

Tayside Community Residential & Support Options



Annual Report 2012 – 2013

Mission Statement

TCO is a community-based charitable organization that was established in 1989 to provide urgently needed residential and family support services to the people of Perth and District. TCO is committed to providing services of the highest quality in a local setting that promotes social inclusion.

Accountable to our community, everyone involved in TCO, from staff to families to local volunteers, is committed to a caring, compassionate and inclusive organization where all are treated with respect and honesty. We are committed to responding to the needs of those most vulnerable in our community by integrating services into our neighbourhoods with innovation and creativity.

Vision

TCO will be a leading provider of:

- Safe, caring and high quality residential and support services for people with intellectual disabilities that promotes social inclusion
- Stimulating, safe and nurturing child care services of the highest quality
- Affordable, high quality housing

TCO will be a leader in:

- Advocating for safe, caring and inclusive communities
- Bringing organizations together to strengthen our voices
- Developing innovative services to emerging needs

TCO will:

- Institute fair employment practices that value and respect those who provide the services that are so important to our community

Values

- We believe our services should be provided with caring and compassion
- We believe in working as a team in a workplace that respects and values all employees
- We believe in a healthy workplace
- We believe in dealing with each other in a fair, honest and respectful manner
- We believe quality comes first
- We believe in respecting the dignity of all who we serve
- We believe that working in collaboration with others makes us more effective
- We believe that families have the right to high quality community services
- We believe we are accountable to the people and community we serve

OVERVIEW

2012-13 was a year of many activities. Tayside continued to be a leader in Lanark County advocating around the unmet needs of many families in our communities.

Tayside staff continued to work with families who remain on the P&P waiting list and who are advocating for greater accessibility of needed services. The provincial government continued its funding freeze for developmental service agencies, thus limiting Tayside's ability to respond to the huge demand for supports. Tayside continued to forge strong partnerships with other community-based agencies to develop innovative solutions to the lack of provincial funding and support for the developmental service sector.

Tayside entered into space sharing arrangements with the Lanark Community Programs' Autism Program and The Health Unit's Speech and Language Program. Tayside provides program space to enable these groups to provide their programs at no charge within the community, at convenient hours and close to where people live.

Tayside also entered into a creative partnership with Lanark Community Programs to allow them to operate a summer PARC (Perth Adult Recreation) program for hard-to-serve and unfunded youth with serious intellectual disabilities.

2012-13 continued to be a year of collaboration between Tayside and CUPE 4474. A collective agreement was ratified even though MCSS has allocated 0% increase in funding for the past three years. The deal was fair and reasonable and Tayside provided leadership in signing the first deal with CUPE in Eastern Ontario. Tayside also provided a leadership role in the provincial labour relations fold by submitting a number of written presentations to the OASIS chat line advocating for a moderate approach that recognizes the legitimacy of a fair and reasonable settlement with the various unions involved. The labour management committee has been meeting regularly and has provided a respectful forum for the discussion of important workplace issues. The committee has dealt with a number of very thorny issues but all concerns have been dealt with in a spirit of collaboration and were successfully resolved.

The management team undertook a *Communicating with Influence* in-service workshop with great success and the general staff population attended Harassment-Free Workplace sessions which were also very successful.

The Executive Director also wrote a number of submissions to the OASIS list server critiquing the existing Developmental Service sector structure and philosophy and suggestions areas of reform. This submission advocated that once an individual has been assessed to be eligible for Developmental Services they should be entitled, as a right of citizenship, to receive those services within a reasonable period of time. The submission has been posted on the Tayside web site at <http://www.tayside.ca/what-to-do-where-to-go-for-developmental-services-in-ontario/>.

The financial action (restraint) plan that was in place for the 2011-12 fiscal year continued into 2012-13, resulting in an acceptable financial performance in the Developmental Service sector and Housing sector. The provincial government's funding freeze has presented significant challenges to the agencies. The 0% budget increases faced with 2-3 % inflation rates required the agency to implement a fiscal restraint program to ensure the financial viability of the agency.

