



Tayside  
Community  
Residential  
& Support  
Options

# Tayside Community Options

Annual Report 2016-2017

# TAYSIDE COMMUNITY OPTIONS

## "TCO"

### MISSION/VISION/VALUES

## MISSION

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

# Message from the Executive Director

Tayside Community Options has had another successful year supporting our clientele in all facets of our work including Childcare, Housing, and Developmental Services. We have been fortunate to have strong and dedicated staff who have risen to the challenges of the changing horizons in Childcare and Developmental Services.

We have been involved in many community events this past year, both giving and receiving, and have been very proud to be located in the Town of Perth. The past couple of years, the Childcare staff have set up children's activities at the Stewart Park Festival with rave reviews from participants. The folks in Developmental Services have volunteered their time with LAWS, as well as the Salvation Army Kettle Campaign during the Christmas season. Also, the agency has had a successful food drive for the Food Bank, led by the staff at Brady House.

We continue our path of Person-Directed supports ensuring that choices, wishes, and dreams are acknowledged and fulfilled. We have started a Community of Practice so staff can learn and grow their knowledge together in the model that we have chosen and are giving support back to their teams.

In the summer, we had a dedication ceremony in honour of Dave Hagerman, former Executive Director, to share fond memories and stories, and celebrate his contributions to Tayside Community Options. His family were in attendance for the unveiling of a plaque at Cameron House in the common space, which will be known as "Dave's Place", as it was his vision and hard work that opened the house.

We continue to celebrate many partnerships within Lanark County both in space and services. Many of these collaborations have been long standing.

Tayside and CUPE 4474 bargained a Collective Agreement which expires March 31st, 2018.

I am confident that Tayside Community Options will continue to grow and thrive. My thanks to the staff and the Board for working so well together to ensure that we operate efficiently and for the benefit of all the individuals we are proud to serve.

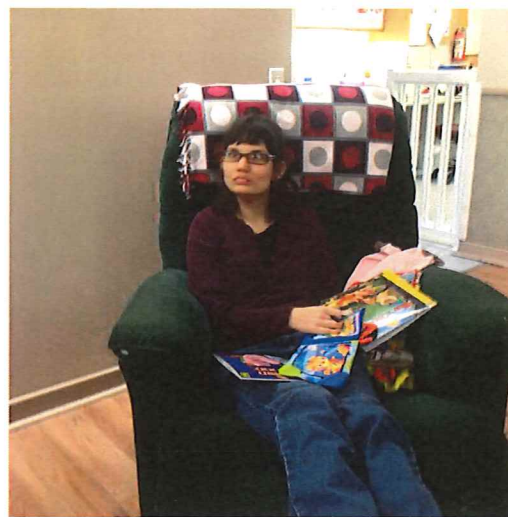


# BRADY HOUSE

Brady House has seen many cosmetic changes this year. Following our earlier bathroom renovation, we turned our attention to the main living area. After many conversations, we decided to open things up by removing walls, adding a breakfast bar/craft area, and having new windows installed. Many thanks to Art and Fred for all their hard work during this undertaking!

While Brady has undergone some structural changes, we have enjoyed stability in our core staffing and residents, who continue to build friendships based on mutual respect and support. We have welcomed some new part-time staff, who have been settling in to their new roles. Long-time staff member Sharon Drynan has semi-retired; we wish her all the best and hope to see her again.

Staff and residents at Brady House are working with person-centred principles, helping people connect to their communities and participate in trips and events outside of the home. Last year two of the men from Brady took the train to downtown Toronto, visiting the aquarium and taking in a Blue Jays game.



# CAMERON HOUSE

Cameron House has seen some changes in the past year. More visitors are participating in Club 21 on a regular basis.

Our staff are working with residents on person-centred plans to help people develop their social circles and personal growth.

We have hosted a number of fun events this year, including paint nights, legging parties, as well as musical guests for a house concert.

Some of the ladies at Cameron have moved to contributing to our community by visiting LAWS and the Salvation Army, volunteering their time and collecting donations. When one of the ladies was sick in the spring, staff at the Salvation Army sent her a get well card, letting her know that she was missed.

We have seen some staffing changes, with Liisa Rissanen retiring and moving to British Columbia to be closer to her family. Melissa Stewart has taken over her position. Long-time staff member Cheryl Allan has moved to LCP, using her special gifts in a more specific setting. We wish her well and see her often! Staff at both Brady and Cameron welcomed Annaliene Venuta in the winter as she graciously stepped in to fill the role of Interim Team Leader during Sherren Koeslag's leave of absence. New staff have been settling in to their positions and we are grateful for their presence.

