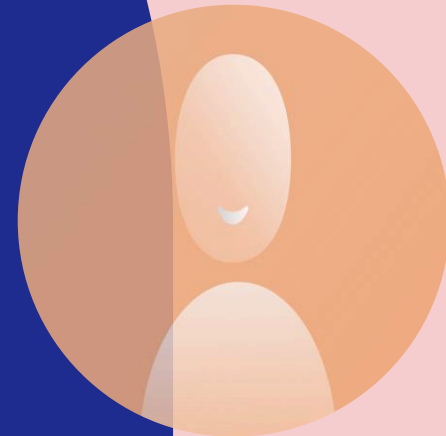


FAMILY AS PARTNERS FAMILY FORUM

JUNE 19, 2024



On June 19, 2024, CLAPW hosted **Family as Partners Family Forum** event at The Abilities Centre in Whitby. This event was sponsored by the Ontario Caregiver Organization. Information tables from partners included ODSP, Participation House, Durham Housing, Canopy Support, Respite Now, DSO, Durham Family Resources, Adult Protective Service Worker, CLOC, CLDN, Homemakers Program and Deering Financial and Insurance. As the lead for our Family Group, I acted as the evening's Emcee; introducing the speaker's and keeping everyone on track. This event was well represented by these agencies and we had great participation by our large audience. CLAPW had a table for our Summer Program/Volunteers and one for our Family Group.

This event showcased 4 subject speakers; Achieve, Our Daughter's Home, Shared Dreams and the Haliburton Smith Family. Their stories were very inspiring and everyone in attendance enjoyed listening to their stories and how they are working toward achieving their goals. My sincere thanks and appreciation go out to our ED, Lisa McNee-Baker for arranging this night and booking the speaker's and resource agencies, and Wendy Holliday for her unwavering support and assistance. What a team!

Our feedback on this evening has been very positive and many have requested that this type of event be held on a yearly basis.

Enjoy the Summer and we look forward to connecting with more families in September.

Regards,

Sylvia Thornton

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



PRESENTATION #1

Achieve

Achieve Housing Charity was founded by Sheryl Over, parent of a 28-year-old with a developmental disability. Sheryl worked in the special needs field for 10 years, chaired the Peterborough FASD committee for 8 years and was co-facilitator of the caregiver support group. As her son aged, she realized that the need for supportive housing far surpassed the available placements. Trying to find a creative solution to help her son and others she applied for charitable status and formed Achieve Charity ran by a volunteer board of directors made up of a group of community members who bring diverse backgrounds in the fields of education, developmental services, policing, and volunteerism together for a common goal. Achieve will soon open their first home in Peterborough.

PRESENTATION #2

Our Daughter's Home

Our Daughters Home is a group of 7 families who, due to the unavailability of appropriate housing for their adult daughters, have banded together to take matters into their own hands. The group has been working together diligently since July 2023 and, while far from their ultimate goal, are proud to have completed many steps in the long process of establishing sustainable, accessible, supportive housing for their daughters.

Our small group is now 7 devoted families and we have incorporated as a non-profit and applied for charitable status.

PRESENTATION #3

Shared Dreams

Shared Dreams for Independent Living is a family developed and lead organization who believes that in general all people who live with developmental disabilities must be recognized as the authority over their own lives and that all people will enjoy the same opportunities as their family friends and neighbors in a supportive, purposeful way in a home of their own.

Christine Cannon, first and foremost has had the great joy for the past 35 years of being Mom to Christopher. She is co-founder of Shared Dreams for Independent Living and has been Board President since 2015.

Stacey Ridge, is employed as Shared Dreams, Personal Pathway Facilitator. This role is very special as It is the first of its kind and was developed by the 5 men of Shared Dreams and their families.

PRESENTATION #4

Haliburton – Smith Family

The Mother of an adult son with disabilities told us of their family's journey of advocating for services for their son. A truly inspiring story which expressed what happened during those times and how their son now lives independent of them and is leading his best life.





THANK YOU !

Sylvia Thornton

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&

Community Living Ajax,
Pickering and Whitby
(CLAPW)