DONOR DOLLARS IN ACTION

Shadow Lake by the Numbers

A total of **49 people** were awarded with funding to attend Shadow Lake Camp this summer – an opportunity they may not have had without you, our donors.

That means you helped **49 people** make their dream of going to camp come true, through bursaries, grants, and subsidies.

THANK YOU!

One of the few camps of its kind, Shadow Lake Centre provides a supported summer camp for over **500** children, youth, and adults of all abilities. We pride ourselves on ensuring, with the help of our donors, that the property is fully accessible for all.

With your support, we've purchased Mobi Chairs (wheelchairs that can go in the water and over rough terrain), paddle boards, and peddle boats.

We've also created fully accessible pathways around the camp and the camp firepit.

Interested in supporting the camp? Want to sponsor someone to make it next year? Contact Sylvie at sylvie.labrosse@cltoronto.ca

Visit shadowlakecentre.ca

FALL 2019

COMMUNITY LIVIN

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Donor Dollars in Action WOMEN MOVING FORWARD

Last year, Community Living Toronto launched the Women Moving Their Career Forward Through Professional Cleaning certificate program.

With funding from United Way Greater Toronto, this is a hands-on, 8-week, paid training program that prepares women for a career in janitorial services. Included in this program are certifications in First Aid/WHMIS, Health and Safety, and Fire Prevention . This is a safe and respectful environment for women to learn valuable skills and gain confidence.

Women who wish to have a career in janitorial services are often demoted to "housekeeping" jobs and are not offered the opportunity to break into a male-dominated field. The under-representation of women with an intellectual disability in the industry is a glaring issue that needed to be fixed.

Out of the 25 women who have participated in the program so far, 15 are employed, 4 were motivated to go back to school, 4 are currently looking for employment, and 2 did not complete due to medical reasons.

Amanda, one of the first participants of the Women Moving Forward program, joined on July 2nd, 2018. She has been with Community Living Toronto in the Adult Protective Service Department



Here is Amanda about to get ready for her shift at Sunrise Janirorial Services.

and Employment Supports Department for several years.

Growing up, Amanda's life was anything but easy. She was put into foster care at the age of 2 and adopted when she was 3. Amanda then moved to a group home at the age of 6 due to behavioural problems where she went in and out of various group homes until being released from the Children's Aid Society at the age of 18. Amanda then spent the next few years staying at women's shelters across the GTA until she landed shared housing in Scarborough. While taking the course, Amanda was very motivated to better herself and ultimately get a job where she could earn a competitive wage. Amanda's motivation to learn helped her get 100% on all the tests and helped her demonstrate leadership, professionalism, compassion, and confidence throughout the entire program.

Amanda graduated and received the Women Moving Their Career Forward Through Professional Cleaning certificate. Three days later, she got a job at Fresh Start Cleaning Services! We are proud to say that Amanda still works at Fresh Start Cleaning and continues to maintain her employment in high standing.

WOMEN Moving Their Career FORWARD

Through

Professional Cleaning

Fo more information about the Women Moving Their Career Forward Through Professional Cleaning program visit **sunrisejanitorial.ca** or call **647-201-3703**



Donor Dollars in Action CHOICES CHANGE LIVES

Supporting goals with direct impact

Through the Choices that can Change Lives Fund, donors like you are making big opportunities come true with small grants of up to \$1,000.

We often refer to this Fund as the "Cherry on top of the Sundae" where people have been working towards a goal and will apply when all other resources have been exhausted.

To date 89 grants have been awarded.

Your generosity has:

- Helped purchase laptops and iPads for school, as communication tools and assistive devices
- Provided travel assistance for family visits, vacations and summer camp
- Funded additional support worker hours to help with community activities
- Supported fitness goals with sports team fees and gym memberships

And so much more! We can provide a list of all the grants that have been funded, but we'd rather share some stories with you.

Thamer visits family in New Zealand

After months of planning, saving, and a grant from the Choices Fund, Thamer finally achieved his goal to travel to New Zealand where he and family members were reunited after many years being separated due to the war in their home country.

Thamer traveled by himself halfway around the world, which was a proud moment in his journey to independence. He went to the beach, went swimming, saw many sights and most of all he got to see family – including cousins he'd never met before.

