

Newslink September 2007

Community Living St. Marys & Area

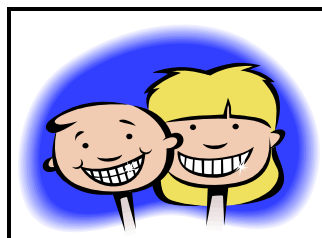
Create A Smile

Our 4th Annual Walk-A-Thon!

Sunday October 21st, 2007

2pm

Starting at **Lind Sportsplex**
(Quarry & Curling Facility) on
Water St. S., St.Marys



Last years walkers as the
come to the finish.

**Our Goal is
to raise
\$15,000!**



Tracy Muir is the woman responsible for all the hard work that goes into our walk behind the scenes and before the big day!!

Special Challenge ...

Community Living employees who participate in the walk and have at least one full pledge sheet will be included in a special draw with a grand prize...one paid day off! (based on stat allowance)

**Are you voting on
October 10th?**

Manager of Support Services

Caroline Simons is joining us on Wednesday September 12th as the new Manager of Support Services. Caroline has a wide variety of experience, a great sense of humour

and we're really looking forward to working with her. Some of you may know Caroline already from her work with Epilepsy Huron-Perth-Bruce or Family Services Perth Huron.

Welcome Caroline!



How to reach us:

Call 519-284-1400 and the extension:

Marg McLean x 225

Nancy Marriott x 221

Vickie Logan x 241

Jennifer Leslie x 228

Kim Monden x 222

Jan Gerrie x 223

Marilyn Haywood x 227

Caroline Simons x 226

Marg Angus x 242

Brenda Kaiser x 224

Suzanne Simpson x 234

Linda Munro x 243

Wayne Hotson x 233

Jenn Binnendyk x 232



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Voices

Voices is looking for a coordinator in the St. Marys area.

One very important role of this part-time position is to facilitate leadership training sessions in Perth County high schools. The Co-coordinator needs excellent communication skills, have a strong interest in mentoring young people and have experience facilitating groups.

The position is a flexible one with hours averaging up to 39 hours per month.



Deadline to apply is September 28, 2007. If you would like to apply or find out more information contact Jennifer Leslie at (519)284-1400 ext. 228 or e-mail jvleslie@execulink.com

Facilitation Leadership

On Monday June 18th 27 people wrapped up the last evening of eight sessions of Facilitation Leadership training here in St. Marys. Cofacilitated by Charlotte Dingwall and John Lord, the sessions encouraged, challenged and stimulated the participants. Jennifer Leslie and I were fortunate to act as hostesses for the weekly sessions. In that capacity we were able to model the hospitality that is a part of facilitation and we were able to watch as people explored and grew in their understanding of what facilitation is.

We thought you might be interested in some of the comments we received from participants.

“Great practical ideas everyone needs to know”

“To work as independently of services on people’s behalf”

“Thanks for all of the examples that make it more real”

“I need the agency I work for to “get” it, not just to talk about the values and principles but to “walk the talk”

When the eight weeks ended with our last dinner together, relationships

among people had started, mentors had been assigned and plans for a follow up day had been discussed.

Thank You to everyone who attended, to John and Charlotte for doing a great job of facilitating our learning and to all of the agencies and M.C. S.S. who enabled this to happen. The biggest thanks of all

Ontario votes...

People with disabilities are entitled to a reasonable and safe standard of living that many can no longer afford. Many people with disabilities in Ontario are living in an ever-increasing state of poverty as a result of the failure of the Ontario Disability Support Plan (ODSP) to maintain adequate levels of income support.

* Prior to 2004, ODSP benefits had not increased for 11 years.

* Including the increases since 2004, ODSP benefits remain more than 18% below what they were in 1993 when compared to inflation.

* The poverty line for a single person in an urban setting in Ontario is just over \$19,000. The top end payment for ODSP in Ontario is under \$12,000 per year.

Talk to the candidates!

