



Summer 2023

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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.

Vision

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

Values

Excellence
Trust
Respect

Success Factors

- ◆ Highly Valued Community Organization
- ◆ A Leader in Innovation
- ◆ Person Centered
- ◆ Valued, Skilled Staff



A Message From Your CEO

Summer Newsletter 2023

Welcome to Summer in Muskoka!

We are so pleased to share with you the great things that are happening here at Community Living South Muskoka. We had an exceptionally busy and fun spring with Community Living Celebrations.

Our Pancake Breakfast was a great success with almost 200 people out over the course of the morning to celebrate inclusion and enjoy some delicious food with friends, family, and community partners.

Later in the month of May we had a fantastic event at **Sawdust Brewery** with our **CL Idol Finale, Inclusion Beer Launch and Trillium Grant Announcement**. The event had upwards of 200 people and the jam-packed room was full of energy and excitement and those who attended left wanting more!

We are so pleased that the fun has continued here at CLSM as you will see in the pictures and articles in this letter. It was long overdue for everyone here to start getting out from our COVID restrictions and fully participate in life in the community.

We are especially excited to be hosting our second annual outdoor music festival, **Music at the Meadows**, at Morrison Meadows. We have a great line-up of both country and classic rock bands and if last year was any indication, the event is sure to be a huge success. We encourage you to purchase your tickets in advance, so you won't be disappointed.

As with most businesses in Muskoka, we have had challenges with staffing. I want to take a moment to thank everyone for their help in recruiting some wonderful new team members. The new faces here at CLSM are helping us make a positive impact on the lives of so many.

Finally, I want to thank our generous donors and sponsors. The struggles of those living on ODSP continue with the cost of food seeming to climb every day. We are so grateful for your support to help us ensure people have healthy meals and can make ends meet. It seems we have someone facing homelessness every week, and without your generosity, we could not help those in need.

Wishing you a fun and healthy summer ahead!

Krista Haiduk-Collier
Chief Executive Officer
Community Living South Muskoka



We are so grateful for your support to help us ensure people have healthy meals and can make ends meet. It seems we have someone facing homelessness every week, and without your generosity, we could not help those in need.
- Krista Haiduk-Collier
CEO



Community Living South Muskoka

Serving those with a Developmental Disability

ARE YOU LOOKING TO MAKE AN IMPACT? IN SEARCH OF A REWARDING WAY TO CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS TO BETTER YOUR COMMUNITY?

A place on the CLSM Board of Directors might be just the place for you!

We support over 450 people with a Developmental Disability throughout the Muskoka area. You may have seen us at the North end of Muskoka Rd N in Gravenhurst, or across from the Home Depot in Bracebridge.

What you don't see are the homes and services we operate in Gravenhurst, Bracebridge and Honey Harbour. What you seldom see are our close to 200 staff who daily help those we support. What you might not realize is that we annually spend almost \$10,000,000 on things like salaries, daily needs, transportation and equipment, most of it right here in Muskoka.

The CLSM Board of Directors helps to build an inclusive community that embraces children, youth and adults with developmental support needs and their families.

If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity or simply more about the agency itself please contact Krista Haiduk-Collier by email at khaiduk@clsm.on.ca.
or by phone at (705) 645 5494 ex 226.



Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organization

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

May Community Living Month 2023

Community Living Month is a province wide awareness campaign to promote inclusion and celebrate the successes of those with Developmental Disabilities. In May 2023 we achieved fundraising goal after fundraising goal to raise money for the incredible people we support at Community Living South Muskoka!

A&W Bracebridge partnered with us again this year for **Pancake Week**, a week long campaign where each pancake sale was donated to the agency for a total of \$332!

On May 5, **CLSM** held our annual pancake breakfast to celebrate employment success and great community partnerships. 200 people attended the event including representatives from local businesses, Muskoka Parry Sound MPP Graydon Smith, Bracebridge Mayor Rick Maloney, and Deputy Mayor Brenda Rhodes. In total we flipped over 300 pancakes and raised \$1,129!