The implementation of full-day junior and senior kindergarten within the local schools will also present challenges to the agency as we attempt to cope with the transition of these programs to the school boards. As an interim measure, Taycare Children's Centre will operate another Ready 2 Learn Program out of Queen Elizabeth School and 100 Wilson Street during the 2013-14 school year. This program will be terminated in the spring of 2014 as Queen Elizabeth School implements full day kindergarten. Taycare Children's Centres continues to operate *Before and After* programs in Stewart School and St. John's Elementary School. The County has placed a cap on all fee subsidies for parents in 2013 thus threatening the viability of programs that rely on parents with fee subsidies for enrollment. Infant and toddler programs are particularly impacted by this freeze on child care fee subsidies, not to mention parents who do not have access to high quality licensed child care.

A permanent bursary program was established in 2012-13 to support Tayside staff who upgrade their training through accredited courses that lead towards Developmental Services or Early Childhood Education diplomas at an accredited community college in Ontario (Algonquin College or St. Lawrence College, for example).

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Tayside worked with other Lanark County developmental service providers to cope with the lack provincial funding to face the serious unmet needs of the area. Tayside also confronted the challenge of integrating an adult with pronounced Autism Spectrum Disorder into our residences. Tayside displayed leadership by responding to this growing demographic and coordinating a multi-agency approach to address the many challenges this population presents to our sector. Tayside developed a number of strategic plans to cope with the issues related to our particular experiences.

This approach included a strategic partnership with Kerry's Place for mentoring, coaching, formal teaching and observation opportunities for both agencies' staff.

Tayside also upgraded its in-house training capacity by upgrading its CPI trainers to the APT standard which is suited to behaviour management for adults with challenging behaviour characteristics. Tayside was also able to secure permanent support to enhance the staffing levels to manage challenging behaviors in the agency.

Tayside submitted and revised a number of capital proposals to the Ministry of Community and Social

Services around innovative housing options for adults with intellectual disabilities and new administrative offices for the agency. There is also a proposal pending to replace Brady House. The agency was able to secure funding and support to have automatic Sprinklers installed in Brady House to improve our fire protection for vulnerable adults and bring our emergency response capacity up to modern standards.

The agency displayed leadership in responding quickly and with care to a number of emergency cases for supportive housing in the county. Tayside continues to operate an unfunded enhanced Supported Independent Living pilot project intended to meet the needs of homeless and high need individuals. This involved renting an apartment adjacent to Rimmer House to provide a minimum level of support to two vulnerable individuals living independently in the community. Tayside continued this unfunded challenge by renting another house adjacent to Rimmer House to provide housing to two more adults who live independently but need some support from the neighboring group home.

Tayside organized a very successful three-day outing for all the folks we support in the Developmental Service sector at Merrywood Camp in September of 2012. It was enjoyed by all and will be repeated annually. The annual Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings was also well attended at the Perth Civitan Hall. Tayside actively observed the Developmental Services Worker Appreciation Day and conducted regular staff recognition ceremonies at staff meetings.

We continue to do policy work around the many issues that affect the smooth operation of the organization. Twenty four policies were revised and updated in 2012. The agency was again ranked as a low risk agency in compliance with the MCSS Risk Assessment Tool. We have also been able to undertake a number of capital and equipment improvements to the homes.

CHILD CARE

The child care committee met regularly over 2012-13 to discuss a number of significant challenges. Both school boards announced they would be implementing Ready2Learn programs in local schools. These programs would be in direct competition to our existing JK/SK programs. Tayside successfully completed negotiations with the Upper Canada District School Board to operate a fully licensed Ready2Learn Program in Queen Elizabeth School. The program will end in June 2014 when Queen Elizabeth School implements its Early Learning Program. Tayside continues to operate highly successful before and after school programs at Stewart School and at St. John's Elementary School. Taycare Junior Centre and Taycare Senior Centre both achieved the Gold certification for the Raising the Bar certification process. All the Taycare Children's Centre programs were in compliance with the provincial regulations in the MCSS annual review process.

