



## Vision

The “Go To” expert for those impacted by a developmental disability.

## Mission

Community Living South Muskoka provides lifetime support to all those impacted by a developmental disability, utilizing skilled staff and effective partnerships involving the individual, the family and the community with the result that the individual is accepted as a valued community member.

## Values

Excellence

Trust

Respect

## Success Factors

A Highly Valued

Community Organization

A Leader in Innovation

Person Centered

Valued, Skilled Staff



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## A Message from your CEO

As another decade ends, I have been spending time reflecting upon the great accomplishments of many of the people we have had the pleasure to support and work with here at CLSM. The positive change in many of the lives of people who have disabilities has been astounding, and for many of us is the reason why we love to work here.

For example, when we were bringing in the last decade, CLSM still supported people utilizing a Papoose Board, Confinement Time Out Room, and very restrictive Behavior Support Plans. Here we are a decade later, and most staff would not even recognize a Papoose Board! We are thrilled to have had the success of helping people with complex needs successfully transition from institutions to life in the community. It is amazing to see those people who required intensive behavior supports enjoying successes including participating fully in their community, achieving personal goals such as living more independently and attending special events such as rock concerts and large sporting events and even taking trips out of the country to places such as Florida and Cuba! We have also seen a significant reduction in medication usage and violence in the workplace incidence. I am so thankful for our amazing individuals, families, and staff teams, loyal advocates and volunteers, and our wonderful community partners who have all contributed to their success.

It should be noted that all of this has been accomplished without any annualized increase to our base funding. The mark of a progressive agency is to continue moving forward with innovative and creative thinking when facing adversity. Looking forward to 2020 it will be more important than ever that we continue with our efforts to bring creative solutions to our challenges. Community engagement and fundraising will be more important than ever with the Provincial Government in the process of a MCCSS sector wide consultation by KPMG. We know they are looking for efficiencies and ways to reduce the amount of transfer payments in our sector. A special thank you to our volunteer Board of Directors for your strategic thinking and our leadership team for your hard work to implement our strategic priorities.

Wishing you all a festive holiday season and all the best for 2020

**Krista Haiduk-Collier (CEO)**

***"The positive change in many of the lives of the people who have disabilities has been astounding, and for many of us is the reason why we love to work here"***

**- Krista Haiduk-Collier (CEO)**



### Bowling proving to be a big 'Draw'!

Winter marks the start of the Indoor Bowling season with be up, draw and drive, just some of the terms that can be heard every Monday at the Bracebridge Arena, as the bowlers of CLSM descend for their weekly game. In partnership with the Muskoka Lawn Bowling club and under the excellent guidance of their volunteers, participants hone their skills, getting better and better with each end played.

Every week sees a new challenge conquered, be it the perfect placement of a blocker, or blowing the Jack off the mat, with the enjoyment of participation clear for all to see.

The friendships forged and memories made hold a special place in the hearts of all involved and embody the true spirit of togetherness.

This has been made possible thanks to the receipt of a grant from the Smart and Caring Communities Fund, and the continued support of the Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club. Thank you all for helping to create an inclusive community, where everyone is made to feel valued.

Submitted by  
Carmen Yeo





## Success Factor - Valued, Skilled Staff

Investing in our staff to build skill, confidence and tenure

### Tara the CLSM Christmas Champion!

The CLSM Christmas Dance has been a fixture of the Christmas season for many years, with Tara playing a huge part in keeping this tradition alive. For the past fifteen years Tara has committed her time and energy to making the dance a truly wonderful experience for the 100 plus people we support who attend each year. Although the venue may have changed many times over the years, Tara has remained the one constant that ties the event together.

No job is too big or too small for Tara who is always willing to do what needs to be done. From producing the flyer for the dance, to preparing food, taking the pictures with Santa Clause and ensuring that these arrive safely in the hands of the individuals, Tara does it all for us.

Tara has even been known to take on special missions like the time Santa forgot his suit and she volunteered to nip to Huntsville to meet with Mrs. Clause and pick it up!

Of Tara's selfless dedication her supervisor Debbie commented "Tara is willing to do what ever when ever. She exemplifies the values of CLSM, keeping the people we support at the forefront of everything she does. She is the driving force behind the Christmas Dance!"

With Tara holding the reins we are sure that the Christmas Dance will continue to be a symbol of the season for years to come!

