



Focus on Community Living



Serving the Area of West Parry Sound

SPRING 2014 EDITION

A Great Spring Idea - Come Join Us on the Board of Community Living Parry Sound!

Every year people choose the Board of Community Living Parry Sound (CLPS) as a great place to volunteer their time, experience, and skills acquired through life or work outside the agency. The Board's membership structure is well designed with three-year revolving terms, welcoming new faces and new ideas when the new Board year begins every September. Spring however, is when we prepare a slate of nominees for election at the annual general meeting in September and get ready to say farewell to those who have served their terms. We also maintain a bank of people who indicate their interest in serving on the Board in the future.

There are two upcoming farewells that will be especially difficult for Community Living and for Board members Jo Ann Poglitsch and Carol Marshall, who will soon have served a total of thirty years between them.



May 4, 2012
Sheri Cox, Jo Ann Poglitsch, Jo-Anne Demick

Jo Ann's administrative and leadership skills have been critical to the Board's current solid foundation, including our Bylaws and Governance Policies, Strategic Planning process, and a permanent Board recruitment committee. Jo Ann first served from 1997 to 2006, holding various chair positions as well as every office except Treasurer, and serving as President for five years. She returned in 2008, serving the past three years as President, overseeing CLPS's first application for

Accreditation, it's next three year Strategic Plan, and once again reviewing all of the Bylaws and governance structure related to new changes in legislation. It was most fitting that Jo Ann was the very first recipient of the Volunteer of the Year Award, and that she was the Board President and Chair when CLPS celebrated our 50th Anniversary in 2012. As testament to her membership experience, Jo Ann has this to say:

"Being on the Board has been very rewarding for me. I have learned a lot and have the satisfaction of having helped the agency and the people we serve. The variety of backgrounds and personalities on the Board contribute to interesting discussions. I have enjoyed the experience and have made new friends. There is a culture of continuous improvement in the agency and the management team is top-notch, so there has been a lot of progress in services, administration, and in the functioning of the Board itself. I will remain a great supporter of CLPS."



September 17, 2013
Tamara Cunningham Carol Marshall,
Jo-Anne Demick

Carol Marshall is so well known in this community as a tireless advocate for people with disabilities and their families, and for CLPS staff and volunteers. Among her volunteer activities since 1995, Carol was part of the Special Olympics coaching team and head coach of speed skating and assisted other sports and fundraisers. Carol was honoured in 2013 as CLPS Volunteer of the Year. In addition to her

full-time work as Program Manager at Belvedere Heights where she puts in countless hours of personal time, to her several other volunteer "jobs" over the years such as the Parry Sound Volunteer Network, VICARS, and Big Sisters, to being a great Mom and Nana, Carol has found the time and energy to give a total of fifteen years to Board membership, including several board committees, and terms as Vice President. She brings her unique professional perspective and her passion for community inclusion of people with disabilities. When asked to comment on this experience, Carol has this to say:

"Being involved with CLPS as a board member and as a coach with Special Olympics has been both an honour and privilege. I have learned so much at the side of an athlete and around the table at a board meeting. I have grown personally and professionally. I have been amazed at the commitment of an athlete to go on in spite of challenges and humbled by their grace. As a board member I have watched this organization grow, I have contributed to decisions for the people we serve, made friends and have been enriched by the dedication of the management and staff. I will be forever grateful."

People like Jo Ann and Carol will leave the CLPS Board with big boots to fill; however, we are confident that this fall we will be filling them with new Board members with new ideas.

This Spring, please consider adding your name, or suggesting someone you think would be a good board member, for our bank of potential new Board members. Check out the CLPS website, call the office, or contact any of us in person or by phone.

Sharon Shewen, Board Director

**Are you the parent of a person with a disability?
Are you concerned about their future?**



Introducing the Partners for Planning Resource Network, a dynamic online resource for families caring for a child or adult with a disability.

Free on our website, www.clps.ca

The Partners for Planning Resource Network provides families with helpful tools, information, & expertise on a range of topics relevant to creating a good life and a safe, secure future for your relative with a disability.