We were all saddened by the loss of our dear friend and co-worker, Linda Code. A compassionate caregiver, she will be truly, truly missed.





# DEAKIN HOUSE

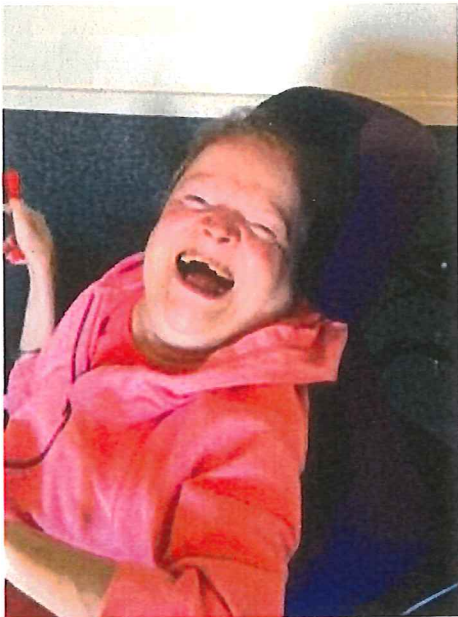
The folks at Deakin House have had a very busy year with many trips and activities they have planned and enjoyed. A week at a cottage on Black Lake saw lots of water activities, games, and laughter. An overnight trip to Ottawa included taking in the National Arts Centre production of Cinderella. A few of the Deakin House ladies went on a trip to Cuba, while a trip to Niagara Falls gave participants the opportunity to see the sights and experience some excellent entertainment. Deakin House residents also attended many festivals and concerts close to home in and around Lanark County.



# DAVIDSON HOUSE

The residents at Davidson House had an eventful year full of interesting cultural events and fun activities. Locally, there were visits to the library, enjoying music at the Stewart Park Festival and a successful pancake breakfast fundraiser.

Residents attended two events in Almonte: Light Up the Night and 5 Wednesdays in July. Some of the Davidson House folks took a trip to Montreal to visit the Hockey Hall of Fame, while others travelled to Toronto for the Royal Winter Fair.



## S.I.L. and LADIES NIGHT

Supported Independent Living grows with a great bunch. All have individual needs and face today's struggles with finances, community involvement, doctors and specialist appointments, groceries and meal preparation, housing, relationships, whole body health transportation, and working towards their own personal goals.

All have achieved goals and continue to do so. Some have suffered family struggles and losses. Groups of friends have gathered and offered support to one another. Self esteem and independence are enhanced, as well as socialization skills and problem-solving strategies. Coffee chats, restaurant get togethers, shopping trips, movies and other activities support community involvement and interpersonal relationships. The Community Kitchen at The Table has been a strong support to many.

Day trips and adventures are done at their suggestions and all are included with ideas. Our S.I.L. van has seen better days but it does get us to where we want to go.

The Ladies Night Group continues after some bumps. The friendships build as do the smiles of support for one another. Baking, movies, shopping, games, beauty salon, coffee house, swimming, beach and restaurants have all been suggested by the group.

Looking to the future with great ideas and brainstorming to maximize everyone's full potential. Here's to blue skies and the best to all.





# RIMMER HOUSE

The men living at Rimmer House took part in a number of cultural events this past year, including attending musical festivals and plays, and taking in performances of Women and Men of the Tay and the Old Tyme Fiddlers. Our resident artist Alan enjoyed Comicon and was inspired to create and publish his own comic book, which was met with a great deal of enthusiasm by his fans. The group also cheered on the Toronto Blue Jays and the Ottawa Senators, travelling to attend games and show their support. Some participated in the Friends in Sport Fishing program, enjoying the fresh air, scenic views, and time spent with friends.



# TAYCARE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS

This has been a year of many adjustments with many changes to child care legislation announced by the Ministry of Education in January, with some taking effect in September 2017. Staff are getting used to the new Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA) as well as the How Does Learning Happen document, which is intended to support pedagogy and curriculum/program development in Early Years programs. We have developed numerous new and revised policies to reflect these legislative changes, taking into account changes to ratios, qualification and training requirements, and how we implement our programs. Staff are adapting well to all the changes, and their continued patience and hard work are appreciated.

