

Supporting Children with Special Needs

I am thrilled and honoured to share some wonderful news with you.

Community Living Hamilton has been awarded, by the City of Hamilton, a contract to provide Special Needs Resourcing Services to Licensed Child Care Providers. We will be working in child care centres to ensure that children with special needs are included and supported so that they have every opportunity for learning.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our organization to meet many more families of children who have special needs. It will allow us to introduce Community Living Hamilton to families who may not yet know about us and the services we offer. It is an opportunity to build new relationships with families and child care centres.

To give you a sense of how big this is:

We expect that by Year 5 we'll be serving, annually, upwards to 1000 children with special needs and their families

We will be directly supporting and serving over 200 Licensed Child Care Providers

Over the next few months we will be recruiting, hiring, and orienting approximately 50 new staff and we look forward to welcoming them to our organization. There are a lot of skilled and experienced child care and Special Needs Resourcing professionals in our community and we're confident we will build a qualified and expert team. As of January 1, 2017 - the start date for the new service model - we will have a strong team in place to ensure that we're delivering quality services to children, families and Licensed Child Care Providers.

This is a terrific opportunity for Community Living Hamilton to continue to do what we do best ... Helping Build Great Lives.

Sherry Parsley

Executive Director

Community Living Hamilton

Inside

Summer Shut Down Fun	2
McMaster Recruitment	3
Drum Corps - Update	4
Movie Review	5
Ability Walk 'N' Roll	6
Cool Teen Summer Camp	7
End of Summer Picnic	8
Victory Gardens	9
The Advisors	10
Client Testimonial	11
Happy Birthday George!	12



SUMMER SHUT DOWN FUN

This summer many of the residents supported through our group living programs chose to create their own “stay-cation” during our day program shutdown. Based out of our York Program, the group met daily with staff to choose from a variety of activities and events. Highlights of the day trips included picnics in the park, museum tours, exploring the RBG and local events, trolley and train rides, daily swims, casino and exclusive tours of a movie and music studio. For those who chose not to go out into the heat of the summer; Hamilton Police officers stopped by with their horses, mad science showed us some kitchen/chemical experiments and many hours were spent relaxing and having fun playing games including our own in-house version of

fishing. Many photos taken by our volunteer photographer, Cathy and staff were compiled into a scrapbook for each participant.

To end the fun filled two weeks the first annual Master Cook Showdown provided an opportunity for the chef in everyone to shine and for the audience to try some yummy creations. Congratulations to Kensington for having a winning team in the pizza, sandwich and dessert rounds (and to Mountain for winning in two of the three rounds).

Gloria Petitti
Manager, Client Services





Appendix C: Recruitment Poster

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR RESEARCH IN YOUTH DISABILITY & UNSTABLE HOUSING

- Are you between the ages of 16 to 30?
- Do you have an intellectual, developmental, or learning disability?
- Have you ever been homeless or been in a situation where your housing was unstable?

We are looking for volunteers to take part in a study about youth with disabilities in unstable housing.

You would be asked to participate in an individual interview.

Your participation would involve meeting with us for an interview that would be about one to two hours long. This interview would be in a location of your choosing. You could also bring a support person with you.

In appreciation for your time, you will receive \$25.00.

For more information about this study, or to participate in this study, please contact:

Katie McCrindle

School of Social Work at McMaster University

Tel: 289-887-8798 or

Email: cr_p4cha@mcmaster.ca

**This study has been reviewed by, and received ethics clearance
by the McMaster Research Ethics Board.**



Drum Corps - Update

Planning has started!

In less than 2 years our Drum Corps will be flying to Indianapolis for the International World Championships and there is a lot to do! Some information has been shared with the team but more details will follow.

Kathia Francia
Executive Assistant



Movie Review

At The Movies

Pearl Harbor is a film about the Japanese attack on the American naval base in Pearl Harbour in World War II. The movie is both a war story and a love story. It follows the lives of the three main characters: Rafe, Danny and Evelyn. Rafe (played by Ben Affleck) and Danny (played by Josh Harnett) are life-long friends and both join the American Navy at the same time. Shortly after joining Danny and Rafe meet Evelyn (played by Kate Beckinsale) who is a nurse serving in the Navy. Both Danny and Rafe fall in love with Evelyn at different times in the film. The movie follows the three of them as Rafe and Danny become fighter pilots and wage war on their enemy while Evelyn helps to save the lives of wounded American sailors and pilots.

“I like this film because it has a good story line, lots of action and has many scenes that feature World War II airplanes and ships. Although this is a war story it's not all death and destruction. There are many happy scenes in it as well.

