

CHILDREN'S PSYCHIATRY CLINIC

Sunbeam Developmental Resource Centre (SDRC) is pleased to announce the launch of its highly anticipated Children's Psychiatry Clinic with Dr. Peter Cordell. This Clinic provides comprehensive care for children and youth to age 18, who are living with a developmental disability and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Through early interventions, personalized treatment plans and collaboration with families and community partners, we are committed to improving the well-being of the children in our community.

We are thrilled to offer this Clinic, supporting the comprehensive care of youth and their families!

From Dr. Cordell:

I am excited to join the team at Sunbeam offering support for youth with developmental disabilities, fostering an environment where the focus of psychiatric care and medication use would not be displaced from the other needed supports for youth and families.

I am very impressed with the group of leaders at Sunbeam! Here, children and families are treated with kindness and care. Our team offers an environment that is flexible, supportive, and adaptable. I appreciate working in somewhere that prioritizes non-medication options, and provides established pathways to provide appropriate pediatric medical care. I hope to continue working at Sunbeam for years to come and look forward to getting to know everyone here!



THE LYNDHURST HOME

Sunbeam is relocating individuals from the Parkview Group Home to a more suitable setting, The Lyndhurst Home in Kitchener's Stanley Park community. The decision to move was based on the evolving support needs of the residents. Sunbeam carefully researched the ideal features for a home serving individuals requiring behavioural assistance and consulted with Parkview residents and staff to create a list of essential features.

In fall 2021, Sunbeam found a property that could be modified to meet their criteria. The Lyndhurst Home will feature an addition to provide separate living spaces for four individuals, ensuring common areas and individual bedrooms. The neighbourhood offers convenient amenities, including a walkway, proximity to the expressway, a schoolyard with basketball nets, and a nearby mall. The home is also close to Sunbeam's Kingsway Campus with a therapy pool and gym, as well as Fairview Park Mall.

The renovation work is on schedule for completion by the end of 2023, with clients looking forward to their move-in date.



"Stronger Together"

INSPIRE ACCESSABILITY SHOWCASE

On October 28th, 2023 Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region (DSO) attended the Inspire AccessAbility Showcase at M.M. Robinson High School in Burlington, Ontario. This event was hosted and organized by the Halton Transition Advisory Committee which includes a variety of members from educational, developmental, and mental health sectors including DSO's Halton Service Navigator and Intake Coordinator.

This informative event included a variety of guest speakers and provided an opportunity for many attendees to learn of various services available in the Halton region.

DSO Central West Housing Navigator, Christina Hall provided two well-attended presentations regarding the role of the Housing Navigator. DSO Supervisor, Diane Lillico provided resources and answers to members of the community who had a variety of questions including how to get connected to Developmental Services Ontario. Sunbeam is the host agency for the DSO Central West Region.



SANDI MILES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

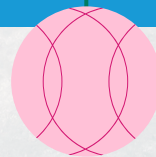
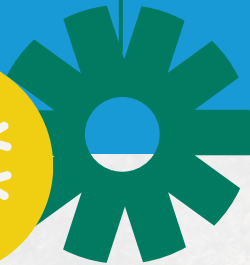
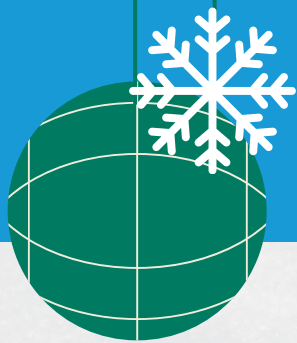
The Sandi Miles Memorial Scholarship was founded and first awarded in 2000, as a result of the generous creation of a memorial scholarship fund by her family. Sandi Miles was the Associate Director of Sunbeam for over 10 years. Sunbeam's Board of Directors eventually assumed responsibility for the scholarship program, changing the name to "The Sunbeam Board of Directors Sandi Miles Memorial Scholarship."

The primary purpose of the scholarship is to support post-secondary education in the field of Human Services. This year the scholarship program is providing two awards of \$2,500 to dependents of Sunbeam staff who meet the eligibility criteria.

At the September Sunbeam Board of Directors meeting, the 24th Annual Sandi Miles Memorial Scholarship was presented to recipients Chloe Burke and Serena Otto. The award was presented by Board President Ann Marie Yantz with the Board of Directors and special guest Sandy Roxborough (the daughter of Sandi Miles and a former Director on the Sunbeam Board).

The recipients expressed their deep gratitude for the support of Sunbeam and the Board of Directors.





'JOYFUL' JAY

Jay is a cheerful and jovial young man who moved to his Sunbeam home only last year, having a kind disposition and a happy outlook on life.

Jay loves music in all its forms, not missing the chance to sing, dance or play his bongos. Music is his passion, and going to concerts and country music festivals are among his favourite activities. Jay has many supportive people in his life, remaining close with his family, including his mom Wanda, sister Jana, stepmom Deb and siblings Shawn, Cory and Nina.

Jay is attentive and caring, sharing a nurturing energy, and bringing a "joyful vibe" to his new home. His support staff have been so pleased to see how quickly Jay developed good friendships with housemates.

It is a pleasure to support Jay at his new home in the Sunbeam Community.



HIGHLIGHTING OUR BOARD



Connie Smith
Sunbeam Director

Connie is a proud wife, mother, daughter, Registered Social Worker, and Registered Early Childhood Educator. As a full-time Professor in the Faculty of Community Studies at Fanshawe College in London, her goal is to instill acceptance and compassion in students from a holistic and anti-oppressive lens. Connie's passion for inclusion evolved while raising a daughter with complex Autism into her adult years.

When Connie moved to Waterloo in 2008, she requested the services of the Sunbeam Developmental Resource Centre (then known as DSRC) to assist with locating support for her daughter. The care and compassion Connie received from the staff at SDRC encouraged Connie to return to university where she earned a Master of Social Work, allowing Connie to support other families who have children with special needs.

Becoming a Board Member of Sunbeam Community and Developmental Services is one way that Connie is 'giving back'. Having experienced some of the same challenges faced by the people and family members whom the organization supports allows Connie to face decision-making and advocacy at the Board level with compassion and understanding.

Outside of work, Connie enjoys spending time with her family, caring for her and her wife's pets (3 dogs and 2 cats), following the Toronto Blue Jays, Seattle Kraken, and playing Virtual Reality.



Support our Children's Respite Program

The one common thread in Sunbeam's service to the community is embracing our Vision of "Inclusive communities where people of all abilities are valued." We value and uplift the people we serve while supporting and nurturing their families and other caregivers.

Sunbeam's overnight respite program for children provides much-needed caregiver relief to families while providing a safe and secure home-like environment with supports tailored to meet the complex needs of each child.

This year, your generous support of our holiday season appeal can make a difference in the lives of children and their families and caregivers.



To learn more about Sunbeam's Holiday Appeal in support of Children's Overnight Respite, please visit: www.sunbeamcommunity.ca/donate



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We welcome your ideas and suggestions about our newsletter. Please send feedback to fundraising@sunbeamcommunity.ca

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