We had another successful Valentine's Dance and Silent Auction, raising approximately \$2,000.00 for extra events and items such as the family picnic, breakfast with Santa, field trips for the summer program, and additional program materials.

All of our educators are completing the Continuous Practice of Learning as required by the College of Early Childhood Educators. Although we had completed the requirements last fall, the College released a newer version which means staff will need to do it again.

Enrolment in all of our programs has been very good this year. Our before and after school programs were full during after school, and the Junior Centre is very busy as well, to the point that we had to create a temporary contract position for three days a week to accommodate the additional children. Our school-age educators are busy planning another fun-filled summer program. Based on initial numbers, we are expecting the before and after programs to be full or almost full in the fall.

We welcomed another addition to our TayCare family recently; Rebecca Martin, Head Educator for the Queen Elizabeth before and after school program, had a son (Samuel Kolton) in early May.





# ROGERS ROAD HOUSING

2016/17 was a good year at Rogers Road.

There was a stable tenant population, with only one household moving in and no tenants moving out.

We provided safe, affordable housing to 30 adults and 15 children.

The County of Lanark provided us with some minor capital funding which was used to replace the shingles on a number of the roofs.

We again purchased annuals for all of the tenants, as we do every year. Not only are these appreciated by the tenants, they also help to beautify the area.

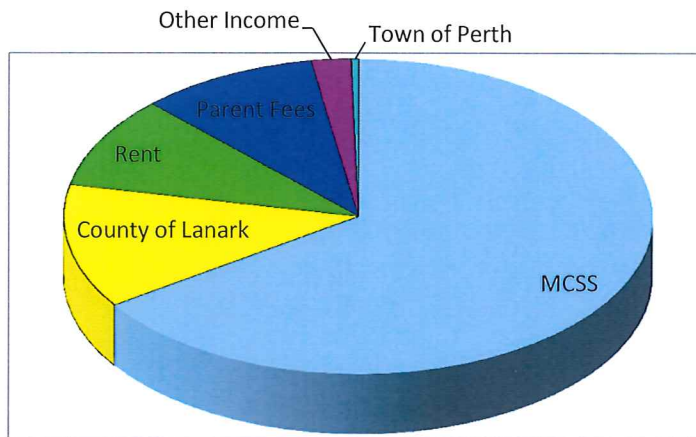
Art and Fred built five 12' x 4' raised planter boxes in the common back yard and filled them with topsoil so that they could be used for vegetable gardens. The Table provided some vegetable seedlings and some of the tenants planted them and other seeds and seedlings and tended the gardens. When the produce was ready, it was shared amongst the tenants. The gardens proved to be a big hit with some of the households, and certainly contributed to building a sense of community. The feedback from residents using the gardens was very positive: "Thank you for the gardens! We appreciate it and all the hard work Art and Fred did getting them ready."



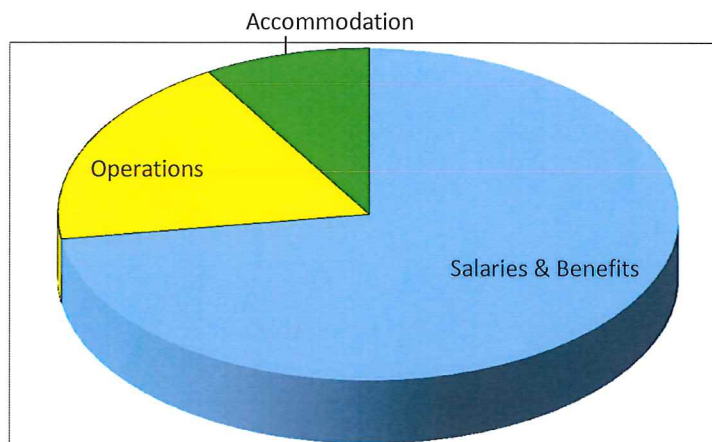


**Tayside Community Residential & Support Options  
Statement of Revenues & Expenditures  
For the year ended March 31, 2017**

## Revenues



## Expenditures



## Tayside Community Residential & Support Options

### Board Members

2016-2017

Robert Umpherson, *Chair*

Veronica Carter, *Past Chair*

Scott Puckett, *Treasurer*

Stephen Tennant, *Vice Chair*

Nicola Edmundson, *Secretary*

Donna Davidson

Craig Halpenny

Mary Lynn Paul