While he kept in touch with his parents daily, he appreciated his newfound independence. His parents also had time for themselves without daily caregiver responsibilities but knowing he was safe with family.

This was a trip of a lifetime for Thamer!



Thamer (left) and his cousin at the gym.



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Donor Dollars in Action CHOICES CHANGE LIVES

Sunny is part of the team!

Sunny enjoys being active. He loves baseball and hockey and participates whenever he can. The only barrier is that Sunny cannot travel on his own without support, which isn't always available or financially possible. Last year, as Sunny and his family began setting goals and plans, they knew he would need additional help so that Sunny could continue taking part in his activities. A grant from the Choices Fund helped pay for additional Support Worker hours so Sunny could continue to attend Special Olympics basketball and Grandravine Hockey.

Sunny's worker sent us this note with the above photo.

Sunny played in the Special Hockey International (SHI) Tournament in March. This yearly tournament started with 2 teams - the Grandravine Tornadoes (Sunny's Team) and St. Louis Special Hockey. This year the tournament celebrated 25 years with more than 60 teams from Canada, USA and the United Kingdom! Sunny looks forward to this tournament



Sunny is pictured in the middle row – first person on the left.

every year. This is not a regular tournament where there is a champion, here everyone is a champion. Each team plays 4 games and at the end there's a closing ceremonies banquet.

Each player that participated receives a medal. In the photos where Sunny is wearing a medal and standing with his team, that was a highlight for me. Sunny is not one to be put into situations where there is a lot of noise or people involved. But he wore his medal with pride and stood for pictures."

- Val, Sunny's support worker

Thank you for sharing this with us Val. We're very proud of Sunny too and glad we could help make this possible. Way to go Sunny!

Donor Dollars in Action CHOICES CHANGE LIVES

Omar's new bike!

Omar had a simple wish. To have a bicycle of his own and go riding with his sister.

Having used an adaptive bicycle at school greatly helped him with balance and independence. The exercise also helped reduce anxiety and improve physical activity.

On the advice of Omar's teachers, the family knew it was time to purchase a bike to encourage and engage him in the community. They began to research and put a plan in place, including applying to the Choices Fund.

Armed with a small grant, the purchase was made, and Omar has been on the "move" ever since.



Thank you for this this opportunity. Our son loves his tricycle. He's a teenager but not able to ride a twowheeler like the other kids. The tricycle gives him the stability, confidence and pleasure of riding a bike on sunny days with his sister. Thank you."

– Omar's Mom

CHOICES that can Change Lives Fund

The Choices Fund is 100% funded through the support of individual donors and foundations. Each grant awarded provides direct impact towards a person's or family's goals.

The call for applications occurs each Spring and Fall. Individuals and families in service or attending a program at Community Living Toronto are eligible to apply. For more information about the Choices that can Change Lives Fund, visit **choiceschangelives.ca** or contact **sylvie.labrosse@cltoronto.ca**, **647-588-9465**



Donor Dollars in Action LIGHTS PROGRAM

Webster Capital Resource Fund assists LIGHTS families

LIGHTS is a unique program that provides independent living opportunities for people with an intellectual disability. As we all know, moving can be expensive. If you are moving out on your own for the first time, beds, couches, kitchen tables, lamps, and other housing accessories can be very expensive. This can be a huge barrier in being able to move out on your own.

One of the many ways LIGHTS supports families seeking housing opportunities is through temporary funding for the start up costs of a new home. This funding bridges early cash flow needs while families seek additional resources, including government funding, to assume costs like rent and moving.

In addition to LIGHTS funding and through the generosity of the R. Howard Webster Foundation, the Webster Capital Resource Fund was created in 2015. This fund helps individuals and families engaged with LIGHTS who have a plan in place to move into a home of their own.

To help eliminate the barriers to independent living, families in need can apply for a grant of up to \$2,500 to help cover the start-up costs of essential household items. 14 families have received support from the Webster Capital Resource Fund. Here are some of the recent recipients:



As for Alexis, she never thought she would have a place of her own, but with the help of LIGHTS and the Webster Capital Resource Fund, she can now start on the next chapter of her life. She was able to buy her own bed, dresser and desk, and is looking forward to sitting at her new desk with her new "fancy" chair.



