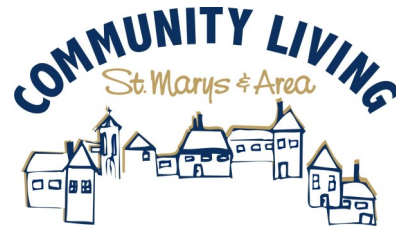


# Newslink

## September 2017

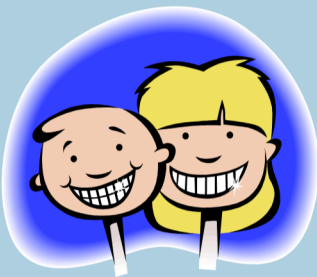
Community Living St. Marys and Area  
"A community where everyone belongs."



**Compass Training**  
for all new employees

Wed, Nov 1st, 9-4pm  
Planning & Medication  
Training

Thurs, Nov 9th, 9-4pm  
Support Services  
Training



**14TH ANNUAL  
CREATE A SMILE  
WALKATHON  
SUNDAY OCT 15  
HOPE TO SEE YOU  
THERE!**

Focus Accreditation  
on-site Visit Nov 13-16



"The power of a dream  
is that it frees up your  
imagination to think  
about the best possible  
scenario for your life" -  
Silken Laumann



**ANNUAL  
CHRISTMAS  
PARTY  
FRIDAY, DEC 8**

### Summer Student Support

Another summer is already behind us! Community Living St. Marys and Area employed six students for nine weeks this summer. Student workers supported people to participate in a variety of community activities, employment and volunteering. Thanks to Darion, Krysta, Jocelynn, Genna, Scott and Emily for a great summer! We wish them all the best returning to University and College this fall.



### From Central Admin

**Matching RRSP Benefit:** Every year employees need to notify Central Admin by *December 15<sup>th</sup>* if you:

- Wish to remove yourself from the matching RRSP benefit
- Did not meet the earning requirement at the time of eligibility but are interested in participating, check with Central Admin to see if your 2016 earnings meet the gross earning requirement
- Opted to not participate at the time of eligibility and now would like to, check with Central Admin to see if you continue to meet the gross earning requirement
- If you wish to change your matching percentage

Contact Candace at [cohearn@clstmarys.ca](mailto:cohearn@clstmarys.ca) or call 519-284-1400 ext 221

**Please note:** The gross earning requirement is checked at this time for all participants. If you no longer meet this requirement, you will be notified by letter. All changes will become effective on the pay period ending January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Canada Savings Bonds:** A reminder that Canada Savings Bonds will no longer be offered. The Government of Canada announced it will discontinue the sale of Canada Savings Bonds (CSBs) purchased through the Payroll Savings Program as of November 2017.



### Voices Perth

New this school year! Voices Perth is offering half-day, PA Day learning workshops in various communities.

First workshop is Friday, September 29, 2017 8:30-11am. Family Services Perth-Huron, 142 Waterloo St. S, Stratford.

CHECK OUT THE  
INSPIRING SHORT INTER-  
VIEWS WITH LEADERS IN  
THE DISABILITY  
MOVEMENT AT  
**CONVERSATIONS  
THAT MATTER**  
(GO TO STAFF LOGIN ON WEBSITE)



Re:Action4Inclusion annual conference is fast approaching on October 20-22<sup>nd</sup> in Orillia, Ontario.

Re:Action4Inclusion is a provincial social justice movement of young leaders. This is a life changing opportunity to connect with other youth from across Ontario. If you know someone in high school who may be interested in attending contact

Stephanie Lee [slee@clstmarys.ca](mailto:slee@clstmarys.ca) 519-284-1400 ext 226

### New Mentorship Program

We've been busy developing a new Mentorship Program. The program will pair up seasoned Support Workers with new hires to help guide them through the process of employment at our agency by meeting regularly over the first few months, providing a safe space to discuss challenges, giving professional support, coaching and feedback, making work-related introductions, and being open to learning from each other. The pilot launch will occur this fall. We will then be recruiting experienced Support Workers in 2018 to carry out the Mentorship Program after our test run. If you have an interest in participating, please contact Laura at [lcannon@clstmarys.ca](mailto:lcannon@clstmarys.ca)



We are looking for staff to be featured in our "Employees of CLSMA" on our Facebook page. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Laura Cannon at ext 242



Visit our website: [www.communitylivingstmarys.ca](http://www.communitylivingstmarys.ca)

# THE GIFT CORNER

## Core Gift Corner

Some exciting news from Bruce Anderson! He has launched the Core Gift Institute with its own website [www.coregift.org](http://www.coregift.org). Not only will you be able to find all sorts of resources on core gift work on this site, it will also have information on the walking treks that Bruce and his partner Andrew have been organizing for a few years. If you are ready to go on a pilgrimage in some of the most beautiful settings in the world then you need to take a look at this. Bruce has developed a Core Gift Master Facilitator course and is now offering this two-day training on Vashon Island in Washington. Marilyn Haywood and Jennifer Leslie felt lucky to be invited by Bruce to attend the first course in May 2017. What an amazing group, handpicked because of the work they do with core gifts. One woman uses core gift interviews in the school wellness program she runs and another man works with gangs in a big American city and does core gift interviews with the kids.