We partnered with **Trestle Brewery and Sawdust Brewing Company** for our **Inclusion Community Beer Launch Party**, to create our special (and tasty) Inclusion Beer that launched on May 25 and sold out shortly after! We raised \$154 and can't wait until next year. CLSM month of May events also included the **Trillium Grant Announcement**, our **Shred-it Drive-Thru Fundraiser**, and our **Online 50/50 Draw** that together raised a total of \$4,163!



Success Factor - A Highly Valued Community Organization

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

May Community Living Month 2023

Submitted by Kate Trueland,
Events, Promotions, & Volunteer Coordinator

Shred-it
\$2,010

With inflation on the rise and the cost of living becoming more and more of a strain on us all, our goal was to raise funds to help with food security and housing costs for the people we support who live independently in our community. They have limited income from ODSP and it is our mission to supplement this income in any way that we can.

50/50
\$2,153

We are thankful that our community came to our aid to purchase tickets and contribute to our cause. As always we send our sincerest thanks to each and every sponsor who makes a contribution to Community Living South Muskoka.

A&W
\$332



Success Factor - Person Centered

Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

Our First Ever Foam Party—Life is Better with Bubbles!

Submitted by Alanna Zabukovec
Community Participation Support Worker



The Foam Party at Morrison Meadows was a really special day! Community Living South Muskoka team members facilitated a festive Canada Day BBQ (complete with snow cones!!!) and invited Climb N Fun to facilitate a foam party that took place after lunch.

For lunch we enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, popcorn, and berry flavored snow cones! We donned festive Canadian themed celebratory wear and everyone spent the afternoon enjoying the warmth and sunshine and exploring the grounds at the farm. The foamy bubble experience created such a unique outdoor activity for all abilities, engaging people on a visual and tactile level and was pure entertainment for all involved!

What's more, the foam was created from a biodegradable powder safe for humans, animals and the earth. Our foam party brought us outside to enjoy the fresh air and sunshine together with our friends and fun for all ages.

We look forward to next year's celebration!



Success Factor - Person Centered

Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

Barb Lucksavitch Memorial Scholarship Recipient 2023

Submitted by Krista Haiduk—Collier and Sadie Uhde

Over the past few years, I have been working towards an **Autism and Behavioral Science certificate part-time online at Fleming College**. I completed a placement at One Kids Place Treatment Center in Huntsville. While shadowing the Behavioral Therapists, I got to experience behavioral intervention, skill acquisition, and early intervention with children from ages 3-18. Using ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis), I was able to shadow the Behavioral Therapists who work directly with the child, provide the parents or guardians with coaching on how to implement the individualized plan, or a combination of both. I was fortunate to be able to shadow other professionals including physiotherapists, therapeutic recreation, speech and language pathologists as well as occupational therapists. In 2020, I was truly honoured to be selected for the Barb Luckasavitch Memorial scholarship from Community Living South Muskoka which made it possible for me to complete this certificate. Throughout this educational journey, I have learned so much more about Autism Spectrum Disorder and behavioral sciences.

- Sadie Uhde

Congratulations to Sadie for completing her training! In 2016, Community Living South Muskoka established the Barb Lucksavitch Memorial Scholarship to provide financial assistance to staff members who wish to participate in educational & training opportunities that will assist them in achieving their professional goals at the Agency. This award is designated to assist those individuals who wish to complete their DSW, DSW Apprenticeship or other comparable course's. In 2020 Sadie was the recipient of the award. We want to congratulate Sadie in completing her course and obtaining her certificate through Fleming College.

- Krista Haiduk—Collier



You Need to Believe— Oliver’s Success Story

Submitted by Krista Haiduk-Collier
CEO

“Oliver is our favourite subject!” Shawn, Oliver’s Dad, told us in a recent interview. “As you know, we kept Oliver home as long as we could, but we knew that we could not keep going and have our home the only place he knew. We were worried we would be 80 years old with a 60-year-old that still lived with his parents! We wanted him to have his own life”.

Oliver has been supported by CLSM since he was a young child, and the agency was happy to support him and his family when it came time to make the difficult decision for him to transition to his own home. He first moved to a group living residence in Gravenhurst, and “it was a great fit for a number of years” said Shawn, “but then COVID hit, and things changed”. Shawn stated that he is “still amazed to this day with the incredible services that CLSM and the Province of Ontario have provided to Oliver”. When challenges arose, “there was a great team available for him” of both CLSM staff and Clinical supports. This circle of support was able to develop new strategies and a transition plan for Oliver to move to a new home. “He is very happy again” says Shawn. “I still can’t believe it and get a bit teary when I think about all the great support he receives” explains Shawn.

