



COMMUNITY

LIVING

PRINCE

EDWARD

Family & Community
Newsletter

Letter from our Executive Director

by Susan Treverton

As we ring in 2019, it is an opportunity to reflect upon the challenges of the past year and to celebrate our successes. The successes of Community Living Prince Edward are a collective effort of each team member contributing and adding value to the work that we do. It is also a time to pay homage to the people who touched our lives in such impactful ways as we said a fond farewell to Cheryl Ferguson, Les Samson, George Cooper and Eric Kinsella.

In 2018 the agency was in the home stretch of fulfilling directions set out in the 2015-2018 Board of Directors Strategic Plan. Throughout the three years, it is outstanding to see the accomplishments that we have been able to make together towards the organizational goals that center around improving the quality of life for people we serve. A few of the highlights that come to mind are;

- development of 2 new homes with a 3rd under construction for 2019
- an increase of people we serve attaining paid competitive employment, valued social roles, and volunteer opportunities in the community
- securing external funding such as the Employment and Modernization Fund Grant,

the Ministry of Labor Grant, Grants Ontario to name a few to enhance the resources available to direct support and training

- children and youth are experiencing belonging in the life of school communities and preschool settings
- redeveloped day service opportunities to continue to the shift from segregation to full participation, inclusion, and citizenship in the life of the community
- increase the number of people receiving service and the expansion of the purchase of service opportunities for people and their families
- introduction of Conscious Care and Support with over 60 team members receiving training and plans for another 50 team members to receive training in 2019/20
- successful MCCSS compliance review without any areas of non-compliance
- the attainment of a four-year Accreditation with FOCUS Accreditation Ontario

Community Living Prince Edward values the relationships with our community partners as together we have taken great strides in building a more inclusive community in Prince Edward County. As we move forward into 2019, the Board of Directors is proud to introduce its strategic plan for 2019-2022. The strategic direction will be grounded in

the “grassroots” of the community living movement with an emphasis on;

- raising the voices of self-advocates and family groups
- increasing capacity and expansion of services including housing, purchase of service and employment
- preserve the organization values and history inclusive of succession planning for all levels of the organization
- increase the agency resources through grant development, fundraising and community partnerships
- the modernization of existing services and systems to ensure we continue to be relevant to the wishes of people and families we serve
- continued development of strong employee teams with a focus of embracing Conscious Care and Support as a service delivery model

Over the next three years while there will be challenges on the horizon, I am confident that if we are guided by the understanding that the name Community Living reflects that the right to live a fully integrated life within the community belongs to all, together as an organization and community we can fulfill our mission and strategic goals. I look forward to working collectively together as we embark on this journey!

The Lasting Legacy of Heart of the County

by Jacob Hall

“Every ending is a beginning,” says bestselling author Mitch Albom. “We just don’t know it at the time.”

Community Living Prince Edward’s mandate supports that the right to live a fully integrated life within the community belongs to all, and that was the basis for its decision to redevelop the services offered at the retail location. So, when the doors closed for good at Heart of the County in September, they began opening in other places.

“It was a fabulous place which will be missed,” says Kim Gagne, a member of the Community Living Prince Edward staff who helped run the store for the past several years. “But then you move on to bigger and better things.”

The primary purpose of the store was to provide people with the opportunity to gain employment skills in a community-based environment. As the organization has grown in its mission, it was recognized that people can gain such skills in community businesses instead of having to attend a sheltered workplace. This direction supports communities where everyone is included.

“There were lots of success stories from the Heart of the County,” Gagne recalls, referring to the skills that people have taken with them to new opportunities within the community, whether by pursuing their career or educational paths.

One such former employee, Clinton Loyst, has become a compelling example of what life looks like beyond Heart of the County. After spending a decade and a half working in the retail environment and learning the skills to independently operate the store, Clinton felt ready to move on to something more meaningful.

Now an employee of Pet Value, Clinton has successfully transitioned his skills into a new job with a competitive wage and increased responsibility. It is a change that he relishes.

“I am enjoying it,” says Clinton of his new position. “It’s a different work environment, with more people, and more staff to work with.”

