

A Society where everyone belongs. A society where everyone is valued.

FEATURED STORY

Money Matters Workshop

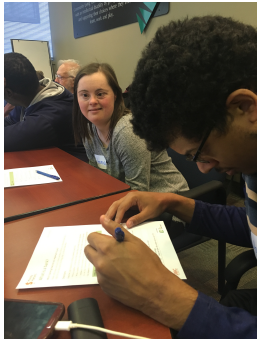


Money Matters workshop at 20 Spadina

On Wednesday November 21st, we had a Money Matters work shop at our 20 Spadina location. *Money Matters* was created by ABC Life Literacy Canada with support from Money Matters founding sponsor TD Bank Group, as part of their corporate citizenship platform.

In this workshop, participants learned what banking actually is, how to pay for things, and the different between needs and wants, and all about budgeting.

There was a lot of open discussions and many participants left with more knowledge and understanding of how to manage and think about their money.



Jenna and Josh participating in the Money Matters Workshop

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Staff Appreciation Event



A collage of photos from the staff appreciation event.

On Tuesday November 20th, we held our staff appreciation event at Parkview Manor. Everyone was in jolly moods mingling and networking with coworkers that they may not be able to chat with on the day to day. We have the best and most dedicated staff!

Remembrance Day Ceremony

By: Venus Ocampo



J.S. Manson participants and staff during their Remembrance Day Ceremony, November 2018

Remembrance Day holds an important place in the hearts of Community Living Toronto's Jessie S. Manson participants. They have great appreciation and gratitude to the men and women who sacrificed and dedicated their lives to keep Canada safe. Every year, among poppies and a commemorative wreath, the Manson community honors the memory of the women and men who served our country in war and peace.

Relationship Group Social and Games Night

By: Michelle Grimley



Linda (L) and Michelle (R) ready to greet the 50+ guests at the Relationship Group's first Social and Games Night!

It was all fun and games on the evening of Saturday, October 20, 2018 as the Relationship Group hosted their first ever community event! After careful planning by the Relationship Group's Social Subcommittee, the Games Night welcomed over 50 guests from the community into the newly renovated and inclusive space at Montage Support Services. Meet & Greet Bingo and games like Jenga, Battleship, Charades (and more) entertained the many attendees at the event as they got to know one another. The Relationship Group is comprised of self-advocates, support staff and community members who believe that relationships offer safety, support, value, purpose and a sense of belonging.

Relationship Group
Sexual Health. Education. Community

Upcoming Central Events

Central Region Dinner Club

Every Wednesday
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
30 Birch Ave
CLOSED December 19 & 26,
2018 and January 2, 2019

sprOUT Meeting

Monday January 14, 2019
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
40 Birch Ave

Central Region Council Meeting

Tuesday January 8, 2019
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
20 Spadina Rd
Boardroom
All are welcome!

Downtown Parent Share

Monday December 10, 2018
Monday January 14, 2019
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
38 Regent St, Second Level
For information contact:

Bonnie Heath at
416-645-6000 ext. 1311
bheath@woodgreen.org

One Direction Social Group

Saturday January 26, 2019
Time TBD
Movie & Dinner

sprOUT Holiday Celebration

Thursday December 13, 2018
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Griffin Centre
1124 Finch Ave West, Unit 1

SilverCity Yonge-Eglinton
The Pickle Barrel — Yonge & Eglinton

For information on any of the above events, contact Michelle Grimley

at 647-729-1210 or
michelle.grimley@cltoronto.ca

In Loving Memory of Brian Woods

By: Dale Makino



Brian will be most dearly missed!

The Etobicoke Supported Independent Living Program and many friends and neighbours from Islington Village came together on Friday November 16th at Creative Village Studio to celebrate the life of Brian Woods. Brian passed away on October 9th, 2018 after several weeks in hospital battling heart failure and infections.

Brian had been involved with Community Living Toronto's Supports and Services since 1967, when he started at the York Employment Training Services. In 1998, when his late mother had to move suddenly to long term care, Brian moved into a temporary residential placement at the Royal York Group Home and then into Lakeshore Group Home in 1999. Brian moved into the Supported Independent Living Program in 2001. In 2006, Brian moved to Etobicoke SWACA which he eventually retired from in 2012.

Brian was most certainly an unforgettable, one of a kind person. He always marched to the beat of his own drum and was both feisty and resilient. Brian was very well known by just about everyone in the Islington Village, frequenting the local coffee shops, bars, stores and Creative Village Studio. Brian had many great friends in his building and in his community, who supported and befriended him throughout his numerous years in the neighbourhood.

Brian's two most favourite things in the world were a hot coffee to start the day and a nice cold beer at the end of his day. Actually, coffee and beer at any time of

the day were good for Brian. He also loved footwear, wearing new clothes and using colourful language.

There will be a big void to fill in the hearts of his roommate Robert, the individuals and staff of the Etobicoke Supported Independent Living Team, the staff team at Creative Village Studio, and the Community Members of Islington Village and Mabelle Place, all of whom supported and took care of Brian for many years.

