

Mary Centre

20 years

CELEBRATING DEVELOPMENTAL CHALLENGES

NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR A FAMILY!



Tryphonias Thomas is a single mom with 4 children, who came to Canada from the West Indies 1 ½ yrs ago. She arrived with her two youngest children, Alison 10, and Brandon, 3 yrs old. They lived with her sister, also a single mom with twins 8 yrs old. Through the Ontario Works program Tryphonias started attending school to upgrade her education in order to be able to qualify for equitable work. To do this she had to get her 3 yr old son into daycare while her daughter attended school.

Last Summer her 2 older children joined them. Life is difficult for them and they are struggling to make ends meet. Tryphonias is required by the Ontario Works program to volunteer for 'Canadian Experience', so she volunteered as a 'Friendly Visitor' with Isla for a few months, but not having someone to watch her kids, and attending day classes, she was unable to continue; instead she volunteers at a Food Bank and takes the kids with her.

Mary Centre came to their rescue again this Christmas. You can only imagine the delight and excitement in their eyes, when they saw the stockings filled with goodies for each one of them (mothers included), a box of chocolates, another box full of goodies, a frozen turkey, plus a card from Mary Centre with 2 grocery gift cards of \$50- each, and \$400-cash. I received a huge hug and a thank you card expressing their heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the staff and management of Mary Centre with all of their names on the card. Mary Centre made Christmas special for this family once again.

By Carol Chung



"Celebrating Developmental Challenges"

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EVENT!

This was the first time I attended this event, and I was amazed at the warmth and diversity of the evening. I believe it surpassed all our expectations and was a very successful fundraising event.

As you walk in, the people at the door were genuinely delighted to see you, and they directed you to go see Dominic. Dominic Conforti, our Executive Director personally greeted every attendee.

You notice people were gathering towards the back of the room, and realize that the silent auction items were on display, and everyone was trying to get in on the action. There were some wonderful pictures, lamps, CDs, tickets to various special events and even free lessons for martial arts. Most the items were donated, and by the end of the evening everything was sold. Thank you everyone for your generosity and thoughtfulness.

The MC for the evening Gloria Martin 680 News/CHFI entertainment reporter, welcomed everyone and after we sat down, Mary Centre's president of the board, Larry McInnis spoke of how proud he was that he was involved with such a wonderful organization as Mary Centre, and thanked Diane Dupuy who is the president and founder of Famous People Players Theatre, for hosting the event. The meal was piping hot and very tasty, and the way it was served was brilliant. From the kitchen there would be a line of servers who would pass the food down the line until it reached your table. It was a delicious meal.

We were escorted into the theatre for the show called "The little girl who did... What?" As you watch the entertainment, you begin to see some familiar faces. You realize they were the same people who served you dinner. These folks are very talented. The show is about a newborn baby from the Narrow village who is a bit different, in that she releases butterflies at the most awkward moments. The parents of the child realize that they have a very unique child. A very appropriate play, considering that Mary Centre's mission is to celebrate developmental challenges. The play was written by Diane Dupuy for this special evening. Thank you, Diane.

The attendance was to near capacity and more money was raised than in previous year. What makes the event even more unique and spectacular is "What you don't see is inspirational, as the performers are people who are developmentally challenged".

Mary Centre is grateful to everyone who attended and assisted us in the fabulous fundraising event, especially our sponsors, CIBC, Clover Administration, Cassells Brock, Brown & Burnes, T.. Harris Environmental .Management, BMO, Surrey Place Centre, Catholic Charities, SF Partnership LLP, and Ferro Canada to name a few.

By Shabbir Maju



"Celebrating Developmental Challenges"

. The Mary Centre charity golf tournament will tee off this year on (date) at Glen Abbey. Book your foursome now! See if you can match Tiger's famous 8-iron over the lake at 18. Swing where so many great champions have excelled. Don't miss this opportunity. Call Marion Patterson at (416) 630-5533 right now, or e-mail at mpatterson@marycentre.com. *(photos shown are from past events)*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

November 4, 2011

Annual Fundraiser
Famous People Players Dinner Theatre

May 10, 2011

Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser
Glen Abbey Golf & Country Club, Oakville

PORTRAIT OF BILL

Bill Magladery has resided at two Mary Centre locations for quite some time.. Originally he was in our Independent Living Program at Dora Spencer where he lived in his own apartment and received support from Mary Centre staff. Presently he resides at Mary Centre's Whitecap Residence where he receives 24 hour support.

Bill is still a very independent man who goes to work everyday at Salvation Army Booth Industries and he has been working there for 25 years.

He is very shy and extremely polite with a natural curiosity about things that interest him.

Bill attends St. Boniface Church with his volunteers every Sunday and goes out for walks and lunch on Saturdays with them. He has a sister who lives in Toronto and niece and brother-in-law up North. He calls them regularly and visits them on Thanksgiving, Christmas and on his Birthday. Bill enjoys going to the Friday Night Dance club and enjoys singing and he won a competition for singing at the club.

He is a member of North York Veterans Club where he plays pool with his brother-in-law. The staff and residents of Mary Centre are very proud to share their residence with him.



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