Clinton’s success story is not unique. In fact, former employees have moved on to employment opportunities within the community, or further education programs at Loyalist College.

Gagne believes that Community Living is helping to drive this change by continuing to advocate for the inclusion of the people they serve, and by breaking down the walls of stigma by supporting people to become full citizens of their community. Whether it is belonging to groups or volunteering time, each positive interaction continues to educate the broader public and enhance the community living movement.

“Members of the community are now contacting the organization to inquire about employees or volunteers” she continues, referring to recent projects including the Cancer Society Daffodil Campaign and kettle drives through the Salvation Army. “That’s how you build communities where everyone belongs, and how people become valued citizens of our community.”



Family Engagement Network

The talents, gifts and meaningful contributions that people with an intellectual disability make as citizens to our community cannot be understated. Within that, it is known that people living with an intellectual disability and their loved ones face distinct challenges throughout their lives. This includes people and their families thinking about the importance of planning for their future and how they can prepare for it.

The Family Engagement Network is a collection of family members who are related to a person with an intellectual disability and while we don’t have all the answers, we are working on some of them. The Network was founded on the belief that everyone should live an inclusive life in the community, either at home or living independently or semi-independently. Through the support of Community Living Prince Edward (CLPE) we seek relevant and current information and act as a forum for discussion and feedback from a County family perspective. The group meets the

third Thursday evening of each month to learn from each other and share experiences. We often bring in guest speakers to present topics of shared interest and meetings are at Community Living Prince Edward, 67 King Street in Picton. Meeting participants are welcome to participate and contribute to conversations or to sit back and learn from others.

We always welcome new members so come out and see what we are about. For more information contact Laura Egerton at 613-476-6038 ext. 132 or by email at laura.egerton@clpe.on.ca.

Celebrating 80 years!

On December 18, 2019 Bruce Nugent celebrated his 80th birthday at the Salvation Army Community Church location on Elizabeth St.

As the celebration was a surprise, Bruce was delighted to see the large gathering of friends and family from the Picton community and beyond, who came to wish him a Happy Birthday and celebrate the impressive milestone with him. Reminiscing, sharing stories of past times spent together, a live band and a buffet of food rounded out this momentous occasion. Team members from Bruce's home created a slide show highlighting significant moments in his life, which of course was set to selections from his favorite country music genre.

Congratulations Bruce!



Ontario Dress Purple Day

On October 24, team members from across Community Living Prince Edward participated in Ontario Dress Purple Day along with Highland Shores Children's Aid, boards of education, schools, and child care centers across the province.

The goal of the campaign was to raise awareness about the rights of children and youth to safety and well-being, and the responsibility of adults and community services to help children, youth, and families who need support.

We were honored to work in partnership with Highland Shores Children's Aid Society to share the important message to STOP ABUSE of children and youth in our community.

Holiday Blessing Bags

In celebration of the holiday season, on December 14th team members from across the organization rallied together to donate Blessing Bags to The Salvation Army Picton Community Church. Blessing Bags contain items that people may need in emergency situations, such as toiletries, cold weather gear and stuffed animals for children. In total, 26 Blessing Bags were put together from items donated by the CLPE network. These bags will help men, women and children in need in Prince Edward during the holiday season and beyond.

Given the tremendous success of the event and the generous contributions from the CLPE community, CLPE has decided to put together a warm weather version of the Blessing Bags this summer. If you would like to get involved or donate items, please contact Jacob Hall at 613 476 6038 ext. 125.



Stamp out the R Word

The County Advocates were pleased to take action to "Stamp out the 'R' Word" during the holiday season in Prince Edward County.

This campaign encouraged respectful and inclusive language of people with disabilities and encouraged society to be conscious of the words they use. The advocates partnered with the House of Falconer during their Christmas Market on December 8th and 15th to "spread the word to end the word".

An important role for the advocates is to bring awareness to disability related issues or items that may impact continued growth and development of people with disabilities. The advocates are passionate about everyone being treated with dignity and that everyone has value. Society may not be aware of how their language can affect a person with a disability or how harmful words can be.

Providing Quality Supports & Services

By: Nicola Wager

As I think back over the past 12 months and considered the supports that we have provided from the perspective of quality, I asked myself, how do we measure success?