Submitted by Debbie Southorn



### Georgian College Career Expo!

Wednesday November 6, 2019 saw Cassie and Heather attend the Career Expo at Georgian College in Orillia. This popular careers event provides the Agency with the perfect opportunity to meet students taking the DSW, SSW and CYW courses at Georgian. The event has always proved to be a great way of showcasing the Agency providing attendees with information on both employment and placement opportunities with CLSM. If you know of anyone who would like to join our great staff team here at CLSM, they can forward their resume to Heather Greer at [hgreer@clsm.on.ca](mailto:hgreer@clsm.on.ca).





Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

### Nell's 'Capital' Adventure!!

November 16 and 17, will live long in the memory for Nell as she fulfilled one of her long time personal goals of visiting our Nations Capital Ottawa!

The weeks of waiting were finally over, as Nell, Kelly and Karen embarked on the 5 hour drive, making sure to pack nutritious snacks for the trip. Stories of past adventures were shared, as the anticipation of what the weekend would hold grew.

There was so much to see and do, and it seemed like so little time to do it! Visits to the Canadian Museum of Nature and the Canadian Museum of History checked a few items on the to do list. A big hit for Nell was seeing the beautiful butterflies flutter by in their habitat at the Museum of Nature, which according to Karen was a "sight to behold".

Another highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the visit to Parliament Hill, getting to learn more about the history of the building, and how the Senate worked with Nell asking some very insightful questions on both.

After a long day of sightseeing what better way to recap on it all than over some scrummy food, with Nell trying a lamb burger for the very first time at Bite Burger House in the Byward Market area.

Karen commented that "it was a fun weekend taking in all the sights and sounds of Ottawa, and I was very impressed with the intelligent and insightful questions that Nell asked regarding the Senate".

The weekend was rounded off in the perfect way, when a family of Deer made an appearance at one of the rest stops along the route on the way home.

Nell noted "It was an amazing trip. My favorite parts were seeing the beautiful butterflies, seeing the evolution of man exhibit at the Canadian History Museum, and spending time with my friends Kelly and Karen".

So with one goal down and several others to achieve, planning has already commenced on Nell's next big adventure!

Submitted by Nell Buera



## Success Factor - A Leader In Innovation

### Exploring Innovative Service Programs

## Ailene Excelling at McDonalds!

Since joining the team at McDonalds in Gravenhurst in October Ailene has excelled in her role, putting a big smile on the faces of each and every person she meets.

Her enthusiasm shines through as she goes about her daily duties which include sweeping, mopping, sanitizing, organizing, emptying and reloading the dishwasher as well as taking the garbage and recycling out.

On her new role Ailene commented that "I like that my co-workers are really friendly and that the managers are really nice. My favourite part of my job is organizing". Ailene added that "My job coach Rob was looking very hard for this job, and he found me something I'm really good at!"

Ailene's Job Coach Rob commented that "I am very impressed at how efficient and effective McDonalds are with training new staff. Even though they operate in a very busy environment, they make new staff feel welcome giving them all the time they need to learn new skills".

Ailene has certainly made a big impression on her team, and is sure to play an important role at McDonalds for years to come.

Submitted by Rob Habel









## Success Factor—Person Centred

Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

### Sir Sam's a wonderful Lake Side Retreat!!

Sir Sam's Inn and Spa located on Eagle Lake in the Highlands of Halliburton has quickly become Charlene's new favorite getaway, providing the ideal setting for some rest and relaxation.

This summer saw Charlene being joined at the resort by her sister who travelled from BC for a much anticipated sisters retreat. The weekend was filled with much laughter and fun, with a little pampering thrown in for good measure. Days were spent relaxing on the shore of Eagle Lake, basking in the sun, and catching up on life's adventures.

Evenings were a time to enjoy some great food, and to make the most of the luxurious hot tub and spa facilities on offer!

Sir Sam's Inn really captured Charlene's heart and it wasn't long before she returned, with the Fall providing a stunning backdrop to once more curl up by the fire in her lakeside cabin, and relax in the hot tub and Spa.

We are sure it won't be long before Charlene puts plans in motion for another visit to her new favorite getaway location!

Submitted by Lorie Vogels





Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

### Fun on the Farm, Connecting Families!!

A beautiful Fall day provided the perfect backdrop as Ron journeyed to Chappell Farms in Barrie to spend some quality time with his sister Judy and brother in law Les. The farm was alive with the excited chattering of families enjoying the early autumn sunshine, and getting to know the various inhabitants of the farm.

A wonderful day was spent feeding the animals, and taking time to pick out the perfect pumpkin, with the highlight of the day for Ron being plotting his way through the maze, a task which takes considerable skill!

As the day drew to a close, and goodbyes were exchanged, everyone left with a determination to get together again soon!