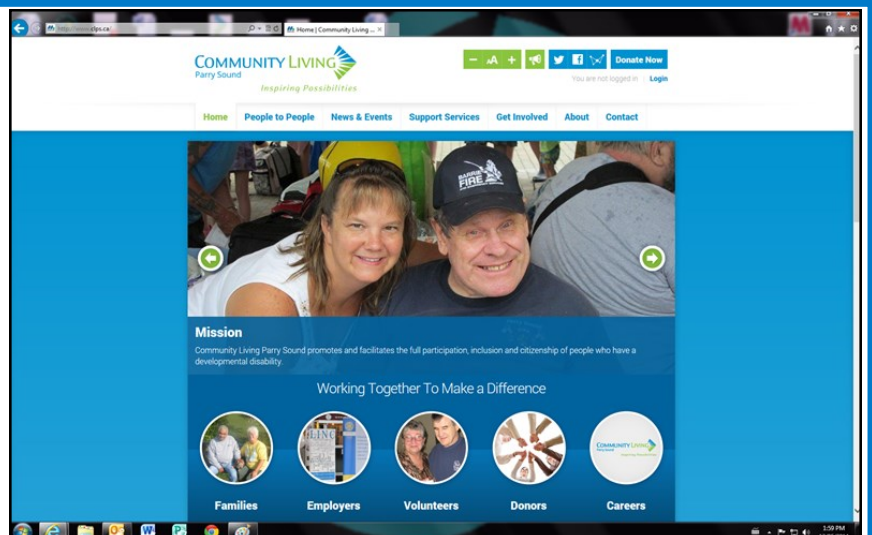
Launch the Partners for Planning Resource Network to gain access to many **FREE interactive resources:**

- **Live webcasts that you can easily view from home**
- **Access to informative and inspiring documentaries**
- **A comprehensive learning centre filled with interactive, video-based learning modules featuring key planning tools and strategies for families**
- **An online directory of lawyers, financial planners, facilitators, and accountants who specialize in disability issues**

This project is collaboration between Community Living Ontario, Partners for Planning and the Ministry of Community and Social Services

**Visit our
New
Website!**

www.clps.ca



Rebecca Jones - Standing Just Like You

Rebecca Jones: Standing Just like You is the title of a remarkable new video released in Ottawa in May 2014. It was produced by Community Living Parry Sound as part of a provincial project initiated by professionals to ask communities to consider how they react to people with developmental disabilities.

How people, with or without a disability, react to people with disabilities is a complex question requiring an honest and compassionate look inside oneself. Rebecca Jones' video is remarkable as it documents the

process of how a depressed young woman living with Cerebral Palsy becomes a vital woman with hopes and dreams and the skills to realize them. In this video Rebecca allows viewers to witness her personal transformation in the hopes that they will begin to see her and themselves in a new light.

Rebecca says Person Directed Planning made a huge difference in her life. "It's helped me so much to become more independent and helped me realize I can do anything I want to do". She wants the support she re-

ceived to be available to whoever needs it and says "It will teach them to break down the barriers because they are just like everybody else".

One of Rebecca's dreams is to become a public speaker to express her ability to think about living with a disability in ways that are far beyond the conventional box that typically people with disabilities are kept in.

The video may be viewed on CLPS's new website at: <http://www.clps.ca/people-people/person-directed-planning/>



May 2, 2014
Ottawa, Ontario

Virginie Cobigo, Lynn Martin, Rebecca Green, Marion David, Rebecca Jones, Kim Gauthier, Jo-Anne Demick, Philip Grandia

Leading Into New Careers

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Leading Into New Careers (LINC) is an approved Ontario Disability Service Provider-Employment Supports (ODSP-ES) Service Provider.

LINC takes a holistic approach which acknowledges employment as a meaningful attachment to community life. Our objective is connecting people with employment barriers to sustainable, competitive jobs. We ensure that we suggest someone that does have the skills for the job.

LINC will provide individualized services that will assist in success within the workplace. We do this by maintaining regular contact with both the employer and employee as needed.

Who can qualify for LINC Services?

Any employer looking to hire within the West Parry Sound District can qualify for LINC Services.

Anyone with any type of disability that meet the following requirements:

- Meet criteria for ODSP-ES
- Legal resident of Ontario
- Ready, willing, able to prepare for, accept and maintain competitive employment
- 16 years of age and older
- Professional disposition
- Committed to personal and professional goals

What are the types of services LINC can provide?

Employment Preparation consists of, but is not limited to: job search, resume and cover letter development, specific skill development and interview preparation. Each service provided is dependent on the individual need.

Job Matching compares the requirements listed in a job description with the skills of the job seeker. If requested the employer can receive a list of potential candidates for the position.

Job Development helps the employer identify staffing requirements that are not being met. A position can be created to address this, which in turn creates a high level of productivity by staff.

Job Trials are no-risk; short-term, non-paid work opportunities that allow the employer and potential employee to "try out" the position.