As I thought about this, I thought about our strategic plan, and the organizational goals that focus on improving the quality of life for people we serve and how this connects to the work we do on a day to day basis. What immediately came to mind are the stories that are shared from people we serve and their support teams. Stories that are real lived experiences are the true measurement of success. These lived experiences include:

- Doing the things that they have dreamed of doing
- To be hired as employees for jobs they love
- To advocate for themselves around inclusion through speaking up, presentations at local groups and schools
- To explore new hobbies
- To attend post-secondary education
- To learn new skills and build upon existing skills
- To re-connect with family and have real friendships
- To have improved their health and wellbeing
- To give back to their community by volunteering, raising monies & awareness

These are the stories that measure success. Not the systems, not the numbers, but the real lived experiences of people and families we serve.

Community Living Prince Edward is committed to continuously improving the quality of service and I look forward to all that 2019 will bring!



4th Annual TIME for NINE Golf Tournament

On September 20th, Community Living Prince Edward hosted its 4th annual 'Time for Nine' Golf Tournament. Held at the Wellington on the Lake Golf Course, this sold out tournament offered everyone a unique county experience with various vineyards and food vendors sharing their local wares.

The Golf Tournament was an opportunity to raise funds and highlight the work CLPE is doing to facilitate the full participation, inclusion, and citizenship for people with an intellectual disability in the life of the community.

The majority of the funds go towards the creation of innovative housing that is affordable for people living in Prince Edward County, as well as to support people in the attainment of their personal life goals. In addition, a donation was made to United Way Hastings and Prince Edward in recognition of the valued contributions that they make to our local community.

At the event, Community Living Prince Edward announced that over the past three years funds from the tournament have contributed to a new build in our local community with another build planned for early in the New Year. To date the Golf Tournament has raised in excess of \$30,000.00.

Community Living Prince Edward would like to thank the local Vineyards, Brewery's, and Restaurants for their generous tastings. It is dedicated people and businesses such as these that make this tournament such a success! Thank you for your support.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL TIME FOR NINE WINE AND DINE TOURNAMENT ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2019.

Dinner Sponsor: Shurtleff Interiors & Building Services and Shur Coatings, Paints & Finishes

Golf Cart Sponsor: Med Pro Direct

Hole-in-One Sponsor: Picton Home Hardware

Beverage Sponsor: Port Picton Homes

Swag Bag Sponsor: Troy Life – Mike Simard

GOLD HOLE SPONSORS:

Phil and Cheryl Hennessy; Nash Home Hardware Wellington; Remax Quinte – Christine and Colin Henden; West City Honda; Cronkie's Cab; Lavender Construction; Leigh Cement – Picton Plant; Sobey's; Zycorn

SILVER HOLE SPONSORS:

Prinzen Ford Sales; Lloyd's Heating and Cooling; Templeman Menninga; Many Happy Returns; Brian Jewell and Son Roofing; Stormy's Car Sales and Automotive Centre; OSM Websites; Lavender Furniture; C & C Carpentry; ARX Business Solutions

Carlyn Earns Well-Deserved Promotion with AMS Digital Solutions

Carlyn has been working at AMS Digital Solutions as part of the team for two years. This past November, business owner Steve Burnet recognized Carlyn's dedication to his company by offering her a promotion.

"Carlyn is dependable, has excellent work ethic, and her friendly personality encourages the team to see different perspectives when reaching out to new partners," said Steve.

"Everyone that works here brings something unique to our team in their own way. As an employer it is my job to help my employees have what they need, be heard, and to know their input is valued at AMS Digital."

Employee champions like AMS Digital and business owners like Steve Burnet are spearheading the campaign to recognize the importance of inclusivity in the community and that all people can contribute to the work force!

Max Wins 2018 Pollitt Award for Student Leadership at Loyalist College

Max Allin is a second-year student in the Community Integration through Co-Operative Education (CICE) program at Loyalist College, with an area of interest in Recreation & Leisure Services. He has become a mentor to his fellow classmates in the CICE program, which has led him to being awarded the 2018 Pollitt Award for Student Leadership.