The aging playgrounds continue to present challenges to the child care programs and efforts are underway to resolve this issue.

Tayside staff continued to meet regularly with other child care providers in Lanark County. The child care programs organized highly successful events during the year such as the Valentine's Day Dance, the

CHEO Walkathon, the annual Christmas pageant and the annual spring picnics for parents. The parent child care fee subsidy freeze implemented by the County of Lanark continues to provide significant challenges to our agency, particularly the infant and toddler programs.

HOUSING

We will continue to explore development opportunities for social and supportive housing options in our community. With new provincial programs we are hoping that the many low and moderate income families in our community who need affordable accommodation will have an opportunity to live in high quality and secure housing they can afford. A number of proposals were developed over the years but nothing has been funded to date. Tayside will continue to explore possibilities in this sector.

The Board will continue to watch this situation carefully and attempt to develop creative approaches to housing for the disadvantaged population of Perth and District.

We will continue to ensure that our existing housing units are well maintained and the tenants are able to enjoy a quiet and secure neighborhood.

OPERATIONS

As always, the staff members in the office, Connie Peebles, Donna Harrison, Becky Walker and Laurie Ruddy, have been doing a terrific job. Sadly, Laurie Ruddy left the agency recently to pursue other career options and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

Let's not forget Art Lawton and Fred Pierman, who have the very demanding job of keeping up with all the necessary maintenance for all of our properties. Thanks, Art and Fred, for doing great work with such a good nature.

NEWS FROM DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Brady House

by Kathy Cooke



Summer is around the corner and everyone at Brady House is looking forward to the wonderful outside activities available with the warmer weather. Plans are in place for Friends in Sport Fishing trips, baseball nights, visits to local petting farms, attending Camp Merrywood, therapeutic riding lessons and generally getting out and about.

This past year, Clint thoroughly enjoyed the week-long trip to Florida with other members of his day program. The trip occurred last November and December. Staff members at Brady House worked hard and were successful in fund-raising enough money to enable Clint to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. Clint will be attending therapeutic riding lessons this summer. Becky seems to have settled into the house and continues to enjoy attending 'Lil's' program two days each week. Perry has become a regular 'walker' at the Smiths Falls arena and Jill has enjoyed swimming at the Carleton Place pool. Jill's room is now set up with a sensory stimulation and relaxation area which she appears to enjoy. Glendon will graduate from high school this June. He will attend a summer day camp program with Lanark Community Programs. We are hopeful this program will extend and become a permanent activity program which he and a few other new grads can attend in the fall.

We all enjoyed the annual Christmas party which included turkey and all the trimmings, carol singing, a snow person contest, presents and a visit from Santa. Our stay at Camp Merrywood in September was a lovely way to take in the last of the warm weather and relax by the water. Music therapy and massage therapy continue to be enjoyed by the folks.



This past fall, we said a sad goodbye to Joan Lee. She has taken a well-deserved retirement from the many years of work at Ellenvale Acres Nursing Home and then as a team member of the Brady House family. We wish her happiness for the future and hope she plans to come back for frequent visits. Jaime Rogers is now a full time counsellor at Brady House; however, she will be taking a year of parental leave to enjoy time with her new baby son who should be arriving sometime this August. All the best, Jaime.

Brady House continues to be a warm and welcoming home and family. The staff members offer creative and thoughtful care and support to the folks who live in the house.

To the support team at Brady House

THANK YOU

Your dedication and hard work are appreciated.

Your knowledge and skills are invaluable.

Davidson House

by Kathy Cooke

Davidson House is a very busy household. This year was no exception. Although the van continues to be a troublesome vehicle (we keep threatening to drive it over a cliff) the activities and appointments continue to happen on a regular basis. Thank you to the other locations for the many times we have borrowed a van when the Davidson van is 'down and out' for repair.