Brian will be most dearly missed.

Good Bye to Michael

By: Muhammed Irshad

As some of you are aware, Program Supervisor Michael Polack has decided to leave Community Living Toronto. Michael has been with CL Toronto for over 10 years, most recently as the Supervisor for both Elmcrest & Wellesworth Residences. Some of you may also know Michael from Staff Training as he was a facilitator for Medication Training as well as CPI Certification, among others. Michael has decided to move on down to Florida for some warmer weather, where he is hoping to be able to ride his motorcycle all year long. We wish Michael well in all of his future endeavors.

Upcoming Etobicoke/York Events

Parent Share

December 20, 2018
and January 17, 2019
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
295 The West Mall,
suite 204

Friendship Group

Wed. Jan. 30, 2019
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
295 The West Mall,
suite 204
Come out and enjoy an
evening with friends!

Etobicoke Council Meeting

January 8, 2019
6:30 PM
Creative Village Studio
4895 Dundas St. W

**For Information any of the above events contact
Georgina Stergiotis**

647-729-0445 or georgina.stergiotis@cltoronto.ca

NORTH YORK REGION

Halloween Celebration at NY ADP for the United Way

By: Deepak Verma



Ally the witch and the ghost

There is something about Halloween that brings the kid out in all of us. North York Adult Development Program celebrated Halloween with some unearthly ghosts and embraced the deadly spirits from the netherworld. The idea of having a party was obviously the most sinister motivation but the “uprising of care” sneakily crept up on us too. In a macabre spirit of action, everyone jumped, flailing their skeletal selves to get ready to eat, drink and be scary! Juicy eyeballs, jack-o-lantern burgers, mummy -dogs, spider cookies, and cupcakes with guts and gore strewn in them, bewitched the appetites of over 75 people. Though, some evil ghouls just relished giving without feasting on the ghostly delicacies.

The event helped us raise for the United Way Campaign 2018 an astonishing amount of **\$433.65** (and counting, as some folks have promised to come back soon for more). If a picture is worth a thousand words, we have a thousand pictures, so imagine the epic tales they tell.

In the Spirit of the Holiday Season Support Holiday Hampers



Artwork by: Quyen NGO at Creative Village Studio

The financial cost of living with an intellectual disability often leaves precious little for anything else, let alone enjoying the holidays. That's why donating to our Holiday Hamper Program is one of the most meaningful ways you can give this holiday season.

With your generosity, our staff and volunteers can purchase goods and make individual holiday hampers for the people we support.

By supporting our Holiday Hamper Program you'll be putting smiles on faces this holiday season!

Visit our website and click on “Donate”

CommunityLivingToronto.ca

Upcoming North York Events

Parent Share

December 19, 2018 and
January 10, 2019
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
1122 Finch Ave West



The Jackson Family Holiday

By: Shelly Greenberg



The Jackson Family

The Jackson family has been involved with Community Living Toronto's Community Supports since 1992. At that time, their young daughter Tammy had been a patient in Sick Children's hospital for two and a half years as a result of complications from E. Coli. The family requested Family Supports to assist them in coordinating supports for Tammy and to find resources and supports for their son Ronnie. After Tammy's release from hospital, the family volunteered for the Sick Children's Telethon for many years.

Their son Ronnie has attended Community Living Toronto's day support programs since 2001 and is currently attending Scarborough Adult Development Program (ADP).

The Jackson family has been a recipient of the Scarborough Holiday Hamper program for several years. Mrs. Jackson reports that ***"the hampers are wonderful. We really appreciate all the gift cards, especially the ones for No Frills. These cards allow us to buy much needed groceries. We are on a very tight budget as our rent is very high and my husband only gets a very small pension. Without this hamper program, my family would be a bit depressed and we wouldn't know what to do about the holidays. It really helps us to have a wonderful holiday."*** Mr. Jackson shared that ***"the hamper program with the gift cards allows us to buy Christmas gifts for each other. It also lets us buy***

small gifts for the people in our lives who are important to us and who we like to thank. The gift cards truly help us all year round, as we use them when we need to buy food. To thank Community Living Toronto, I volunteer to play Santa at Scarborough Adult Development Program every year. The participants, staff at ADP and my family look forward to this event every Christmas."

Tammy Jackson lives with serious health issues. She said that ***"knowing my family will receive gift cards and food helps to take my mind off my health problems. I really like the movie passes, as the show is very expensive. The gift cards also let me buy clothes for myself."***

Ronnie Jackson always gets quite excited when talking about Christmas. He told me that his favourite thing is ***"sitting on Santa."***

The Jackson family would like to express their deep gratitude for all the Community Living Toronto supports they receive.

"HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE"

Upcoming Scarborough Events

Council Meeting

Monday February 4,
2019 at 6:15pm
1712 Ellesmere Road
All are welcome!