Shawn was asked what message or advice he would like to share with other parents and families: “You need to believe. While the programs and services are not always perfect, and there are bumps along the way, and you may have troubles, believe that the help you need is there. You are not alone, and need to believe and accept the help that is out there”.

I want to thank Shawn for sharing this very personal story of their journey with Oliver and his success in living in his own home.

Congratulations to his family and his support team for making this happen for Oliver. As Shawn says, Oliver is very happy!

“You are not alone, and need to believe and accept the help that is out there”.
***- Shawn,
Oliver’s Dad***



Success Factor - Person Centered

Providing broader community experiences for the people we serve

Doug's Days Away!

Submitted by Peggy Jeffrey
Community Participation Support Worker

Doug enjoyed some quality time with his sister Carol this June!

They had a BBQ at Carols home on the first night with his nephew Ian. Then they headed to Barrie to go bowling before heading to Toronto to spend two nights in a hotel and visiting the ROM.

Doug enjoyed the Dinosaur exhibit. He proudly showed off his hat and t-shirt that he bought at the ROM. On the way home from Toronto, they stopped in Barrie for another game of bowling. Doug arrived home and announced his return asking if everyone missed him, which they did!

When asked about his trip he said that he really had fun and that they are going to plan another trip but he isn't sure where. Doug said he forgot to get a picture with his nephew but he will next time.



Success Factor - A Leader in Innovation

Exploring Innovative Service Programs

CLSM Employment Services Partners with Camp Winston

Submitted by Rachelle Lawrence
Community Participation Support Worker/Employment

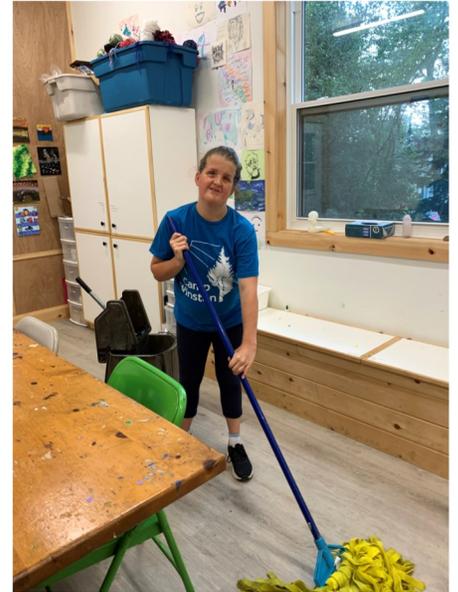
Kara is a wonderful, confident young lady with a strong passion for finding employment working with children. During the first few months in the SSM program, we helped her look for employment options in the childcare field and educational opportunities to build her skills. Kara obtained a temporary job with Community Living South Muskoka to work out at Morrison Meadows as a group leader with school children as they enjoy their spring and winter electives.

Eventually, Kara built the confidence to apply at Walmart. Although it wasn't her dream job, she tells me her coworker and management team make it enjoyable.

With Kara's employment goal to work with children, our employment team always seeks opportunities to fulfill her employment goal. An awesome opportunity became available in May as Camp Winston approached us looking for employees. We felt it was a perfect fit for Kara. Kara was super excited to set up an interview with the Camp Director. Kara was offered a job in housekeeping with an open invitation to help with other children's program areas within the camp. The camp provided accommodations option for her to stay on-site. Staying on-site is more economical than daily transportation to and from the camp. Winston is also a great opportunity for Kara to show her strength in working with children as she may join after-work-hours activities, as the camp directors mentioned the possibility of her changing position in the coming years.

After every shift, Kara mentions how awesome her job is, and it doesn't even feel like work, as she is truly enjoying her roles and new coworkers. Kara shares that she is working on her life stabilization goals to gain more confidence and regain her independence while enjoying her employment at Camp Winston. Kara is very independent and requires little support, but she mentions at our weekly meeting that it makes her feel less anxious about solving work-related issues as she knows she has support from CLSM when needed.