This past year, Barb, Jim and Bonnie enjoyed regular swim time at the Carleton Place pool. Craig and Jim attended therapeutic riding lessons. Bonnie may join them this year. Craig and Warren attended the LCSS Lifeskills program. Bonnie is doing a 'weekly work placement' at Red Apple. She is also a champ at completing puzzles on the new iPad. Warren and Craig managed to fit in a few golfing days last summer and will hopefully do so again this year. Don celebrated his 87th birthday and continues to live a quiet life of retirement. Last summer, Barb watched Jaime and her wedding party come out of the church. In June, she and Bonnie attended Jaime's baby shower at Tabettha's house. Bonnie and Barb enjoyed a special 'spa' treatment at Tay River Reflections again this year. Craig attended baseball practice during the summer and will again this year.



There have been many outings to various theatre and musical events in Perth and area. Family visits, both at Davidson House and at family homes, happen on a regular basis. All of the folks enjoyed Friends in Sport Fishing, various local festivals, dances, Camp Merrywood, the annual Christmas party, trips to the library, local coffee shops and general 'out and about' activities. The folks enjoy music therapy and massage therapy on a regular basis.

In and around the fun activities staff accompanied the folks to numerous medical and specialist appointments. Much of the daily care for the folks at Davidson House focuses on a variety of complex treatments and procedures.

The respite service at Davidson House continues to be in demand. There are a variety of regular guests using the service. The summer months will be very busy with respite guests.



This past June, Debbie McParland graduated (on the Dean's List) with a DSW diploma from Loyalist College. It has been a long haul for Debbie, who continued to work full time and care for her family while studying. CONGRATULATIONS and well done! We are so glad to have you on the team at Davidson House.



To the dedicated staff who work at Davidson House

THANK YOU

Your continued ability to offer excellent support and create wonderful opportunities for all is greatly appreciated.

Deakin House

by Sherren Koeslag

The Deakin House Family has grown by a few new members. Paul moved in permanently last May and has livened up our home with smiles and generous compliments to residents and staff. He has certainly warmed his way into our hearts. We have enjoyed the company of a new Family Relief visitor, Taylor has recently graduated high school and spends many weekdays as well as some overnights with us at Deakin. Taylor also enjoys a few days a week at a day program with LCP, where she spends time with other women who have similar interests, enjoying various activities. Along with Taylor, we continue to have a very bustling Family Relief program with regular weekend visitors as well.

As in past years, the Deakin House residents continue to enjoy their regular recreational activities on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays with Rec Night, Ladies' Night and Special Olympics. Indoor bowling and basketball have recently been switched over to the summer activities of baseball and soccer. They have also participated in many tournaments, both locally and out of county, as well as the annual Special Olympics banquet and awards night.



Other annual activities that are mainstays for the residents are the seasonal dances, county fairs, parades and every festival we can find. We spent a lot of time last summer at the beach in Rideau Ferry, as well as other picnic areas near and far. We participated in Friends in Fishing, which is always a lot of fun.

Merrywood Camp continues to grow in organization as well as the number of days during our annual visit. This coming year we have the camp booked from Saturday September 7 to Thursday September 12. This will be our third year and we continue to develop and adapt to include activities participants want to experience while on vacation. One thing is for sure, everyone seems to look forward to it.

On top of the events we look forward to each year, there are always special trips and this year was no exception. Smaller groups attended The Lion King and Famous People Players during one trip to Toronto; on another trip to Toronto, a group visited the Medieval Times dinner theatre. One resident took part in a whirlwind trip to Disney last fall with the Life Skills program. She can't wait to plan her next big trip. One of the most talked about trips was the live version of The Price is Right at Scotiabank Place in Ottawa a few months ago. As anyone who has been at Deakin House can tell you, The Price is Right is the favourite show among residents. Don't even think of changing that channel between 11 and 12 each weekday!

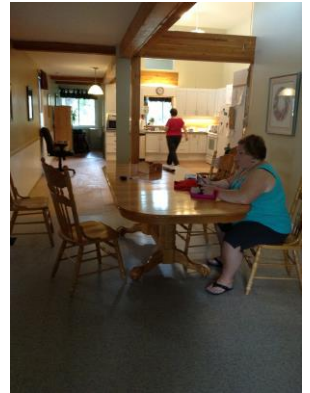
Speaking of exciting times, two residents are celebrating milestone birthdays this year. Paul turned 65 in May and Linda G. turns 50 in June. No end to the parties!