A Student Leader influences, creates change and makes an impact on students and campus life at Loyalist College. Max exceeded his teachers' expectations after he transferred from a previous program as he proved to be a mentor and supported others to navigate their school career. Through Max's determination and the support of the CICE team, he is taking an active role in many program initiatives. He attends fitness classes at the College, and with every passing day he is on the road to achieving his personal goals.



Greater Than: County Youth Collective

The Greater Than: County Youth Collective is a group of youth and adults who work to improve the lives of youth in Prince Edward County with the long-term goal of raising high school graduation rates to parity with the rest of the Province. Community Living Prince Edward (CLPE) is one of the many partners within the county who are working to see a better life for youth in our community.

As a partner we have hired Skylar Gray, a Youth Engagement Worker, through funds provided by the County Foundation through the Youth Collective Impact Program. Skylar has worked on several projects, including recruiting students for placements, creating surveys to determine how to entice young people to enroll in courses to be eligible for employment with our agency, and to raise awareness of

Developmental Services as a career. Currently Skylar is developing a presentation to highlight employment opportunities in the developmental service sector as well as at Community Living Prince Edward.

Skylar has also started making a presentation explaining all the different jobs and programs within Community Living, which will be presented to the groups at P.E.C.I as well as other locations.

CLPE also partnered with Prince Edward Learning Center (PELC) and Greater Than to collect data regarding literacy programs for people with an intellectual disability. Most literacy programs are funded based on attainment of outcomes that are hard to meet by people who learn differently or at a different pace. PELC has provided literacy support to people who are not eligible for current funding models to demonstrate the outcomes for people that highlight why funding for everyone is a

good investment. CLPE has observed an improvement in self-confidence, self-esteem, enrolment in a job-readiness program resulting in a job offer, improved social connections and increased opportunities for inclusion. The preliminary data supports CLPE's observations.

2019 is going to be a promising year for Greater Than, as we are working on:

- Introducing the Learning & Engagement Fund, which is a fund available to people 12-29 years old seeking to participate in community activities who have not graduated or do not have an equivalent to a high school diploma
- launching a new website
- continuing our Participatory Action Research project with youth that continues to seek input on the issues that impact youth in the community

Submitted by Skylar Gray, Youth Engagement Worker

Employment Modernization Fund

Transition Solutions is an integrated approach to planning and lived experience where the student is setting the direction for their future path. The model brings youth, family, school personnel, Community Living Prince Edward, local businesses, employment support agencies and other community organizations to a common place.

Currently we have worked with our local high school and partnered with two other high schools to bridge the gap, so students graduate high school with options for employment, volunteerism, post-secondary education and fulfilling civic roles in their community. This model looks at innovative approaches of in- school for after school. M.I.N.D the Gap is effective transition planning that takes place throughout the student's life in school.

The acronym MIND represents:

MEET	as a team early to ensure goals are clear
IDENTIFY	skills, interest, talents, areas to work on and create a map of where help is needed and what experiences would be valuable
NEED	is addressed through workshops, experiential learning outside the school walls connecting to community
DEVELOP	a solid transition plan that is regularly reviewed to fill the gaps for student success

Students are realizing success at school, at work and in the broader community!



As an Associate Home Provider, you directly make a difference in a person's life. Associate Home providers are caring, compassionate people who open their hearts and homes to an adult with intellectual disabilities.

SHARE YOUR HOME

Associate Home Providers can be part-time or full-time. Training and Support is provided.



CONTACT US



613-476-6038 x116 or

visit our website www.clpe.on.ca

Are you looking for someone to share your home with?

Do you have a spare bedroom - granny suite - apartment?



We are looking for people and families to share their home either part-time or full-time. Remuneration provided.



Contact: 613-476-6038 x116
www.clpe.on.ca

Facilitating the full participation, inclusion and citizenship of people with an intellectual disability in the life of the community.

In Memory of my Dad

By: Parker Samson

My dad has always been an important part of my life, as well as my brothers. My dad was always there for us, making sure we were shown love, support and that we had what we needed.