Submitted by Lorie Vogels



### Super helpers at Salvation Army Food Drive!!

Tracey, Anna, Frank, John and Ron truly made a difference by helping to make over 280 boxes for the Salvation Army Christmas Food Drive recently. Their ability to work as a team shone through with everyone being extremely impressed with the number of boxes made. They all loved the experience of being part of something that makes such a huge impact for our community, and they are always willing to lend a helping hand when needed.

Submitted by Carmen Yeo & Kayla Veysey





## Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organisation

Ensure that the Community recognizes, respects and is inspired by CLSM

### Happiness is Yelling BINGO!

Since its inception in November of last year, our Brewery Bingo in conjunction with Sawdust City Brewery has proved to be very popular with both young and old alike. The atmosphere is electric as each number called brings someone closer to that elusive BINGO call. Our Bingo callers can always be relied on to generate a sense of fun, keeping the crowd entertained and ensuring that even for those who don't win they have such a great time they want to do it all over again.

If you haven't made it to one of our Bingo nights yet, why not join us as we go in search of another 'Full House'. It will be 'Eyes Down' on January 16, February 20 and March 19 with a chance to win almost \$500 in cash and Sawdust prizes! The cost to play is \$10 per round with three rounds scheduled for each night. Remember if your not in you can't win! All proceeds are to go toward CLSM's innovative programing.

A huge thank you to Sawdust City Brewery for their continued support!

Submitted by Taylor Watson





## Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organisation

Ensure that the Community recognizes, respects and is inspired by CLSM

### Snowshoe Canada—Ontario Cup Race #1!

Registration is now open for the upcoming Ontario Cup race with Snowshoe Canada, happening on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at Morrison Meadows! This is a new partnership for CLSM, and it is the first of four races happening throughout Muskoka/Ontario. The race includes both a 5k and 10k course, with finalists from each race being entered into the Ontario Cup grand finale at camp Tawingo on March 1, 2020!

Not interested in racing? Why not come along and enjoy various winter fun activities such as snow tubing or ice skating (bring your own skates). Entry for non participants is \$5, with a Chili lunch available for an extra \$5.

A promotional poster for the Snowshoe Canada Ontario Cup Race #1. The background is a snowy, mountainous landscape. At the bottom, two blue snowshoes are shown, each with a small Christmas tree and red star on top. The text is centered and uses a mix of black and red fonts. The title 'SNOWSHOE CANADA' is in large, bold letters, with 'CANADA' in red. Below it, 'ONTARIO CUP RACE #1' and 'SNOWSHOE BRACEBRIDGE' are in black. The date and location 'SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020 | 10AM | MORRISON MEADOWS 1177 FRASERBURG ROAD | BRACEBRIDGE' are in black. A large red banner says 'REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!' with 'Visit clsm.on.ca to Register!' below it. To the right, a list of registration inclusions is provided. At the bottom right, there is a text box about winter fun activities. Logos for Morrison Meadows, Community Living South Muskoka, and Snowshoe Canada Raquette are at the bottom.

# SNOWSHOE CANADA

## ONTARIO CUP RACE #1 SNOWSHOE BRACEBRIDGE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020 | 10AM | MORRISON MEADOWS  
1177 FRASERBURG ROAD | BRACEBRIDGE

### REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Visit [clsm.on.ca](http://clsm.on.ca) to Register!

**Registration Includes:**

- Official Fire & Ice Toque
- Race Bib
- Race Snacks
- Chili Lunch

Not interested in racing? Join us for winter fun-day activities like tubing & skating (bring your own skates)! Entry for non-participants is \$5.00, chili lunch for extra \$5.00.

**MORRISON MEADOWS**

Community Living  
South Muskoka

SNOWSHOE  
CANADA  
RAQUETTE

Morrison Meadows is owned and operated by Community Living South Muskoka | [www.clsm.on.ca](http://www.clsm.on.ca) | [www.morrisonmeadows.com](http://www.morrisonmeadows.com)







## Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organization

Ensure that the Community recognizes, respects and is inspired by  
**CLSM**

**Amy 'pays it forward' with amazing gift to CLSM!**



Spring of 2019 saw CLSM being chosen as the charity of choice by one of our local retailers 'Minds Alive' for their annual Easter Egg Hunt fundraiser. This community event not only raised \$500 to help us continue to provide the high quality services to those we support, but it also helped raise the profile of the agency within the local communities.