Job Coaching helps employees learn the duties of a new job with the use of a job coach at no cost to the employer. This can take place in the work environment or outside it, depending on the needs of the employer and employee.



CONTACTS & PROGRAMS

Jill Reeve, Director of Accommodation Services
 Paula Mullen, Director of Children & Youth Services
 Brad Horne, Director of Community Development & Inclusion
 Lori McPhaden, Manager of Associate Living
 Kim Gauthier, Manager of Quality Assurance
 Rick Harrington, Supervisor of Community Support Services
 Kathy Pastoor, Respite Services
 Tamara Cunningham, Volunteer Services
 Tricia Bain, Project Coordinator

ADMINISTRATION

Jo-Anne Demick, Executive Director
 Sylvia Roy, Acting Director of Corporate Services
 Michael Fleetham, Accounting & Corporate Support
 Jane Leadbeater, Executive Assistant
 Donna Lubbelinkhof, Receptionist

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jo Ann Poglitsch, President
 Carol Marshall, Director in lieu of Past President
 Lynda Marshall, Vice President
 Deborah Jones, Treasurer
 Sharon Shewen, Director
 David Golden, Director
 Greg Aldworth, Director
 Howard Wesley, Director
 Sheri Cox, Director



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 Parry Sound, ON P2A 2G5

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 Email: mail@clps.ca
www.clps.ca

Employer Engagement Breakfast

An Employer Engagement Breakfast was held at the Stockey Centre on March 19, 2014 and was very well attended by local employers. Funding for this event was also received through the MCSS Employment Projects Funding program. The event included keynote speakers Mark Wafer and Joe Dale, a panel of local employers, as well as employment videos highlighting five successful employment placements made

through LINC Employment Services. LINC's goal from this event is to build a stronger relationship with businesses in Parry Sound and educate them on the services we provide. With the increased education and new connection with employers, LINC hopes to find new matches for people on our caseload in the upcoming year.

To view the video shown at this event as well as video of Key-

note Speakers Joe Dale and Mark Wafer, please click here:

Employee Engagement Community Living Parry Sound

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYdb07MymGE>

Community Engagement Breakfast - Community Living Parry Sound

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U UT3jX6MoA>



March 19, 2014
Employer Engagement Breakfast
Keynote Speakers Joe Dale and Mark Wafer

Canadore College Hospitality Course

Graduation for the Canadore College Hospitality Course took place on March 5, 2014. Nine students completed this four-week course, which was funded through the MCSS Employment Projects Funding program. During the four week course, students learned about Customer Service, Communication, and Difficult People, and received certifications in Safe Food Hand-

ling, CPR and First Aid, Smart Serve, and WHMIS. This was a great course to prepare these students for their next career steps. LINC Employment Services will now support people to update their resumes to add the certifications and skills they have earned throughout the course and find the right position for them within the Parry Sound Community.



March 5, 2014
Canadore College Hospitality Course Graduation

My Life, My Future, My Choice 2014

There was no down side to the *My Life, My Future, My Choice* conference for self-advocates from North Eastern Ontario held in North Bay on March 5 and 6, 2014. It was the most infectiously optimistic gathering I have ever attended and for that reason I am grateful to have been a part of it.



Self-Advocate Planning Committee
Stephanie, Katharine, Bev, Cortney

I asked Katharine, one of four Self-Advocates on the planning committee, what her favorite part of the event was:

“For me it would be meeting new friends, great speakers, and learning about the healing circle. Also great singer the one night! Also for the nice CTV news reporter and meeting the MPP, he really liked what I said on the news. Great. Also I shared my story with some people who wanted to read it, I wrote my own on paper and handed it out the last day. And all of us

that worked on the project we were all awesome! I would like more of these conferences to happen around the world, it would be great to get together with people and learn and share our stories and also help them in any way we can. I am up for the challenge!! Are you??”

Bev, another self-advocate on the planning team, came to the conference on the heels of participating in a training event to learn public speaking skills. She said getting to speak in public by introducing invited guests at the conference and seeing a lot of new faces was the best part for her. The speaking challenges that Bev took on were handled with ease and aptitude.

The Self-Advocate Conference began with a vision inspired by Jo-Anne Demick and Kim Gauthier of Community Living Parry Sound and the financial backing of a Trillium Grant they spearheaded. It took eight months of hard work to meld together the talents of each planning committee member to accomplish a great mission; a groundbreaking opportunity for people living with disabilities to

spend two days together being treated like anyone else. Kim says, “For me the best part was having self-advocates who were not only involved in all planning aspects for this conference but who took a leadership role during the actual event, including facilitating various sessions at the conference”.