The Deakin House gang would like to say a special "thank you" to Valerie Deakin, whose generosity over the years has provided funding for the special things in life that they enjoy so much. Last winter, the ladies

purchased a new TV for the living room. This spring, after our sun shelter could no longer hold everyone under it (we LOVE to spend many meals dining al fresco on the patio), we purchased a larger sun shelter along with two lounge chairs and a beautiful retractable umbrella to create an additional sheltered seating area. It has only been up a short time and it has been used quite a bit.

Last but not least, after many, many years of waiting for new flooring to replace the damaged and worn kitchen floor, we were able to have it replaced. While we were at it, we made the move and removed a partial wall separating the kitchen and the back room. You would not believe the difference in the space. It is completely open and light filled, making it a more social area. As everyone knows, the heart of the home is definitely the kitchen, and now we all fit.

Deakin house has had a few years of difficulty with resident illness, various challenges and the passing of a dear member of the gang. I would like to thank all the staff who have worked so hard to ensure that the residents of Deakin House weathered through the difficult times, and were there to help them enjoy the good times with the compassion and support that makes Deakin House such a great place to live.



Cameron House

by Sherren Koeslag

Our newest member of Cameron House, who moved in a year and a half ago, has completely settled into his life here, making many friends. He continues to attend Lifeskills as well. Our other male resident who is also out during the day at school will be having a big change in his life this month as he is graduating high school.

The residents of the home are looking forward to enjoying their favourite summer activities such as Friends in Sport Fishing which just started up again for the summer, as well as the numerous festivals, parades and events in and around the Perth area. As well, we often plan picnics and outings taking advantage of the beautiful summer weather.

Some of the residents attended a big screen viewing of The Wizard of Oz in Kingston this past winter. It is by far the favourite movie of one of the men living at Cameron. We have played it for him so many times, it appears in our dreams.

Camp Merrywood is coming up again very soon. This year it will be from Saturday September 7 to Thursday September 12. With all the work it takes to pack up everyone's belongings and speciality equipment in preparation for the trip, it only made sense to stretch out the visit to take advantage of the time there. We are sure that no one will want to leave early.

Chrissy L. is celebrating a milestone birthday this year. She will be turning 65 in September. We will definitely be planning some extra fun for this ageless woman.



Along with other leisure activities, the residents of Cameron house enjoy therapeutic swimming once per week in Carleton Place, where they meet up with the Lifeskills gang.

As well, many services come to the home such as a hairdresser, foot care nurse and massage therapist. On the subject of therapy, the ladies who do not go out to day programs enjoy music therapy once a week. They each have a 20 minute session with the therapist. Of course, this can be heard throughout the house. Lots of fun is always had by all.

I would like to thank the staff of Cameron House for all that they do to help the residents enjoy a safe and nurturing environment that really conveys the home and family atmosphere. We have had a great year.

Rimmer House

By Chris Rivers

Like all families, this year we have had our share of ups and downs. Luckily, the ups have prevailed over the downs (even though at times it did not feel like it).

We always start out our New Year celebrating a birthday with an in-house celebration of cake, fun and laughter, as well as the great gifts everyone usually comes up with.

At the same time, we had a new lad join our family; although he was very different from the rest of the folks at Rimmer, we decided that we would welcome him into our clan. As with anyone coming into an established environment, changes have to be made by all and everyone was up to the challenge. The group's acceptance of this individual was not easy, but they handled it well. He would never take the place of our dear old Bob, but would have to carve a niche at Rimmer to be accepted for who he was.



Summer comes so quickly with trips to festivals, fairs and other trips of interest. Daily journeys to the Rideau Ferry Beach in the evening became a regular event.

We also held a celebration of Bob's life at Dalhousie Lake with his friends and family. Like those that have gone before we enjoy giving them a royal send off with messages tied to balloons for a fine farewell. Except this time we got a little tangled in our balloons but once straightened, they made their way to Bob in heaven we are sure.

