

**2016/2017 Annual Report  
of the  
Community Resources Committee**

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Chairperson: Evelyn Fowler  
Members: Mia Berg, Sharon Creighton, Frank Moore, Bill Pfannenstiel and Joan Winter  
Resource: Rosemary Foran, Program Coordinators Clinton Office and Judy Sinclair

The Community Resources Committee met regularly over the past year to provide direction to and receive updates from Program Coordinators of the Community Support for Families Program; Community Participation Supports; Huron Respite Network; South West Regional Respite; and Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA).

The Committee invited each Program Coordinator to be a Guest Speaker at a Committee meeting. At this time, Committee Members would like to thank the Coordinators for their informative presentations and passion shown in their role when delivering and promoting their Programs throughout Huron County and South West Region. The Board also coordinated two visits to the Clinton Office over the past 15 months to hear first hand of supports and services provided by staff, show appreciation to staff and applaud their efforts for continued partnerships and collaborations.

The Community Support for Families Program provides County-wide services, including Special Services at Home; Assistance to Children with Severe Disabilities and Family Support Work to approximately 205 children this year. As required, staff assisted families to apply for services; find workers; obtain additional supports; work on goals and connect to local resources.

Community Participation Supports is an individualized, strength-based approach to providing assistance with person-directed planning for inclusive community participation. There are two programs under this umbrella: Foundations Huron and Passport Administration Services. The Coordinator assisted 87 individuals to identify their personal goals and develop a plan. Participants then choose a mentor who supports them to work towards their goals, build skills and connect to natural supports in their community. VOICES self-advocacy workshops are also offered.

The Huron Respite Network administers respite services for children and adults, by meeting with families throughout the year to assist with developing individualized respite plans. With the support of over 60 active respite providers including host families, over 100 individuals received service. Huron Respite hosted 2 weekend retreats, 6 day retreats for children and youth, and the Program ran successful Caregiver Mornings in partnership with Rural Response for Healthy Children. With feedback from the caregivers, there are some exciting events planned for the upcoming year.

The South West Region Respite Network continues to meet regularly with 9 Local Respite Networks regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder and best practices in respite as per the "Ideal Model." Meetings occur on a monthly or quarterly basis with Local Respite Networks and their community partners. Community of Practice Meetings are convened three times per year. Planning of the South West Respite Symposium held on May 5, 2017 in London, was met with much success being 'sold out' well before the Registration deadline.

CL-CH is in its 6<sup>th</sup> year of a partnership with the Thames Valley Children's Centre with the Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) Program, providing service and support to children and youth in Huron and Perth Counties with a diagnosis of Autism. The annual service target is 50 instances of services.

At this time, I wish to extend my appreciation to Committee Members and Resource Staff for their ongoing commitment and contributions to the Community Resources Committee.

Submitted by: Evelyn Fowler, Chairperson