We must not forget to mention Walmart is a great employer. They granted her a two-month absence leave to pursue alternate employment goals.



Exciting Sponsorship Opportunities for Music at the Meadows!



In years prior to the COVID pandemic, we would be hard at work planning for our Annual Fundraising Cruise, however, as the world evolves, we as an agency have too! August 26, 2023 will continue our new era of fundraising with our second annual “Music at the Meadows” outdoor music festival and fundraiser.

This family friendly outdoor event will take place in Bracebridge at our farm property Morrison Meadows and feature the incredible musical talent of Dayna Reid, Grant Tingey & Hired Fun, Blue Moon, The Brudders, Cody Thompson + more!

I am writing with hope that you and your business would consider joining us as a sponsor for this exciting new venture. We understand that the business community has also been hit hard this year, and appreciate you supporting us in any way you can. Inflation and the increasing cost of living is impacting us all and fundraising has never been so critical for us to support those with disabilities. The people we support who are on (define) ODSP need our help making ends meet. You may not be aware that funding provided by ODSP is actually 40% below the poverty level. Our goal at this event is to raise funds to help bridge some of the gaps and provide food security and housing to the vulnerable population we support. We receive the majority of our funding from the Ontario Government without any cost of living increases the past several years.

While our annual funding budgets have not increased, our costs, like those in your business and at home, have continued to go up. To fill the gap, we have to have fund raising events such as our upcoming music festival. We want to offer you the following ways to help us continue to provide these vital services at the same level.

1. If you are in a position to do so, become one of our event sponsors! The different levels and perks that accompany this donation are outlined on the attached flyer.
2. We ask that you purchase tickets to attend the event, and help us spread the word by inviting your friends and family to join the outdoor festival in what we know will be an amazingly fun time. Don't we all need some more fun in our lives?
3. Donate an item for one of our future silent auctions.

From all of us at CLSM, thank you for taking the time to read this appeal. As always, you can find more information about **Community Living** by checking out our website at www.clsm.on.ca and we encourage you to follow-us on Instagram **@musicatthemedadows**. To get ahead of the game you can call Kate Trueland (705) 571-1566 and **THANK YOU** again for your support.

Krista Haiduk-Collier
 Chief Executive Officer
 Community Living South Muskoka



**MUSIC AT THE MEADOWS
2023 LINE-UP FEATURING
GRANT TINGEY &
HIRED GUN
THE BRUDDERS
BLUE MOON
CODY THOMPSON
DAYNA REID**





Music at the Meadows

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

\$5000
DIAMOND SPONSOR

- Ten (10) tickets to the event
- Advertisement included in upcoming CLSM newsletter
- Logo and company name included on CLSM website
- Logo and company name included throughout all advertising material
- Sign on stage with company name identifying as Diamond Sponsor at the event
- Public thank you on our sign at 15 Depot Dr. Bracebridge
- Public thank you on social media
- Public thank you from Emcee at the event

- Eight (8) tickets to the event
- Logo and company name included on CLSM website
- Logo and company name included throughout all advertising material
- Sign on stage with company name identifying as Platinum Sponsor at the event
- Public thank you on our sign at 15 Depot Dr. Bracebridge
- Public thank you on social media
- Public thank you from Emcee at the event

\$2500
PLATINUM SPONSOR

\$1000
GOLD SPONSOR

- Four (4) tickets to the event
- Logo and company name included throughout all advertising material
- Sign with company name identifying as Gold Sponsor at the event
- Public thank you on social media
- Public thank you from Emcee at the event

- Four (4) tickets to the event
- Sign with company name identifying as Silver Sponsor at the event
- Public thank you on social media
- Public thank you from Emcee at the event

\$500
SILVER SPONSOR

\$250
BRONZE SPONSOR

- Two (2) tickets to the event
- Sign with company name identifying as Bronze Sponsor at the event
- Public thank you on social media
- Public thank you from Emcee at the event

All proceeds to help provide food & housing security for the people we support

**STAY IN THE LOOP!
FOLLOW-US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



@community_living_south_muskoka

@musicatthemeadows

@morrisonmeadows



**Community Living
South Muskoka**

Serving those with a Developmental Disability

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