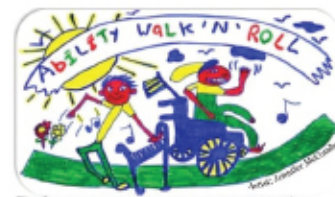
Oddly enough, although the movie was given poor reviews by critics it was a box office smash and went on to make nearly four hundred and fifty million dollars and win four academy awards. Clearly, movie goers loved it, and I think you will, too. A word of warning though, it's not a short movie. It's over three hours in length, so plan to spend an entire evening watching it. I suggest that you find a comfy chair, make some popcorn, invite some friends over and sit back and enjoy.

I give this film 4 out of 5 stars”

Carl Wilker
CLH Client



Ability Walk 'N' Roll



On Saturday August 27, 2016 Community Living Hamilton participated in the first ever Ability Walk 'N' Roll. The event was a collaboration between several agencies in the city with the goal of highlighting the gifts of people with disabilities.

The day was kicked off by emcee Evelyn (DSO) introducing speakers Robert (Ideal Way) and Kareem (CLH – Employment Access) who spoke about their successes and encouraged others to see their own abilities and achievements.

Attendees then took part in the Ability Walk which went from City Hall to James St, James St to King St, King St to Bay St and from Bay St back to City Hall. Everyone looked great with their Ability Walk T-Shirts and signs as they raised awareness in the downtown core.

After the walk everyone enjoyed a pizza lunch and entertainment provided by the Community Living Hamilton Drum Corps and singing by Rebecca from YWCA.

Attendees were also able to visit the tents of Community Living Hamilton, L'Arche, Able Living, Special Olympics, YWCA, March of Dimes, the DSO and Christian Horizons for information and merchandise.

The day finished up with some Karaoke and line dancing and a great time was had by all.

Lisa Cameron
Manager, Operations
Drop N' Shop



COOLTEEN Summer Camp

The summer of 2016 was a very exciting summer for Children's Respite. This was our first summer operating our children's day respite program on weekends throughout the entire summer and our overnight respite program at Charlton continued to provide two months of full-time respite opportunities filled with fun, adventures and friendship building. In addition to these two very successful programs, we were able to introduce a new respite program geared specifically for our teenagers. This summer we launched our new CoolTeen programs with our most popular being our CoolTeen summer camp.

CoolTeen summer camp was a week-long community based day camp for our young clients aged 12 to 17yrs old. The focus of this program was to provide teens with recreational opportunities within the community and to encourage building skills such as independence and facilitating social opportunities.

Each day of the CoolTeen camp had a theme to which the activities were based on. One theme day was "planes, trains and automobiles" where the group was able to experience riding on a train, a trolley and a take a harbor tour by boat.

On our "Creepy Crawly" day, the CoolTeen camp went to visit Lil Rays Reptile Zoo where they got to hold a snake and pet a skunk. The group also participated in crafts, sports, mini putt and a picnic day at Bronte Creek for a swim. The week ended with a beach themed party, homemade cupcakes and tie-dyed shirts that each teen took home with them.

The CoolTeen summer camp program provided a fun, exciting week of activities and also encouraged the teens to meet new people and make friends. The friendships made during the CoolTeen camp have extended into our other children's respite programs which in itself indicates a huge success towards helping build great lives.