Kim Gauthier and Doug Brear

Cortney Gilligan, committee member and self-advocate, suggested we try to get some media coverage for the event. That happened. One reporter who showed up at the hotel on Day Two of the conference observed 80 self-advocates (with every manner of disability to contend with) walking through a scrumptiously laid out lunch buffet line “just like anyone else would go through a lunch line”. This woman seemed stunned by what she saw. “I am here because

Vic Fedeli asked me if I was coming” Laurel Campbell of Metroland North Bay said, “I had no idea what I was walking into”; and the look of awe on her face was mirrored on the faces of other media people present.

The event was infectious as participants gathered together in the spirit of openness, willingness, gratitude and acceptance.

An invaluable member of the planning team was Jill Faber of HSA Canada, a professional facilitator who knows no bounds when it comes to making things happen. Jill expresses her experience of the conference by saying that, “the best part for me was to witness the collective thinking and actions of a group that is asking for change in their society. The overall energy,

strength and optimism were really incredible and very humbling to be part of”.

People helped each other as it was needed and received support when it was wanted. They said thank you for the efforts of organizers, speakers and hotel staff. Honest sharing of heartbreaking stories was met with compassion and no judgement. A commitment to speak up and speak out about the things that are not working for their lives was solidified.

Stephanie Haskins, self-advocate, has a way of saying things that always gets to the heart of the matter. When asked what her favorite part of the conference was, she replied, “I like it all”.

My Life, My Future, My Choice was a huge suc-

cess. I don’t think most people realize that people who live with a disability spend almost every day of their lives being treated differently. All of the efforts and funding for this conference meant that for these two days everyone who attended, with or without an identified disability were treated the same.

My hope is that the vision of inclusion that started in the hearts of two women who have devoted themselves to evolving the field of developmental services, turns into a wave of opportunities for people *without* development or physical disabilities to meet and enjoy the company of those who live with them.

*Tricia Bain
Project Coordinator*



*Parry Sound Self-Advocate Conference Delegates
Eileen O'Neill, Sandra Hunt, Buddy Tindale (Huntsville), Steve Ellis, Katie Timson, Brenda Loveson*

Make a Difference in a Unique and Rewarding Way *Full-Time Family Home Providers Required*

Who are Family Home Providers?

People who choose to open their homes and lives to a person with a developmental disability. These people can be single, couples or families of all types of compositions and have diverse experiences, backgrounds and lifestyles. They can provide a consistent, nurturing home life and are willing and capable of assisting another person in the areas of daily living.



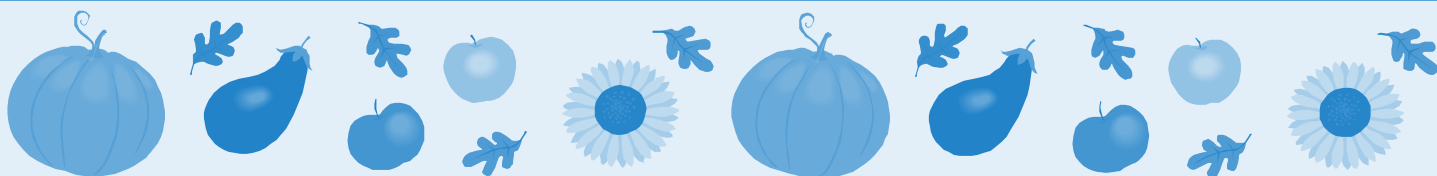
- *The thing that is most enjoyable, is seeing how making the person part of your family, creates an atmosphere whereby, you can see positive changes.*
- *The benefits are in how our family was able to see just how fortunate we are to have the person as part of a our family. We all developed a strong sense of caring, which has helped us in all areas of our lives.*
- *We have learned that we can make changes in other people's lives when they see how happy the person is when they are with our family.*
- *We have grown in our appreciation of just how fortunate we are to have had the opportunity to be part of the home provider program. It is an awesome responsibility with great rewards.*

Ken and Maureen
Family Home Providers

If you would like more information on how to become
a Family Home Provider, please contact:

Lori McPhaden,
Community Living Parry Sound
Tel: 705 746-9330 x 237
Email: lmcphaden@clps.ca

