

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2006-2007

Prepared for the

52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 14, 2007

Ursuline College

85 Grand Avenue West, Chatham

It has been an honour for me to serve as the President of the Board of Directors of Community Living Chatham-Kent this past year. There have been many accomplishments this year and I have been proud to be a part of such a vibrant agency.

We undertook a number of capital projects this year: major renovations were completed at Park Avenue; we acquired property and constructed a home on Stirling Lane; we acquired property for the future construction of the day program; we purchased vehicles, and completed many varied repairs and maintenance items. The Senior Management team is to be commended for their management of so many new projects, while ensuring quality service.

In addition, this agency has conducted sweeping changes to ensure the ongoing financial viability of the organization. It must be mentioned, for example, that because of our highly successful supported employment program, more resources were received for the program this year.

The Board of Directors is proud to announce that our Executive Director, Lu-Ann Cowell, was appointed chairperson of the Provincial Executive Directors Coordinating Committee. While this has caused an additional workload for Lu-Ann and her Executive Assistant, it has greatly raised the profile of Community Living Chatham-Kent provincially. Congratulations, Lu-Ann! This is a wonderful appointment for you and the agency.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members of the Board of Directors of Community Living Chatham-Kent. Your humour, support, and unbelievable spirit of volunteering are key to ensuring that this organization continues to thrive.

The entire Board owes a debt of gratitude to Mary Lou Kuni, whose talent and expertise keep us functioning at our best.

Finally, I must express deep appreciation to the employees of Community Living Chatham-Kent. Lu-Ann and her management team go beyond the call of duty on a regular basis. Their sound judgement, dedication, and commitment are the backbone of the agency. All of the employees of Community Living Chatham-Kent are an exemplary group of people who live the vision everyday – *Discovering Dreams . . . Connecting Lives*.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin K. Ryan, President
Board of Directors

It has been another incredibly busy year at Community Living Chatham-Kent!

We welcomed six people home from Southwestern Regional Centre, and received approval to building another home for more individuals. The planning and implementation for these projects is extensive, and Heather Wice and Brad Verfaillie do an incredible job of ensuring the best outcome for people. As a result, our front-line staffing component has expanded and we currently employ 250 people, people who are dedicated and committed to the vision and beliefs of Community Living, and to shaping inclusive communities.

On an annual basis, we nominate volunteers to receive the Provincial Volunteer Award – people who give so freely of their time and talent. It was so impressive this year to see two people we support win the award!

On a very sad note, we lost two dedicated people this year, Linda Doyle and Ron Liscumb. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families.

During the last few years, the only constant that we can rely on is change! I would like to thank our unbelievable Senior Management team for always rising to the occasion when these changes occur and need to be implemented. Linda Karnas, Ron Coristine, Lee Ann Mallett, and Chris Harvey are a formidable team, and I extend my heartfelt thanks for everything you do to make this the greatest agency in Chatham-Kent. My deep gratitude is also extended to my Executive Assistant, Mary Lou Kuni, for your organization of our lives and talent in making us look good.

The Board of Directors of Community Living Chatham-Kent has yet again provided leadership beyond compare, with lots of humour to ease the difficult times! We welcomed Erin Ryan as our President this year and marvel at her energy and enthusiasm. I would like to thank the Board for their guidance and wisdom.

Finally, to the people we support and employees in vocational services, your patience in working in cramped, somewhat over-crowded spaces, has been rewarded with a one-time grant from the Ministry of Community and Social Services to construct new space. I thank the families who lobbied with us to get the Ministry to address our concerns.

We at Community Living Chatham-Kent are very proud of our accomplishments this year, and more important, the ongoing accomplishment of the people we support.

Respectfully submitted,

Lu-Ann Cowell
Executive Director

The 2006-07 fiscal year was a year of growth as people continue to move from institutions to the community. Six people have moved into one newly constructed home, and a second home has been constructed for six more people.

In addition, Community Living Chatham-Kent was the recipient of a number of Ministry of Community and Social Services funding initiatives during the 2006-07 year, as noted below.

