

ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JUNE 25, 2015

We would like to open this Report by expressing our well wishes and appreciation to the many individuals and families that continue to enable us, Mary Centre, to have the privilege of being a part of your lives. In addition, we would like to acknowledge all the dedicated employees and volunteers that provide the stable foundation within Mary Centre.

Mary Centre is fortunate to have the financial support from the province of Ontario through both the Toronto and Central West offices of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, the Ontario Ministry of Housing, Catholic Charities/ShareLife and our many committed donors. We thank you for your past support and look forward to our continued partnerships.

We acknowledge our appreciation for the System Capacity Allocation from the Ministry of Community and Social Services, which was warmly received.

As we are all aware the ministry of Community and Social Services has set an agenda for Transforming Developmental Services, but that focus on transformation is not unique. The year of 2014/15 for Mary Centre can also be considered a year of transformation.

Our new roles with Mary Centre have enabled each of us to identify and focus on items of transformation. For example, our Annual General Meeting is providing everyone connected with Mary Centre the opportunity to join us, we are reviewing many areas of our day to day operations to look for ways in each we can continue to improve, we continue to reach out into the community seeking partners and opportunities that will enhance the experiences of people.

During this past year we experienced the passing of a respected member of the Mary Centre community Keith Murray and we celebrated Margaret Foster's 80th birthday.

We also celebrated the retirement of two respected employees, Carol Chung and Shawn Michael Kernaghan and wished them as well as other departing employees well. Our Board of Directors experienced the departure of Stefanie Navascues, but the addition of other outstanding people. In addition, we welcomed some terrific new employees and volunteers.

The number of community partners Mary Centre is involved with continues to transform based upon the needs of both the community and the people we support. We will continue to look for opportunities that support our values, mission and enhance our services.

To assist us in our transformation journey we have, this year, identified Barnes Management Group to assist us in developing our next Strategic Plan. This will be a journey that will be extremely important for Mary Centre and everyone involved with us.

It is very easy to recognize from the above points the many transformation events Mary Centre has undergone this past year and the potential for more next year.

However, we would be amiss to not recognize a few 2014/15 points of interest.

Respite Programs:

One to One Respite Family Relief Providers Program –

This program continues to grow with the new passport funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. Individuals' and families are working with Mary Center's Direct Care staff to develop individuals plan to enhance their respite experience.

Mary Centre continues to match new Individuals to a skilled Direct Support Worker who provides one to one respite support, guidance and supervision to individuals living at home or in the community with a caregiver. (Toronto and Peel Region).

St. Bernard's out of home residential respite program –

Mary Centre's Out of home respite care program continues to be very busy. As part of Mary Centre's commitment to the community partnerships the respite care program supported two individuals through the "Urgent Response Process." With the support of the Mary Centre's Direct Care staff these two individuals are developing skills that will assist them in their search for permeant housing.

The remaining four remaining beds at St. Bernard's have been utilized by individuals and their families who continue to develop respite plans for the year to come.

The "Day Away Alzheimer's/Dementia" Day Program

This program is in partnership with North York Senior Centre and the Ministry of Health's Central Local Health Intergration Network, our Day Away Day Program focuses on providing an environment that is stimulating and caters to the personal growth of the individuals while having fun.

Last year the Alzheimer's, dementia day program reached out to the Sisters of the Precious Blood next door to create joint opportunities for both seniors with and without a developmetal disability to create freindships, mentoing and learn from each others unique talants.

The C.S.I. Transition Day Program

The C.S.I. Transition Day Program continues to grow in popularity with Individual's who are leaving the school system and want to make friends, learn new skills and/or enhance/maintain existing skills. Everyone looks forward to the Friday cooking class, where they prepare a recipes, go shopping for all ingredients, prepare the meal and then enjoy!

Toronto

There is a new gentleman named Ted who is presently transitioning and residing at our Redcastle house. His family lives very close to the program, which has been very comforting for everyone.

Michael went to a men's retreat in Winnipeg and had a great time. We are fortunate that many people are finding our Redcastle site as the wonderful host and hostesses for regular social gatherings for people we support and others in Scarborough. Our Whitecap staff have started an exercise program in the evenings and games night for the individuals who live there and everyone is enjoying the activities immensely. At our Leyton house all the supported individuals continue to enjoy their programs in the community. It has also been a year with a lot of health

issues being faced by the individuals and with the staff support all of them did stabilize very quickly. A job well done by all residential employees.

For our Community Programs, where all Programs and activities are based on the individual's interests and skills we have been very successful at inclusion. We have one individual who enjoys walking and has joined a seniors walking group and discovering the many parks in Toronto's east end. Other individuals prefer quieter activities and participate in table top activities such as board games, memory games and learning the wonders of an Ipad. On Wednesday afternoons there is a group that meets in the community and participates in activities of their choosing. We have some adventurous souls as we have been to the zoo, on a tall ship cruise and to Medieval Times. This program also helps wishes come true. One individual said she wanted to go to a baseball game and so we didn't go to just a regular Blue Jays game, No, we went to a **Grand Slam** game where our tickets included seats in the 200 level, an all you could eat, hot dogs, nachos, chips, popcorn, peanuts and pop!

Although we are heading in summer we can't forget about celebrating the past holidays. A couple of individuals started celebrating Christmas by attending the Donnie and Marie Osmond Christmas Show. By all reports it was a tremendous show!

The many wonderful individuals in the Integrated Seniors Program have had lots of great ideas and we are always setting out on new adventures together.

Everyone is looking forward to the next year with excitement and anticipation.

Peel

This has been a year of change for the Peel Programs with the addition of a Christine Marwan taking over as Coordinator for the Integrated Seniors Program, Andrea Herman Johnson taking over the position of Transition and Long Term Care Coordinator. Our newest addition of the Marianne Vico in the position of Passport Community Developer has created a dynamic team.

The day program was extremely happy with the installation of the new Smart Board and are making good use of the new technology. This along with the new iPads for the programs has moved us forward in teaching computer skills along with math, spelling etc. to several of our individuals.

SIL Programs have seen individuals enjoy vacations to the Caribbean and Disney World and a few days in Niagara Falls.

Some of the individuals we supported participated in many recreational events and a few were awarded Gold and Silver medals in the Regional and Nationals for Swimming, Bowling with Special Olympics. Congratulations !!!

Everyone celebrated another birthday and one of the individuals at Our Lady of Victory celebrated her birthday with a Shushi Party- that was unique.

The people residing at our Aberdeen and Greenbriar locations enjoyed some home improvements with the having their homes painted, the installation of new automatic start generators and a revamped Bathroom for Greenbriar.

It saddens us that this year two individual we support were diagnosed with Cancer. The families of these individuals have been amazing supports and their involvement has provided a positive

influence and brought them closer together. We will do our best in these difficult times and it is our privilege to support each person and their families.

In closing, we thank each of the individuals and their families for continuing to allow us the privilege of being involved in your lives. We appreciate and respect the efforts of all our employees and dedicated volunteers. 2014/15 was one of transformation and we are excited about the possibilities for 2015/16.

Graz Palumbo

President

Don Walker

Executive Director