Excellent Remuneration is Provided

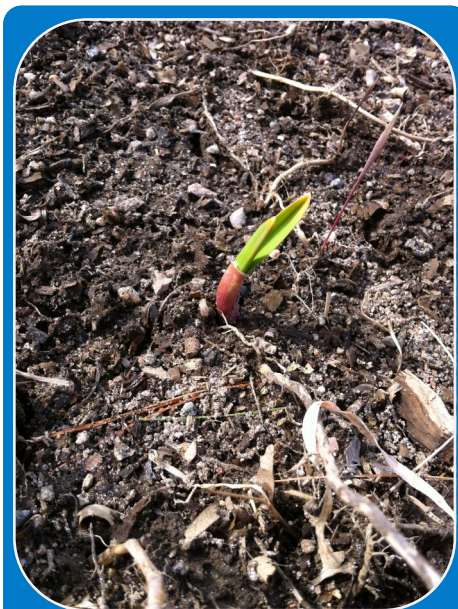


Parry Sound Community Gardens

After a long winter and spring that is not very spring like, we can finally see some flowers and other plants emerging slowly and hesitantly as if they are expecting another blast of winter like the rest of us.

The Parry Sound Community Gardens have suffered some snow damage to the fences and water barrels as the snow load was exceptional this winter and hopefully, with a little coaxing they will bounce back to their useful positions, again, like the rest of us.

We will be planting a new garden this spring at Mission Park; twelve plots which will be planted by gardeners in one of the most picturesque locations in Parry Sound. With views overlooking the Bay at one location within the park, the newest garden at Mission Park will increase the number of plots maintained by Parry Sound Community Gardens to 55. The gardeners who plant in these plots will contribute hundreds of pounds of fresh and healthy produce to local food sharing organizations including Harvest Share, The



May 8, 2014
A Welcome Sign of Spring - Garlic Sprout

Salvation Army Food Bank and Esprit Place.

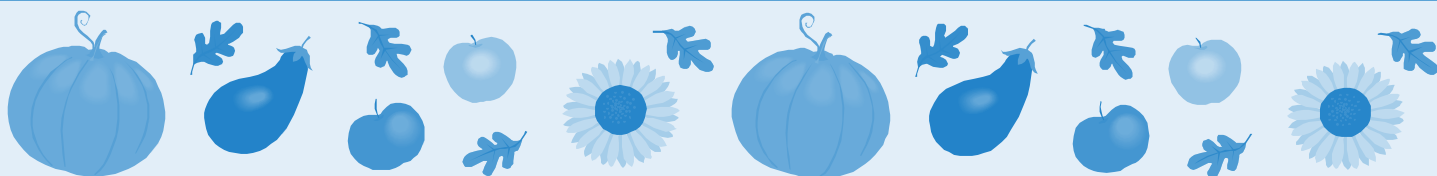
We are pleased to announce the approval from the Canada Summer Jobs Program for Community Living Parry Sound to hire a Community Cultivator for the 2014 summer growing season. The Community Cultivator will help with gardening work, collection and distribution of donated produce as well as assist in the development of a Community Kitchens initiative. To

elaborate on this, Parry Sound Community Gardens has recently met with interested community groups to discuss the potential opportunity to start a Community Kitchen Program. Community Kitchens vary in description, but the common goal is to provide opportunities for groups to get together, plan for and prepare meals while sharing the costs as well as healthy meals amongst the group.

We see this as enhancing the role of Parry Sound Community Gardens within the community by working in collaboration with other community groups to increase awareness around healthy eating and living.

If you are interested in learning more about Parry Sound Community Gardens, the Community Kitchen Initiative or if you would like to have a garden plot, please contact Rick Harrington at 705-746-9330, ext. 222 or rharrington@clps.ca

Happy Hoeing!





#EndTheWait

Ask:

If your party is elected, will you commit to ending the wait for funding and supports to people with a developmental disability and their families and stabilizing services by committing to the \$810 million over three years promised in the proposed 2014 provincial budget?

The proposed 2014 provincial budget promised the developmental services sector \$810 in funding to:

- End the wait for daily living supports for youth and adults which is almost 20,000 people long
- Begin to address the wait list of over 7,000 people who are waiting for support to live in a home of their own
- Deliver stability to agencies who provide direct supports
- Develop new community-based services that support community inclusion

Individuals with a developmental disability and their families are in crisis. The developmental services system requires imminent investment and planning and community support agencies are struggling to respond to this crisis.

#EndTheWait for people with a developmental disability.