Does summer seem shorter as we get older? We sure find that to be true at Rimmer House. No sooner had we gone to the last fair then fall is upon us. Preparing our pumpkins, stuffing the big bird and making pies were just a few of the things we tackled to get fall underway. Our great apple peeler has made pie making a less challenging adventure, but now it's far more tempting to make lots of pies. Who can resist that fresh apple cinnamon aroma drifting through the house?

No sooner has fall arrived and we are looking forward to gift buying for Christmas. If you have any good ideas for making gifts we will gladly take you up on them. To date, families have received our knitted scarves, baked goods, and lovely bird houses, just to name a few things we made and shared. Sadly, at this time we lost Mrs. Leona Kerr. She was great at passing on her favorite jam recipes as well as providing jar after jar. We were always so appreciative of her preserves, as they were always so much better than store bought. We must not forget her baking – it was incredible.

As has become tradition, we got our Christmas tree from Michael Kerr and had it beautifully lit up to announce to all of Gore Street that Christmas was on its way. We celebrated the annual Perth Santa Claus Parade at our house with hot chocolate and treats. Then off we went to see the Christmas lights at Upper Canada

Village. Although they were nice, nothing could compare to our tree. As we get older, Christmas seems quieter: this year as always turned out to be another great celebration of the wonderful friends and family we all care for and love.

You would think once Christmas was over we would settle down for our long winter's naps but the thought of maple syrup, pancakes and sleigh rides through the bush beckoned us on to spring.

As we close our year end tales the Handsome Men's Club bids a fine farewell to our President and friend Larry Leslie as he joins our other companions in heaven. You are truly missed and we know you are still watching over us.

As you see, we had an eventful year; despite all the changes and challenges, we have grown to take everything in stride and celebrate each and every life we touch.

Supported Independent Living

by Annalienne Venuta and Kerri Maidment

The SIL Program continues to provide many different supports to the people we serve. The apartments next to Rimmer House provide a supportive environment to Flo, Shannon, Catherine, Kathleen and Darwin. They are all doing amazingly well due to continued support they receive from staff at Tayside and other local agencies involved.

In addition, we offer support to many other individuals residing on their own. This can be challenging due to serious medical concerns such as seizures and diabetes.

We provide person-centred support for medical and dental appointments, shopping, court proceedings, fire and safety, personal hygiene, community involvement and family issues.

Collaborating and brainstorming with other agencies is essential for planning support and providing care to our clients. We will continue to develop a plan to meet regularly with other agencies to provide the best possible care throughout the County.

As always, we support the ladies in our group and have recently welcomed Bernie to our ladies group this year. We are now called the Friday Group. Many activities have been planned this year including movies in Kanata, lunches, swimming at Rideau Ferry, day camp at Camp Merrywood and the Christmas party at the Civitan. The group regularly enjoys each other's company. We've had a lot of laughs and good times over the year and look forward to many more. The group is a great way for people living on their own to socialize on a regular basis.



Home Share Program

by Lesslie Ross



Home Share is a program where families have not only opened up their homes but their lives to provide support to an adult with a developmental disability.

Home Share involves a very close relationship between both parties. They spend a lot of time together and are very involved in each other's lives.

Support is flexible and revolves around the individual's needs and wishes.

Home Share providers also help develop and build on skills in the areas of personal care and meal preparation. They also help develop and maintain relationships; introduction and inclusion to community events; and provide a safe and secure home to live in.

Ladies' Night

by Laurie Clavette



The Ladies' Night Program has once again experienced a successful year. Through the different activities, opportunities have been provided to be involved in the community, continue ongoing friendships and further develop social skills and enhance life skills. A total of 18 women took part in Ladies' Night and participated in the various activities.