Unfortunately, my dad fell ill and passed away last year. With his passing I wanted to find a way to memorialize him that would honor how important he was and still is to me. After much consideration I have decided on a tattoo with wolf artwork, as any picture with wolves was always a favorite of my dad's.

When the tattoo is finished, I will have something to look at that makes me remember all the good memories we had together, and let the world know about one of the most important people in my life – MY DAD!



Les Samson has been sadly missed by all at Community Living Prince Edward. Les was a champion for the rights of people with an intellectual disability, and a strong advocate through years of participation in the self-advocates group. As Parker so eloquently said, his Dad always wanted to make sure his sons had what they needed, and he continued this quest even in his passing through his generous donation of 4 London Ave. to CLPE. Through this donation, Les has ensured that his sons will have the home that they envisioned.

We thank Les for his passion, and contributions. He is missed!

– Susan Treverton

In Recognition

It is through the hard work, dedication and creativity of team members from across the organization that the mission of agency is realized. Community Living Prince Edward celebrated the longstanding commitment and service of the following team members this past year:

5 Years of Service

Shannon Colson
Brittany Ibbotson
Allen VonBargen
Dannielle Scott
Kara Feeley

10 Years of Service

Lorie Kehoe
Kristin McCall
Kim Holmes
Colleen Gignac
Stacey Kinnear
Gregory Pearsoll

15 Years of Service

Darlene Ryan
Nicola Wager
Dawn Crawford
Jason Sweet

20 Years of Service

Joanne Magee
Stacey Callahan
Charlotte Bongard
Brenda McIntosh
Angie Everall
Dale Brown
Bev Dick
Laura Parent

25 Years of Service

Kinda Hancock

Retirees

Mary Campbell
Sharon Marks
Cheryl Thompson

Thank you for continuing to go above and beyond, and for championing the values of Community Living Prince Edward



Youthab CLPE Home Transition Partnership

What do I need? Who do I call? What's going on in my community? How do I clean? Moving into your own place is a big step and can feel like a bit of a rollercoaster.

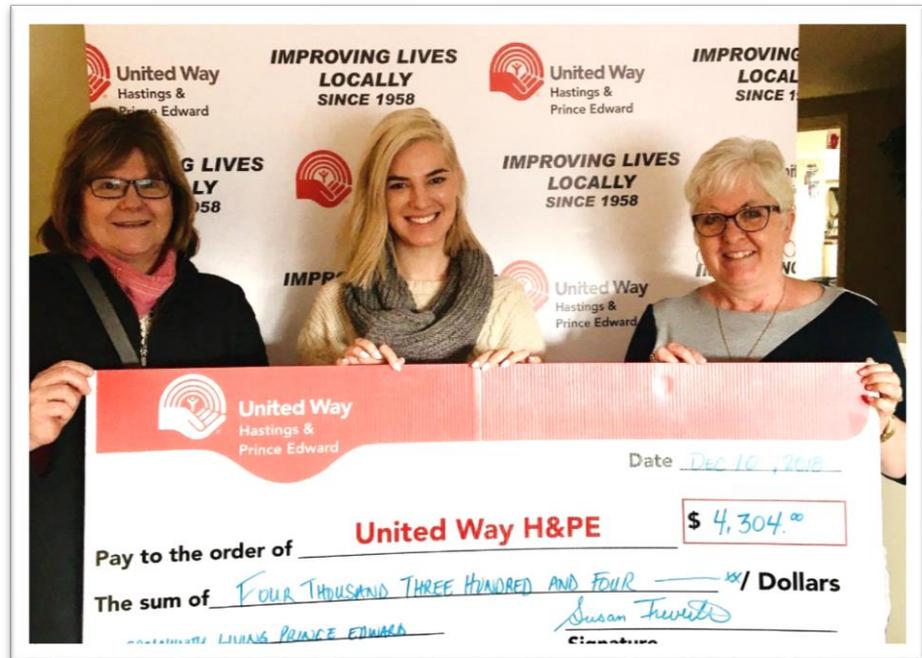
How do we help people ride this roller coaster and learn the skills they need to become contributing citizens of their community?

Youthab and Community Living Prince Edward have partnered together to offer Gear Up, with the understanding that all people, regardless of ability, want to have the same option of having a home of their own.