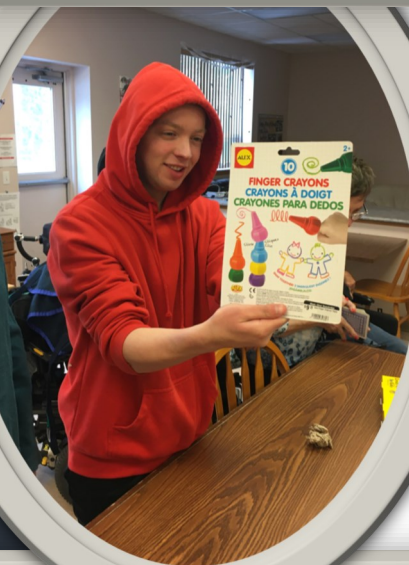
We were to receive a wonderful surprise in December, when the winner of this years Hunt Amy decided to take the opportunity to 'pay it forward' by donating some holiday gift bags for our Community Participation programs in both Bracebridge and Gravenhurst.

These amazing gifts which included crayons, paints and brushes, markers, craft kits and books put a huge smile on the

faces of everyone in the programs, and it wasn't long before they were being put to good use creating wonderful pieces for family and friends.

Thank you Amy for thinking of us and making a real difference to the lives of the people we support.

Submitted by Taylor Watson



## Success Factor - Valued, Skilled Staff

Investing in our staff to build skill, confidence and tenure

### Family Support Workers Conference 2019

October 24 and 25 saw our Family Support team travel to the Georgian Bay Hotel in Collingwood for the Family Support Workers of Ontario Annual Conference. This year the conference focused on the prevalent topic of anxiety in children, with the thirty plus attendees being treated to some excellent presentations.

The day began with Psychotherapist Tara McGee educating the attendees about procedural memory and how we can teach our bodies new pathways to cope with stress. This was followed by a very informative presentation from professional speaker and educator Suzanne Witt-Foley who focused on anxiety in children, demonstrating that our bodies have been hard wired for thousands of years to live as hunter gathers, and as such our brains do not know the difference between real danger (fear) and perceived danger (anxiety).

Meghan Kelleher from Cam's Kids spoke about the great work her organization are doing to support youths in school settings and provided the group with lots of wonderful resources, with the day being rounded off by Michael Jacques who inspired all in attendance as he spoke about the book he produced despite being unable to read or write, a copy of which was bought by everyone.

Dawn from the Family Support Team commented "I always appreciate the opportunity to attend the annual conference and have an opportunity to network with others in my field. This year I walked away feeling better equipped to help families struggling with anxiety, by helping them co-regulate and feel connected to others."

Submitted by Dawn Johnson (FSW)





## A Message from your Board Chair

It is that special time of year when everyone has a festive holiday to celebrate and to all I wish a wonderful time gathering with family and friends.

This year, we also mark the end of a decade. We leave the teen years behind and move into the twenties. While, at times, the teens have been challenging, we have continued to evolve as an agency and as we look forward there are even bigger and better things on the horizon.

We start the twenties with a leap year so we have an extra day to get things done. There is no doubt that the ways we do business will continue to change as our professional staff find new and better ways to serve the people who depend on us every day. From myself and the members of the Board, thank you for your continued dedication.

For everyone who will celebrate on the 25th, have a Merry Christmas as we look forward to a great New Year.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gord Haugh (Board Chair)



***"For everyone who will celebrate on the 25th, have a Merry Christmas, as we look forward to a great New Year"***

***- Gord Haugh  
(Board Chair)***





## Brewery Bingo

# BREWERY BINGO!

Hosted by Community Living South Muskoka  
& Sawdust City Brewing Co.

**Thursdays | Jan 16 | Feb 20 | Mar 19**  
**7:00pm**

**Sawdust City Brewery in  
Gravenhurst!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**\$10/round, 3 rounds,  
& a chance to win almost \$500 in  
cash and prizes!**



 Community Living  
South Muskoka



Proceeds raised will help support Community Living South Muskoka and those living with a Developmental Disability

**Need more  
information?  
Contact us at**

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South Muskoka**

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[www.clsm.on.ca](http://www.clsm.on.ca)

[www.morrisonmeadows.com](http://www.morrisonmeadows.com)

**Senior Leadership Team**

Krista Haiduk-Collier

Chief Executive Officer

Kelly Miles

Chief Financial Officer

Colleen Kelly-Berrichi

Director Accommodation Services

Cathy Meyer

Director Services & Supports

Send your  
newsletter story ideas to  
Declan at  
[dormsby@clsm.on.ca](mailto:dormsby@clsm.on.ca)



**Community Living  
South Muskoka**