The activities that the women participated in were restaurant outings, picnics, crafts, supporting their friends in their theatre endeavors, shopping, supporting the Angel Tree and exercising (not a favorite choice but a recognized necessity for healthy living). A highlight was the combined group day trip to Upper Canada Village last summer. The women continue to enhance their skills through various baking, meal preparation and safe food handling techniques and healthy food choices. Cooperative skills are developed through activities such as games, movies, choosing and preparing the schedule, and including everyone's interests in the choice of activities.



Desire to participate in the group is often expressed through phone calls, emails and conversations with the women involved. Participants who have passed on or are no longer able to partake due to illness are remembered fondly. As well, one of the women who moved away frequently calls to ask about her friends in the group. Success depends on scheduling flexibility as well as creative input from all involved.



Through the planning process, multiple skills are developed.

The impact of the group on all the participants was clearly positive, as the women have developed socialization skills and learned to work on their problem solving strategies. Levels of self-esteem are clearly enhanced.

The Ladies' Night group looks forward to another year of fun activities and the return of their friends who are unable to participate at this time due to illness.



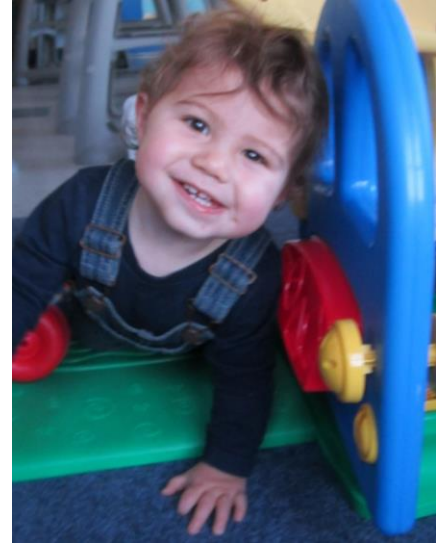
NEWS FROM CHILD CARE

TayCare Children's Centres

by Sandra MacGregor

It has been a very busy year for all the TayCare programs.

We expanded our infant program at the Junior Centre from six to 10 and were full for a number of months. Renovations were undertaken and staff put a lot of work into planning, organizing and rearranging the centre. This gave Sandra a non-shared office space for the first time in many years. We also moved eight of our older preschool children over to the Senior Centre and Colleen joined them. With the recent freeze in subsidy available to families it has been difficult to maintain the numbers in the infant program, but we are still trying.



Our Ready 2 Learn programs at Stewart School ended and we are now doing before and after school care for up to 50 children at that location. The before and after school program at St. John's Elementary School continues to run successfully as well. With all the changes to programs, staff members were very good about being moved around based on where they were needed.

We had another successful CHEO fundraiser, donating over \$3,000 for the second year in a row. Thank you to all the staff who froze outside the LCBO selling tickets for the raffle.

Our Christmas concert and social time for families was a success as usual. Peter Garrett did another wonderful job sitting in for Santa.

This year's Valentine's Dance and Silent Auction raised \$2,500. The money will be put towards outings and purchasing items such as tricycles and program materials.

We had a fun summer in 2012, including a bike day with the Perth Police. Due to a very hot dry summer we had to cancel our water day with the Perth Fire Department spraying the children. Children enjoyed outings to Saunders Farm, Mont Cascade, and Cosmic Adventures. We also enjoyed a very entertaining magic show and a visit from Ray's Reptiles.

We had quite a lot of ECE students throughout the year. Some were wonderful and we really appreciated their help. In particular, two male students (one from Queen's University and the other from St. John's High School) were excellent role models for the children at the Senior Centre. Sandra currently sits on the advisory board with the Algonquin College ECE program, and continues to work with the college to ensure graduates are well trained to provide quality child care.

We maintained our Gold Level of Raising the Bar this year. Many thanks to Karen White for all her hard work following up with staff for their input.

We have been asked by the Board of Education to run three Ready 2 Learn programs for Queen Elizabeth School starting in September 2013. Sandra and Cathy are working very hard on getting this planned; they attended a recent “Getting Ready for Kindergarten” open house at Queen Elizabeth School and provided information to parents on the program and our Senior Centre. In addition, local schools have emailed our summer calendar to parents on their contact lists, which has generated interest in the summer activities at our Senior Centre. Staff continue to work hard promoting Taycare within the community.