SPREAD THE WORD TO END THE WORD

www.r-word.org



The word “retard(ed)” hurts millions of people with developmental disabilities, their families and friends. Take the pledge and help promote the new R-word: **RESPECT**



Save the Date!

Our Annual General Meeting

will take place on:

September 17th, 2014

Watch for further details on our website

A Volunteer Remembered



FROSTY, "Jim" Hannon passed away on April 28, 2014. CLPS lost a valuable volunteer and a good friend that day. Frosty was the coach for many years with the Old Timer's Hockey team, now known as the Baduins. Each year the Baduins challenge CLPS to a tournament in March. Frosty donated a full team set of jerseys to CLPS which inspired us to change our team name to the Sniping Shamrocks. Frosty was honoured in 2009 with the Ontario Volunteer Service award nominated by CLPS.

The Parry Sound Home Depot Store has selected Community Living Parry Sound (CLPS) to be the recipient of the funds they raise during the Orange Door Project.

The Orange Door Project involves a number of key program components all designed to help put an end to youth homelessness in Canada. Our first public effort of The Orange Door Project will be our 2014 in-store fundraising campaign.

The campaign will take place from May 29 to July 2, 2014. During this time, The Home Depot customers across Canada will be able to purchase a 'paper door' for \$2 at the checkout. Alternatively, customers can make an online donation at www.homedepot.ca/foundation

Donate \$2
to help
homeless
youth

**The
Orange
Door
Project**

Housing and hope
for homeless youth



To learn more, visit homedepot.ca/foundation



May 21, 2014
15th Annual Charity Golf Scramble Winners
Brock Tudhope, Brad Lawerance,
Rob Tudhope and John Campbell

15th Annual Charity Golf Scramble

The Community Living Parry Sound 15th Annual Charity Golf Scramble was held on May 21, 2014 at Rocky Crest Golf Club.

To date this annual event has raised over \$110,000 in support of local Special Olympic athletes and community inclusion and volunteering opportunities.



COMMUNITY LIVING
Parry Sound

Support Community Living Parry Sound

Become a Member

Benefits of Membership

- ◆ *Focus on Community Living*, our own agency newsletter
- ◆ Voting privileges at Annual General and Special meetings (as outlined in our by-laws)
- ◆ Advance notice of workshops and special events
- ◆ Opportunity for valued input (surveys, etc).
- ◆ *DIRECTIONS*, the Community Living Ontario Newsletter
- ◆ Discount on Registration Fees (on workshops and training)
- ◆ Name on Mailing List
- ◆ Information Kit for New Members
- ◆ Access to Resource Library (subject to availability)
- ◆ Access to Sensory Room (subject to availability)
- ◆ Access to Board Room (subject to availability)

Yes! I wish to join Community Living Parry Sound for a one-year period at a cost of \$10 or a Lifetime Membership at a cost of \$100

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership Fee: () X \$10.00

My Donation: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Signature: _____

Please make cheque payable to
Community Living Parry Sound and
return with completed membership form to:

Community Living Parry Sound
c/o Jane Leadbeater
38 Joseph Street
Parry Sound, ON
P2A 2G5

THANK YOU!

To all Volunteers, Family Home Providers and Respite Contractors for your dedication

To the following for their continued partnership with children and youth programs and support in helping us fulfill our goal of inclusion:

District of Parry Sound Best Start Committee and Partners
Near North District School Board
Autism Ontario
HANDS IBI Program
Town of Parry Sound

To the Ministry of Community & Social Services for the Employment Projects Funding approval for the Employer Engagement Event and the Canadore College Course.

To Mike Reeves and all the staff at Wellington's Pub & Grill

To Home Depot Parry Sound

To the Multidimensional Assessment of Providers and Systems (MAPS) Project

To our 15th Annual Charity Golf Scramble sponsors:

Dinner:
Parry Sound Fuels

Oyster Bar:
Parry Sound Insurance Brokers

Special Thanks to:
Knights of Columbus
James King
Kent Matheson

Corporate:
Scotiabank

Hole Sponsors:
Comfort Inn Parry Sound
Pet Valu
Tulloch Geomatics Inc.
Brokerlink
Terry Clark Chartered Accountant
Stevenson & Hunt Insurance
Ironside Consulting
PGM Consulting
Barks Financial
Parry Sound Carpets-N-Colours Limited
Ritchie Insurance
Bayview Chev Buick GMC
Distler Construction
Bay Area Electrical
Trappers Choice Restaurant
Canadian Tire Gas Bar
Fowler Construction
Gordon, Gingrich, Harris and Flemming