Charlene McCullough
Manager, Client Services

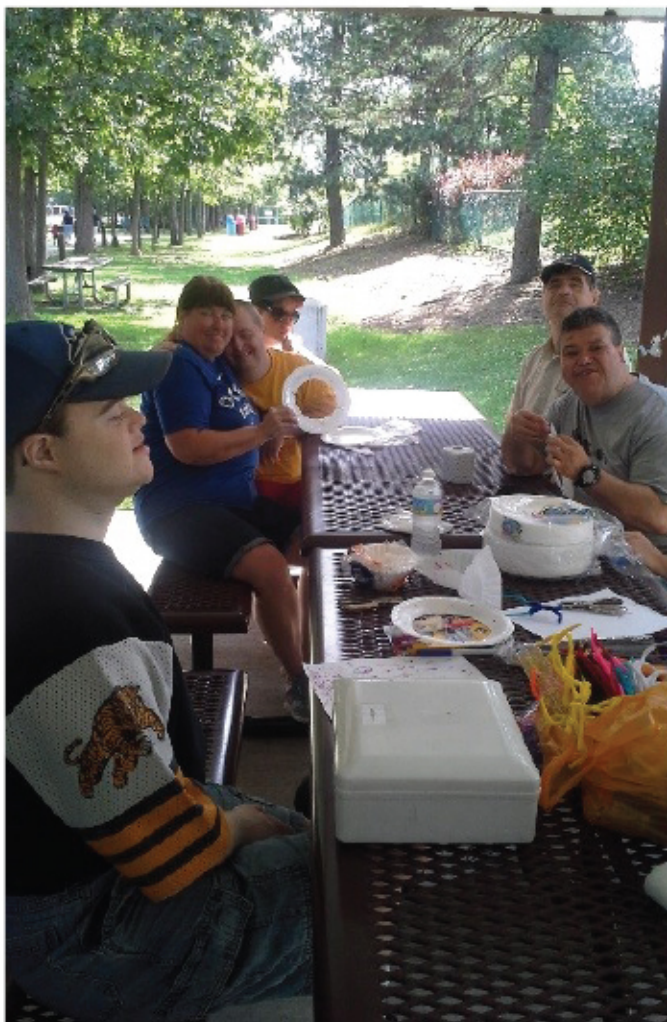
End Of Summer Picnic

Starting a new tradition,

many of the Chedoke, Huntington, Inch Park, Lawfield, Parkdale, Rosedale, and Valley Park participants and staff gathered together for a relaxing day in the park to reunite with friends, play some games, and be creative with an art project. There were lots of hugs smiles and new friendships formed with many asking when and where the next gathering will be.

Gloria Petitti

Manager, Client Services



Victory Gardens

The participants at the Rosedale program wanted a way continue giving to the community. After participating in a local community cleanup they decided to volunteer with the Hamilton Victory Gardens* and in the process are learning how our food is grown from “seed to table”.

**Hamilton Victory Gardens is a volunteer based, not-for-profit, charitable organization with the mission to increase access to healthy, nutritious fresh produce for marginalized individuals/families and to promote social inclusion and community cohesion as community members work together to combat local poverty and food insecurity. This mission is being realized through a form of "urban agriculture" by constructing raised garden beds on unused urban land throughout the city. Dedicated volunteers plant and maintain the beds and then harvest the fresh produce, all of which is donated to local food banks/programs to be distributed to their clientele.*

Gloria Petitti
Manager, Client Services



The Advisors



Who the Advisors Are:

We are a group of people who receive services through Community Living Hamilton. As a group, we represent all individuals who receive services from Community Living Hamilton.

What Do the Advisors Do?

The advisors work with staff, senior management and the Board of Directors. We make sure our agency is the best it can be by having our voices heard and our ideas used.

How Do We Do It?

Senior Management and the Board of Directors ask for our input on important matters. We meet 3-4 times a year and discuss these matters as a team.

The Commitment

- Members are asked to commit 1-3 years

If You:

- Are currently receiving services
- Like to talk about new things and are open to new ideas
- Are a team player
- Are interested in participating in our meetings
- Want to make Community Living Hamilton the best it can be

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of a dynamic team, please call Ann Manning (905) 526-9339 ext. 441



Client Testimonial



In the Spring we shared a success story of one of our Employment Access clients, Laura Kaler. Laura celebrated a major milestone, her 1st Anniversary working at Harveys. The following is an e-mail which Laura sent to us, it made us feel really good about what our team does and because of that we wanted to share it with you. Thank you for sharing this with us Laura, it made us feel great! This e-mail is shared with Laura's permission.

"Just wanted to email you to tell you how proud I am of myself! This past Saturday, July 23 marked 1 year working at Harveys for me! I can tell you for certain I haven't enjoyed working at a job so much since I worked at Rainbow Ceramics. The bosses and co-workers have always been very helpful and kind to me. I have thanked them for that a few times. They never get mad at me which I appreciate. I'm also always working on having a good routine of tasks to do during each shift so that I'm always busy and productive. I love the hours. I try to seldom book time off. I'll admit the odd weeks I wish I didn't have to work on a Saturday but overall I put up with working Saturdays it's fine. I hope to work here for a long time to come!"

We at Employment Access wish you many more years of success Laura!!

Ann Manning
Community Placement Specialist
Employment Access

Happy Birthday George!



George is an interesting and fun loving man who has worked at Sun Chemical since May 2010. He is an important part of the team family and participates in milestones that are celebrated at Sun Chemical. As shown in the picture, George has just celebrated a birthday put on for him by his co-workers. George cares about his coworkers and participates in many family and work related activities.

George enjoys his sports and has been involved in many discussions with his coworkers defending his choice of teams. He is fun loving and a hard worker.

George travels to Burlington independently every day and puts in long work hours without complaint. George has many duties at Sun Chemical including cleaning, organizing, and order picking. George is responsible to ensure that he uses his chemicals in a safe and responsible manner, and to ensure that he checks his work as his product is shipped across Canada and the United States.

George has been very happy working at Sun Chemical and hopes to celebrate many more birthdays there.

Charles Krick
*Community Placement Specialist
Employment Access*

Hi Everyone!

My name is Kathia and I am the new editor for The Advocate. Some of you may have seen me around York but for those of you who I have not met, I have been here since June as Executive Assistant to our Executive Director, Sherry Parsley.

These are exciting times at Community Living Hamilton and I am so happy to be a part of it! There is a lot happening and I'm sure many of you have lots to say. We would love to hear from you! If you have something you would like to share on the next issue of the advocate, please contact me.

Hope to hear from you soon!

Kathia Francia
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Community Living Hamilton
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