## Family to Family



*If you have a family member with a disability and you're interested in spending time with other families, this is an opportunity for you to share your stories and learn from other family members!*

**Saturday, September 30, 2017**  
**10 am – 11:30 am**  
**300 Elgin St. East in St. Marys**  
**(James Purdue Centre)**

Drop in for a coffee and share your story with people who understand;  
 \*Your hopes and fears about the future  
 \*Get and give new ideas  
 \*Find out how families can help each other

Sponsored by the Family Engagement Project through Community Living Ontario

For more information contact project lead – Celina Thomas-Hicks at [cthomasicks@clstmarys.ca](mailto:cthomasicks@clstmarys.ca)



## Accreditation Team are on their Way!

Since we first connected with FOCUS in February 2014 to help us become an accredited organization, there have been many changes and improvements. Some are not very visible such as updating policy and procedures, strengthening practices for tracking goals and progress and increasing consistency but in the big picture, these things improve the quality of service. The aim of accreditation is continual learning and development that directly benefits the people we support! Finally we have reached a point in our preparations where we can schedule our first on-site visit and it will happen November 13 -16. A team of trained validators who work for agencies like ours will spend 4 days with us, visiting people, doing interviews and reviewing our practices. They will be gathering all sorts of information about how we operate in relation to the five standards. The titles of the standards are effective governance and leadership, person-directed services, a learning culture, service specific standards and health, safety and wellness. They want to hear from as many different people connected with the Association as possible and there are many ways to get involved. FOCUS staff will be contacting some selected families, employees, board members and community partners to do surveys either by phone or e-mail prior to the on-site visit in November. Then while they are here, they will be doing extensive one-on-one visits and interviews with people supported and representation from all other groups. Jennifer Leslie will be setting up a schedule in the near future. On November 13<sup>th</sup> there will be an orientation meeting set up to meet the FOCUS team and learn more about the accreditation process. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting! The validation team does not make a determination on whether we become accredited or not. They gather as much information as possible on each standard, make some recommendations on areas to improve and a separate committee makes a final determination several weeks after the visit. Thank you in advance to everyone who shares their feedback and ideas through this process! If you have any questions or want to know more please contact Jennifer Leslie at (519)284-1400 ext. 228 or e-mail [jleslie@clstmarys.ca](mailto:jleslie@clstmarys.ca)

## How to reach our office: 519-284-1400 ext.

Marg McLean .....	225
Jennifer Leslie .....	228
Kim Monden .....	222
Vickie Logan .....	241
Candace O'Hearn.....	221
Laura Cannon.....	245
Becky Huffman .....	224
Linda Pickering .....	243
Jenn Costello .....	232
Tracy Brant.....	234
Inima Luque Tamayo	242
Don Dingwall .....	223
Stephanie Lee .....	226
Nicole Everitt.....	231
Malibe Campanero...	227
Maintenance .....	244
Voices .....	226
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If you would prefer to receive this newsletter electronically or purchase a membership, you can sign up on our website at [www.communitylivingstmarys.ca](http://www.communitylivingstmarys.ca) or you can send your email address and request to: [centraladmin@clstmarys.ca](mailto:centraladmin@clstmarys.ca)



A \$5.00 membership entitles you to:  
 \* vote on policies and bylaw changes at our Annual General Meeting  
 \* receive newsletters, annual reports, financial statements (on request only)  
 \* receive invitations to planning retreats and workshops  
 \* serve on our Board of Directors or one of its committees

If you would prefer to mail in your request please send it to:

Community Living St. Marys and Area  
 300 Elgin St East  
 St. Marys, ON  
 N4X 1B9

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Candace O'Hearn at 519-284-1400 ext 221 or email [cohearn@clstmarys.ca](mailto:cohearn@clstmarys.ca)

Visit our website: [www.communitylivingstmarys.ca](http://www.communitylivingstmarys.ca)

## Community Living Ontario Conference



Silken Laumann gave an inspiring keynote address at the Community Living Ontario conference. She spoke passionately that every person has something to offer. She believes it is our deep purpose in life to animate our talents and abilities and offer them to the world.

*'Success in life comes to those who simply refuse to give up; individuals with vision so strong that obstacles, failure and loss only act as teachings.'*  
 - Silken Laumann



## The Joint Health & Safety Committee

Paul Williams, Jackie Haycock, Carol Ackersviller, Linda Pickering, Kim Monden, Marg McLean.

Items of interest, dealings of the Health & Safety Committee and the minutes are posted at JPC in the photocopy room. Any concerns of a health and safety nature can be forwarded to the Chair Paul Williams at [pwilliams@clstmarys.ca](mailto:pwilliams@clstmarys.ca) or (519) 284-3620

## Employee Management Relations Committee

Provides a forum for discussion for all staff through their representative for matters of mutual interest and/or concern.

### Members include:

Marg McLean, Jennifer Leslie, Kim Monden, Laura Cannon, Nicole Everitt, Ruth Lamond, Jenn McCauley, Susan Graham and Carol Ackersviller.



## Welcome new Team Leader!

We are happy to announce that Inima Luque Tamayo, has been hired for the position of Team Leader. Inima lives in London and brings with her years of experience working with vulnerable people, including people with disabilities and abused women. She is passionate about her work and is excited to take on this new role. Please help to welcome Inima to the organization and to the St. Marys community. She joined us on September 18, 2017, please feel free to drop in and introduce yourself.

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Long time board member Sheila Greason, celebrates her birthday with Shawn Dillon!