Your vote counts!

Your vote counts!

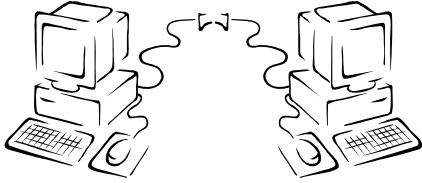
goes to the Perth Huron Facilitator’s group for identifying this as something they believed would further enhance the lives of people with disabilities in our counties.

For all their hard work, thank you!

Marilyn Haywood



From: Central Administration



Protecting Employees' Privacy : Due to our obligation to the privacy act, Central Admin cannot give out employees' phone numbers. Please contact your Team Leader for means of obtaining and/or having phone numbers of

fellow staff members.

Part-time vacation payout will be on the pay period ending November 16th, 2007. This is a mandatory payout.

Canada Savings Bond Applications and Deadline: Applications for the 2007 Canada Savings Bond Campaign are now available at the Central Admin office. Applications must be returned to Central Admin by **October 19th** in order to make the Bank of Can-



ada deadline. If you are already participating and wish to increase or decrease your deduction, change forms are available from Central Admin.

“None are so old as those who have outlived enthusiasm”

Henry David Thoreau



83 is just a number...Ethel Harrison is still out there trying new and exciting things in her life. Here she is out with a friend and neighbour, Bill McCarthy, taking a spin on his motorcycle. Ethel is always up for new experiences every chance she gets.



International Speaker, Judith Snow

On June 19th, Mayor Jamie Hahn hosted a morning with Judith Snow. Speaking to citizens and town employees, Snow was spreading the message of inclusion, and how communities can benefit from welcoming the participation of a wide diversity of people. Snow said the keys to inclusion are to recognize contribution, publicly acknowledge contribution and to seek to maximize a person's present and potential contributions in ways that create opportunity for others.

Judith Snow challenged our community to measure the economic and social impact of inclusion. Are you interested in the challenge?



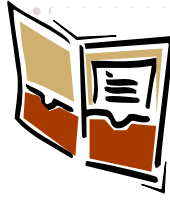
Board President –Brenda Mitchell
International Speaker– Judith Snow
Executive Director– Marg McLean

Community Living St. Marys & Area

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St. Marys, Ontario

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Where To Find It

The guide compiled by the
Voices project is here! Funding
from the Stratford and Perth

Community Foundation, M.C.S.S., Com-
munity Living-North Perth, Stratford and
St. Marys made this guide possible.

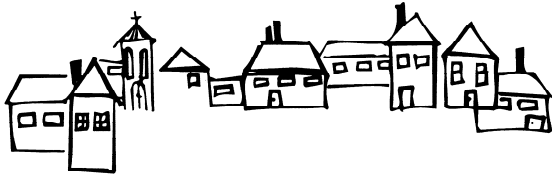
Those of us who have been using it can
honestly say it is very user friendly which
was our goal all along.

If you want a copy,

please pick one up at the office. We have

lots of copies and may do a

second printing if needed.



Our Vision: A community where
everyone belongs.

Our Mission: To nurture the ability and
willingness in our community to welcome and
support all people as valued and contributing
citizens.

Please send us your email address. We want
to share our newsletter and try to reduce
mailing costs. Check for Newslink on our
website.

Bit & Bites....

Our Association is one of
several

featured in a new book

Pathways to Inclusion

Building a New Story with

People and Communities

By: **John Lord and
Peggy Hutchison.**

Drop in to JPC if you'd like to
borrow it.

Visit us on the Web

communitylivingstmarys.ca

General Staff Meeting

Will be held

**Tuesday October 16th,
2007**

1pm—2:30

James Purdue Centre

The Joint Health and Safety
Committee needs new
members. Nominations and
elections, if necessary,
will be at our next
General Staff
meeting. The committee
meets a few times per year
and it's paid time. Please
speak to Chairperson Paul
Williams for more info.