Gear Up is a person-focused initiative for people who want to live independently, with an emphasis on staying connected to their family, while being contributing citizens of their community. Gear Up uses hands-on experiences, education sessions, and guest speakers from our community to help each person figure out their path to living in their own home. The initiative accomplishes this through a focus on;

- "Try it" days and overnights to gain real lived experience
- Focus on enhancing and developing life management skills i.e. budgeting, cooking, cleaning, etc.
- Learning about the community and how we can become engaged and connected
- Developing and maintain friendships and family involvement – making a house a home
- Being a good neighbor and part of a neighborhood
- Spending time in preferred and productive opportunities i.e. employment, social roles, volunteerism, recreation, etc.

This opportunity is available for youth and adults alike. For more information about this opportunity and how you can get involved, contact 613-476-6038 and ask to speak to someone in Youth in Transitions Services.



United Way Hastings & Prince Edward Donation

Earlier this past year, Community Living Prince Edward presented United Way Hastings & Prince Edward a cheque in the amount of \$4,304.00 in support of their mission of bringing about measurable, positive and permanent change throughout Hastings and Prince Edward Counties, by building healthier and more inclusive communities.

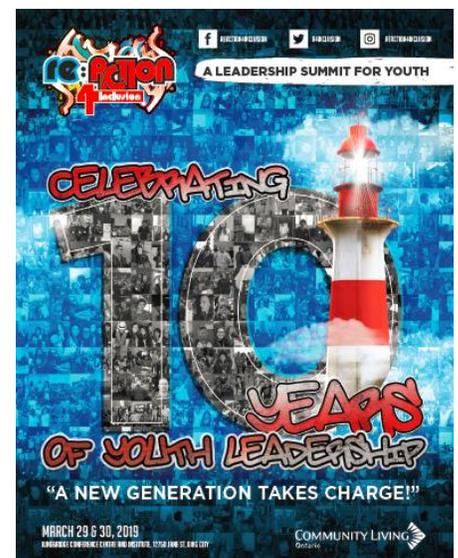
This donation was made possible by the generous contributions of Community Living Prince Edward employees through our payroll deduction campaign as well as from a portion of the revenues from CLPE's 4th Annual Time for Nine Golf Tournament.

Re:Action4Inclusion's 10th-anniversary Leadership Summit

Are you a young adult in a leadership role? Want to learn how to enhance your leadership skills and increase opportunities to make a real impact? Are you looking for a way to use your lived experience to inform thoughtful conversations about inclusion and diversity? Do you want to meet a provincial network of young people who are investing in the future of their communities?

Registration for Re:Action4Inclusion's 10th-anniversary Leadership Summit is now OPEN! Youth and their allies can go online and save their spots for this year's event by visiting reaction4inclusion.com.

This year's event will take place from March 29-30 at Kingbridge Conference Centre & Institute in King City, Toronto. If you are interested in participating contact Lisa Rashotte at 613-476-6038.



In Memory

Community Living Prince Edward sadly said goodbye to several integral members of our community this past year. Our thoughts continue to be with the families, friends and team members of the following people
As they celebrate their lives and lasting legacy:

Les Samson
Cheryl Ferguson
Eric Kinsella
George Cooper



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Our Supports and Services:

Children and Family Services
Youth in Transition
Adult Services
Respite Services
Community Participation

Accommodation Supports
Independent Living Supports
Volunteering
Facilitating Inclusion
Advocacy

Workshops & Training
Person Directed Planning
Associate Home
Family Engagement Network
Employment Supports

Community Living Prince Edward is a volunteer member organization governed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Board Members include:

President: Linda Conley
Vice President: Betty Lavender
Treasurer: Mike Flynn

Directors:

Bill Kidnew
Heather Eaglesham
Anne Hillman
Caryn McGivern
Gavin Bonham-Carter
Don King
Patrick Menard

Our Vision:

That all persons live in a state of dignity, share in all elements of living in the community and have the opportunity to participate effectively

Our Mission:

We exist to facilitate the full participation, inclusion and citizenship of people with an intellectual disability in the life of the community

For a copy of CLPE's Strategic Plan, please contact the main office.