For more information
on all of these events
and to register contact
Felicita Zannata at
647-729-1635 or
fzanatta@cltoronto.ca

Bingo at Lawson

Friday January 18,
2019 at 7pm-8:30pm
1712 Ellesmere Road
\$5 for a snack and

Connections Dance

Friday January 25,
2019 at 7:30-9:30pm
1712 Ellesmere Rd.
\$8 admission
Call Lester at
416-566-7252

Winter Literacy

Must register in advance
Begins January 26,
2019
Saturday mornings
9-11:45 am
1710 Ellesmere Rd.
\$25 registration and
\$5 per class
Eligibility determined
by interview

Graphic Recording for Self Advocates at ARCH

By: Sue Hutton



The Self Advocates Council has always wanted more pictures! Accessibility and learning about rights in a way that is understandable is super important. Sometimes that means having pictures to look at. Sometimes that means having access to American Sign Language interpreters. Sometimes it means using voice recognition programs like Dragon Naturally Speaking, that Nelson from the SAC uses and swears by (no pun intended)!

The image above was recently commissioned by ARCH Disability Law Centre. It is a visual representation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Respecting Rights will be using this image in workshops for people labelled with intellectual disabilities to learn about their rights. The Self Advocates Council will be involved in these workshops. If you are interested in learning more about graphic recording and accessible rights education tools, contact the SAC:

Sue Hutton at shutton@cltoronto.ca

Upcoming SAC Events

SAC meetings are on the third Wednesday of every month

Next meeting:

Wednesday December 19, 2018

11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Foster's Clubhouse; 40 Birch Ave.

For information about SAC contact Sue Hutton at 647-729-1205 or shutton@cltoronto.ca

VOLUNTEER VOICE

International Volunteer Day

International Volunteer Day (IVD) is a global celebration of Volunteers and was founded by the United Nations Volunteers in 1985. It takes place every year on December 5th to shine a light on the impact of volunteer efforts everywhere. Volunteers are creating social change around the world and this special day promotes the work of volunteers at all levels. On this day and every day, Volunteer Services at Community Living Toronto would like to thank all our dedicated Volunteers. Our Volunteers are truly amazing and make a huge impact on the lives of people we support and their families –

THANK YOU!

Please follow our social accounts @CLToronto, to learn more about some of our outstanding Volunteers at Community Living Toronto!



**International
Volunteer Day**

Volunteer Orientations and Trainings

For new Volunteers, these are dates for upcoming Volunteer Orientation Sessions:

December 12, 2018 at 295 The West Mall, Suite 204
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

January 16, 2019 at 1122 Finch Ave. W., Unit #18
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

February 20, 2019 at 20 Spadina Rd.
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

For registered Volunteers who would prefer to do their annual training in-person, these are the dates for upcoming Annual Volunteer Refresher Training:

December 12, 2018 at 1712 Ellesmere Rd.
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

March 13, 2019 at 295 The West Mall, Suite 204
11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

June 12, 2019 at 1122 Finch Ave. W., Unit #18
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Upcoming Volunteer opportunities :

- Life Skills Volunteer in Etobicoke Region
- Winter Literacy Volunteer in Scarborough Region
- Friendly Visitor Volunteer in North York Region
- Friendly Visitor Volunteer in Central Region

To Register and find out more visit:

cltoronto.ca/volunteers/

Maria Latocha, Tax Clinic Volunteer

By: Karla Galves-Del Rio



Meet Maria Latocha, an active member and Tax Clinic volunteer with Community Living Toronto. Prior to her volunteering with us, Maria and her son received support from our organization to help with life's many challenges.

Maria wanted to give back to Community Living Toronto by volunteering at our Tax Clinics. Here's what Maria has to say:

"Community Living Toronto is an amazing, world class and caring agency that has been around a very long time, helping people with disabilities and their families in all aspects of their lives and in any way possible. They fundraise, they advocate, they provide education, housing, community supports, and the list goes on. They generally make life easier. I am so glad they exist for my family."

For more information about volunteering with us, please visit our website at cltoronto.ca and email us at volunteers@cltoronto.ca



More Time For What Matters

Do you self-administer your **Passport** or **Special Services At Home** (SSAH) funding? Spend less time managing your expenses with **MyDirectPlan.com** - so you can spend more time doing what you love.

It's free, secure and designed especially for the developmental services sector!



Signing up is easy!

Go to **MyDirectPlan.com** and follow these steps:

1

Click **Register for a Free Account**

2

Enter your **email address** & select funding type

3

Choose **Recipient** or **Fund Administrator**

4

Create a **password** (& accept terms of use)

5

Click **Sign Up!**

MyDirectPlan

support@mydirectplan.com | 1-844-637-6371

Follow Us On Social Media!



www.CommunityLivingToronto.ca



MyCommunityHub.ca

MyCommunityHub is an online registration space where people with a developmental disability and their families can find activities and programs that reflect their interests.

