTANT DATES

- **October 16th** – Family Group Meeting, CLAPW office at 36 Emperor Street, Ajax, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- **October 23rd** – Halloween Dance. 6:00 – 9:00 pm. Ajax Legion
- **November 22nd** – CLAPW Holiday Party – Ajax Convention Centre, 6:00 pm – 12:00 am - You can buy your tickets now!



THANK YOU !

Sylvia Thornton

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&

Wendy Holliday

Community Living Ajax,
Pickering and Whitby (CLAPW)