We have been loaned a motorized lift and will be getting a new change table constructed at the Senior Centre for one of our children with special needs.

The Senior Centre has received some generous donations during the year; computers were provided by Computers in Schools and the Schooley/Morgan family provided two couches and chairs.

Daycare staff had their annual Christmas party in June; the group went to Kingston for dinner and spent the night at a hotel. Everyone had a great time playing cards and relaxing.

We are preparing for a restructuring of the playgrounds on June 22nd. We are mostly using existing materials and making it an “At Ground Level Playground”. We have a number of parents volunteering to help us and a few have made monetary donations. Staff also did a last minute bake and plant sale, raising \$350.00. We are hoping to have a family BBQ and playground opening celebration when it is complete.

Diane Horan left us for the Board of Education and Rudi Townend has taken a leave of absence to pursue higher education.

Our Taycare family continues to expand; Colleen welcomed two grandchildren and Victoria has just had another baby boy.



NEWS FROM HOUSING

Rogers Road Housing

by Connie Peebles



2012 was another quiet year at Rogers Road.

As has been the case in recent years, there was a relatively stable tenant population, with only one family moving out during the year and two new families moving in. We have one vacant unit, and a new family will be chosen to fill it once all the required repairs are completed.

We provided safe, affordable housing to 27 adults and 14 children.

No major capital projects were undertaken this year, but we did have two balconies replaced, some roofs re-shingled, and some wood siding replaced with aluminum.

Annuals were again purchased for each home, and these were appreciated by all of the tenants.

Thank You All

To all the volunteers, members of our Board and committees, and those who regularly help us in our support homes, housing and child care programs, thank you for giving of your time to provide the hands-on care and guidance that we need to continue our work.

To the Managers of the locations, Sandra, Kathy, Lesslie and Sherren, thank you for supporting the staff in the work that they do, problem-solving and keeping the focus on the quality of service we provide.

To the staff in all locations, thank you for continuing to strive to provide the best possible service and support to those who rely on us. Thank you for the personal touch that you bring to the work.

To the individuals, families and children that we support, thank you for being our inspiration, for challenging us and making us smile.

Board Members

2012-2013

Veronica Carter - Chair
Steve Tennant - Vice Chair
Scott Puckett - Treasurer
Rob Umpherson - Secretary
Bob Brady
Gord Chaplin
Donna Davidson
Craig Halpenny
Mary Lynn Paul

Committee Members

2012-2013

Child Care

Veronica Carter
Gord Chaplin
Claire Church
Dave Hagerman
Sandra MacGregor
Jill Widenmaier

Developmental

Services

Kathy Cooke
Donna Davidson
Barb Geroux
Dave Hagerman
Sherren Koeslag
Lesslie Ross
Steve Tennant

Non-Profit

Housing

Dave Hagerman
Art Lawton
Debbie Logue
Connie Peebles
Steve Tennant

Executive

Personnel/Finance

Veronica Carter
Dave Hagerman
Scott Puckett
Steve Tennant
Rob Umpherson

**Tayside Community Options
Service Recognition
June 17th, 2013**

**5 – 10 Years of Service
(as at Dec 15, 2012 seniority list)**

Employees

Patti Neadow	9.97
Janinne Riopelle	9.78
Shannon Auger	9.72
Robert Harvey	9.67
Helen McKay	9.63
Jeanette Avery	9.13
Crystal Buchanan	8.40
Bruce Gillett	8.20
Melissa Stewart	8.09
Tracy Cote	8.05
Sherri-Lynne Cross	7.67
Emily McNaughton	7.39
Marie Primeau	7.21
Patti Greer	6.62
Trina Moore	6.47
Tabetha Hatch	6.37
Ken Hamilton	5.90
Sharon Drynan	5.81
Cheryl Allan	5.80
Jaime Rogers	5.74

Board Members

Veronica Carter	10+
Craig Halpenny	5+
Scott Puckett	5+
Rob Umpherson	5+