

ROTARY UPDATE

THE OTTAWA ROTARY HOME

NEW HOME PROGRESS

Thank you to all the families for your patience and encouragement in regards to this project. A significant amount of work has been focused on the new home project over the last year. As a result, a Business Plan, a Functional Plan and a full project costing has been submitted to MCSS. A Building Committee and a Fundraising Committee have been created and we are on the verge of kicking off a full capital campaign. It is with great pride that the sign on the new home property will be up in the next few weeks. Stay tuned for more information!



MAY 2006

In this issue:

Turning 21 Soon?	2
Staff Training	2
Volunteers	3
Mission & Values	3

INTERESTING STATS

- * ORH occupancy last fiscal year: 98%
- * Regular Respite Program: 111 individuals
- * Multiple Special Needs Program: 51 individuals
- * Adult Respite Program: 5 individuals

FUNDRAISING

The Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation is busy at this time of year with various fundraisers for the New Home project.

To keep you informed, we are including a copy of the Foundation newsletter for your perusal!

Next two events:

May 27th: Fly Day

June 5th: Golf Marathon

NEW TOYS

ORH benefited from \$15,000.00 of funding from the Ronald MacDonald House Charities last year and were able to purchase a wide variety of equipment for the children and the Home. Purchases ranged from adaptive toys and equipment to computers and stereo systems. We are also working on sprucing up the bedrooms with colourful comforters and accessories.

STAFF TRAINING

We have taken a more progressive approach to staff training and professional development. Staff have participated in various courses ranging from Behaviour Management, Social Inclusion, management strategies and medication administration training. We feel that there is always potential to learn more and provide services and supports that are enhanced and respond to the needs of the individuals and our community.

MEDICATIONS

Just a friendly reminder that all medications for your child must be in their original containers with a pharmaceutical label. Our staff are not permitted to dispense medications that have been "pre-poured". This is to ensure we are following the guidelines set out by the province, and to ensure the safe administration of medication for your child/young adult.

Medication Timing

There are times we have 11 children in the Home with medications ordered all at the same time of day. This is why your child's medication may be given up to 1 hour before or 1 hour after the set time. This one hour "leeway" time is a standard that has been set by governing bodies such as the College of Nurses. If you have any concerns on how this impacts your child's medication regime, please do not hesitate to contact Lauri, our nurse manager.

TURNING 21 SOON?

If your son/daughter will be finishing school in the next few years, we would encourage you to check out the MCSS web-site and search for the "Opportunities and Action" paper. MCSS is requesting feedback on this document by June 30th. I would also suggest that you find out more about the *Passport Initiative* which will be an opportunity for individuals and families to access direct funding to purchase day time services once an individual has left the educational system. The 3 key components of this initiative involve: mentoring, planning and direct funding. Applications should be available shortly. Don't hesitate to contact Gina if you have any questions.

The site for the New Ottawa Rotary Home offers 5 acres of land located just South of Leitrim Road, off Bank Street. The design accommodates a children's section as well as a section for young adults.

STAFF NEWS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to a number of new staff over the course of the year:

Jill Ulrichsen - RN, Wendy Flynn - Admin Assistant,
Counsellors: Sarah Picard, Sarah Rushton, Anise Samimi, Alesha Thompson, Kiley Welch, Christine Cote, Courtney Tobin, Jared Lisk, and Amy Givogue.

Paul O. is also back as a full-time counselor in the Home.

There has been a another small addition to the Rotary family. Patricia, one of our nurses, gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, Riley, on April 14.

We would also like to send our heartfelt best wishes to Ines N. who will be getting married in June!

Lauri Cox is now in the permanent position of Nurse Manager for ORH. Given the time that Gina has been spending on the New Home Project, Lauri has stepped up to the plate to ensure ongoing high quality of supports for the children and families.

STUDENTS

We continue to support the DSW program at Algonquin College by having both first and second year students gain hands on experience by participating in the daily activities of the Home.

We are also participating in the University of Ottawa Nursing program. For the past 2 years, 3rd year students have completed their community placement with the Home. This year the students identified a need for educational material on the dietary needs of children with physical disabilities. They have created a resource binder that can be used by staff and families. Please feel free to drop by at any time and take a look.

VOLUNTEERS

Juliana Ha, one of our registered nurses, is also our volunteer coordinator. Juliana has been actively recruiting volunteers to assist in the Home. Volunteers can choose to work after school or on the weekend or can simply come in to help with some home baking. For more information you can contact Juliana by e-mail at volunteer@rotaryhome.on.ca.



VISION, MISSION & VALUES

~ Our Vision ~

The Ottawa Rotary Home envisions a community that embraces the value of respite services for families as part of a complete support network that promotes optimum health and well being.

~ Our Mission ~

The Ottawa Rotary Home exists to improve the quality of life of caregivers and individuals with disabilities through a family centered approach that is responsive to individual needs and offered in a dynamic and flexible way.

~ Governing Values ~

Our values are all of equal importance and represent a belief system that strives for the respect in each of the following areas;

Family – That the family unit is supported in knowing they are never alone in meeting the extra demands of caring for a child or adult with a disability.

Empowerment – We encourage and foster the belief that each child has the potential to grow and develop into his/her own unique person.

Community Awareness – That we strive to increase community awareness and understanding of the value of respite services to each individual that we encounter.

Individuality – That the unique needs of the family and individual be the focus of planning and delivery of all supports and services.

Quality – of life, of service, in living, with respect and dignity.

Access-ability – We ensure that our environments are accessible to all individuals, given their abilities.

Trust - We believe that our services should be built on the strengths of families, and provided in manner that is also sensitive to their needs and experiences.

Passion & Compassion - Commitment to our work comes from within (energy, joy, playfulness) and flows out to benefit others.

For more information about the Home and how you can help please contact us:

Telephone: (613) 236-3200
Fax: (613) 236-0334
1-877-236-3250

The Ottawa Rotary Home
30 Rochester Street.
Ottawa, ON K1R 7V3

Our website has had a makeover!
www.rotaryhome.on.ca
E-mail: info@rotaryhome.on.ca