Thanks to LIGHTS and the R. Howard Webster Foundation, Christina has had her first taste of freedom. Christina and her roommate were able to set up their first kitchen, bedrooms, and living room with furnishings and appliances.



Karen, another recipient, has always envisioned living in her own place. The extra money she received from The Webster Capital Resource Fund has helped Karen create an environment where she is happy and proud to have her friends and family visit.



Find out more about LIGHTS by visiting LIGHTS.to

Donor Dollars in Action #ITOOKABREAK19 FOR COMMUNITY LIVING



Community Living Windsor participating in #ITookABreak19

On May 6th, members and friends gathered with MPPs at Queen's Park for Community Living Day at the Legislature, an annual event at which we celebrate the tremendous gains we have made together and consider the work that still remains.

This year, Community Living Toronto brought 400 KitKats that had been wrapped with a Community Livingbranded #ITookABreak19 label. Using the KitKats as a conversationstarter with MPPs, Queen's Park staff, members, and friends, Community Living Toronto asked them to "take a break" from their work day to show their support for a society where everyone belongs. Participants were instructed to post selfies with their KitKat to social media with the hashtag #ITookaBreak19.

In preparation for the Day at the Legislature and #ITookABreak19, Community Living Toronto mailed 300 KitKats (pre-wrapped with the #ITookABreak19 label) to their sponsors and donors, United Way, City of Toronto MPs, Community Living member associations, MPPs, Toronto City Councilors, TDSB Trustees, and MCCSS staff.

The label was also made available on the Community Living Toronto website for those who didn't receive a KitKat but wanted to participate. All they had to do was download a PDF label, print it out, cut along the dotted lines, and tape it around a KitKat bar.

The results from this year's campaign were amazing, with participants sharing many unique messages of support for inclusion.



'In the Loop Media" from Community Living Oakville celebrating #ITookABreak19 at Community Living Day at the Legislature

Here are a few highlights:

- The hashtag #ITookABreak19 was trending on Twitter all day and even into the evening. (Last year the hashtag only trended for a few hours.)
- There were 233 visible posts across social media platforms. This number does not include people who have their profiles set to private.
- Toronto Mayor John Tory, alongside leaders of the Ontario Liberal Party and Ontario Green Party, participated in #ITookABreak19.
- Nestle donated a total of 760 fullsize KitKats and 20 bags of mini Kit Kats toward this campaign.

A BIG thank you to Nestle for donating so many delicious KitKats over the last 4 years!



Mayor John Tory taking a break with us, celebrating Community Living month!

Donor Dollars in Action FAMILY FUN FAR





Here are a couple volunteers and guests playing one of the many carnival games.







Wonder Woman and Batman made a special appearance. Thank you to The Super Hero Company for sending these heroes!

If you are interested in supporting the Family Fun Fair contact: Emily Mahoney at **emily.mahoney@cltoronto.ca** Yet another Family Fun Fair has come and gone, and this year was the best one yet! This annual event is held at our Lawson location in Scarborough and celebrates Community Living Toronto with a day filled with sunshine, tasty food, lots of games, activities and prizes for all to enjoy.

This year, we had over 1000 people in attendance, including individuals in support and their families, staff, volunteers, community members and local politicians. Lots of fun was had by all.

This event would not be possible without the support of those who contributed to our adopt-a-station



A couple guests enjoying their prizes donated by Best Made Toys!

campaign, as well as generous donations by our community partners of gift cards and supplies to help cover the costs of the event.

We always try to have a surprise up our sleeves, and this year it was possible with our friends at Best Made Toys. They generously donated tons of life-size plush toys for all to enjoy as prizes!

Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to making this another successful event, we are already looking forward to next year!

Donor Dollars in Action LEADERS PHILANTHROPY

This past April, we held our annual Leaders in Philanthropy event to celebrate all the donors, volunteers and supporters who make the work that we do here at Community Living Toronto possible.

The word 'philanthropy' can mean different things to different people, but for us, it means the desire to give back to our community by helping a cause that you feel strongly about.

At this event, we come together to thank everyone who has made a commitment to Community Living Toronto, whether it be in the form of time, money, or both. Every one of our donors and supporters is special and unique, and it is lovely to share in their stories and history with the organization while celebrating and recognizing their outstanding support and achievements.

Without the generosity and compassion of our donors and volunteers, we truly would not be able to carry out the work we do. Thank you again to all our donors, volunteers and supporters, we are so lucky to have you as a part of our Community Living Toronto Family!



Kate Shackleton and Caelainn Cox from Sir Oliver Mowat Collegiate Institute accepting the Youth Volunteer of the Year award on behalf of their class. The students received the award for the incredible generosity of their fundraising campaign for Shadow Lake Centre that raised \$12,250!



Don Roger from Torys LLP accepting the award for his outstanding contribution. Partners for over 30 years, Torys has been a critical contributor to many of our organization's initiatives and events, and truly are champions of the rights and choices of people with intellectual disabilities.



Kristine Hubbard, Operations Manager, from Beck Taxi accepting an award for their continuous support. Beck Taxi has been a donor and supporter of Community Living Toronto for over 25 years. They also have generously sponsored Community Rocks and have contributed to helping us raise over \$3 million for Community Living Toronto since the 1st Community Rocks.

Donor Dollars in Action ACCOUNTABLE TO YOU

In the 2018/2019 fiscal year over \$2 million was raised – THANK YOU!

Net Revenue	\$1,401,935
Direct Fundraising Expenses	\$611,739 *
Fundraising Revenue	\$2,013,674

* higher expenses in a Community Rocks year. The last Community Rocks fundraiser took place in November of 2018.

Who our donors are

3% Service/Religious Organizations

6%



Residential Supports

Community and **Employment Supports**

Greatest Needs

Respite



YOU are helping people live independently and reach their goals.





Thank you for being a part of our caring community with your generosity. This donor roll reflects cumulative donations of \$250 + received in the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

Marie Harris

Sharon Heyer

Steven Hurowitz

Djordie Jankovic

Nina M. Kirienko

Mark Norman

Renata Ozimek

Isobel G. Raven

Robert Rollings

Diane Rossi

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Helen V. Smith

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Sandra J. Reynolds

Anne Louise Layton

Harry and Marian Legris

Tom and Dawn Lunan Kristopher R. McKeown There are many other donors who have generously contributed who are not listed here, including those who prefer to remain anonymous.

FALL 2019

\$250 - \$499

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11

\$500 - \$99**9**

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\$50,000 +

Louis and Lena Wise Torys LLP



\$10,000 - \$49,000

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Contact Sylvie Labrosse, Manager of Fundraising at **647-588-9465** or **sylvie.labrosse@cltoronto.ca** for questions and information.









Donor Dollars in Action GETTING TO KNOW US!

Meet Sylvie!



The annual Leaders in Philanthropy event recognizes donors for their cumulative contributions. This year, Sylvie was recognized with a #DonorLove heart and a star on our donor wall located at 20 Spadina Road.

Sylvie has a been a part of the Community Living Toronto family since 2010 when she joined the Public Relations and Fundraising team as Manager of Fundraising.

She believes in giving where you work, especially when passionate about the cause and the work being done. Anyone who knows or has worked with Sylvie knows how passionate she is about her work and the mission and vision of Community Living Toronto.

Since she started working with Community Living Toronto, Sylvie has opened her heart as a generous donor of the organization. She has supported many initiatives and events over the years with personal donation and sponsorships including the Choices that can Change Lives Fund, Shadow Lake Camp Bursary program, Annual Family Fun Fair, Community Rocks, and so much more.

Sylvie encourages you to reach out to her to find out more about how you can further support an area that is close to your heart.

She'd be happy to speak to you about giving at many levels be it supporting an event, giving in honour of memory of a loved one or how to leave a gift in your will.

Sylvie can be reached at sylvie.labrosse@cltoronto.ca or 647-588-9465.



Public Relations & Fundraising

20 Spadina Road Toronto, ON, Canada M5R 2S7

fundraising@cltoronto.ca 647-588-9465

Charitable registration number: 10769 4143 RR0001



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