- \$141,508 annualized base funding increase to address overall operating and service pressures
- \$39,889 “At Risk” funding for two Chatham-Kent Citizens in need
- \$112,000 “Economic Stimulus” funding for a number of repair, maintenance and renovation projects
- \$24,000 one time funds to address Facilities Planning
- \$510,683 fiscal (\$604,004 annual) to support six people who have moved from Southwestern Regional Centre
- \$78,966 was directed to the Chatham-Kent Coordinated Access for Developmental Services Committee for community service and planning needs

The Fund-Raising/Community Development Program generated \$165,838 in fund-raising, donations, appeals and foundation grants, and \$16,247 in municipal grants. These funds assist in covering the agency’s costs and secure agency viability. In addition, as part of the Board of Directors’ Financial Operating Plan, funding is earmarked specifically for the direct benefit of people we support in our programs. In the 2006-07 year, \$54,222 were earmarked especially for the Library Café, summer programs for teens, operation of the Snack Attack canteens, camp fees, long-awaited vans for Forest Street and the Riverview Day program, as well as furniture and equipment. Our thanks go to Chris Harvey and his team for their hard work and dedication.

I would be amiss if I did not express my thanks to Linda Karnas, Director of Finance and Administration, and her finance team. Her expertise was greatly appreciated as the Finance Committee made decisions throughout the year.

My thanks go to all the members of the Finance Committee and our community. Our success is your success.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Ryan, Chairperson
Finance Committee

Finance Committee Members 2006-2007

Erin Ryan, Chairperson
Dorothy Cook
Angie Maryschak
Ken Walsh
Jann Parry Wickett
Martha Parry, External Member
Steve Repuski, External Member
Lu-Ann Cowell
Linda Karnas

Expansion was a key word for Community Living Chatham-Kent during the past year.

M.P.P. Pat Hoy announced a provincial grant of one million and ten thousand dollars. To date, property has been purchased on Sass Road, and a building, which will provide additional space for Day Program supports, will be constructed in the near future.

Several individuals, about to be 'Coming Home' from the Southwestern Regional Centre, and their families selected Community Living Chatham-Kent as the agency to provide future supports. Subsequently, an accessible home with plenty of curb appeal was built on Stirling Lane by First Family Homes, again under the supervision of architect Stephen Mawdsley, and a modern and very spacious house on Fairview Line was purchased.

Partnerships continued with the Chatham-Kent Public Library, and Chatham-Kent Children's Services. The Library Café, and CKCS Cafeteria influenced many people of this community to come to the realization that the focus should be on individuals' abilities.

The Program Planning Committee will continue to support the development and implementation of strategies that will allow obstacles to be overcome and quality supports to be maintained.

I extend my thanks to the committee members.

Respectfully submitted,

Renée Zarebski, Chairperson
Program Planning Committee

Program Planning Committee Members 2006-2007

Renée Zarebski, Chairperson
Sue McMath
Marion Sutherland
Jann Parry-Wickett
Ron Coristine
Lu-Ann Cowell
Lee Ann Mallett

The Behavioural Supports/Rights Review Policy Committee met on May 28, 2007, and the following business was addressed:

- Reviewed Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Behavioural Support/Rights Review Committee
- Reviewed Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Behavioural Support and Rights Review Policy Committee
- Reviewed Behavioural Support Policies, Procedures, and Regulations
- Reviewed Human Rights Policies, and Procedures

The committee determined that staff will communicate an individual's pertinent and/or medical information to the Chatham-Kent Police Service dispatcher to best prepare the police in the event that they are called to assist with an aggressive situation.

In addition, the committee will continue to remain updated on all policies and procedures, as well as aware of any forthcoming alterations/amendments.

My thanks are extended to the committee members for their dedication and expertise. A special note of thanks goes to Van Mather, Past Chairperson of the Human Rights Policy Committee, for his commitment and knowledge.

Respectfully submitted,

Malcolm Tyrrell, Chairperson
Behaviour Supports & Rights Review
Policy Committee

Behavioural Supports/Rights Review Policy Committee Members 2006-2007

Malcolm Tyrrell, Chairperson
Dr. Tim Baker, Psychologist, Chatham-Kent Children's Service
Ron Coristine
Lee Ann Mallett
Betty Roberts
Kim Sanson
Janice McFadden, Resource Coordinator (Ad Hoc Member)

COMMUNITY LIVING CHATHAM-KENT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006-2007

President	Ms. Erin Ryan
Past President	Mrs. Dorothy Cook
Vice Presidents	Mrs. Sue McMath Mr. Ken Walsh Ms. Renée Zarebski
Elected Members	Mr. Stephen Andari Mr. Gord Crompton Mrs. Angie Maryschak Mrs. Marion Sutherland Mr. Malcolm Tyrrell Mrs. Jann Parry Wickett
Appointed Member	Mr. Robert J. Birnie
Executive Director	Mrs. Lu-Ann Cowell

COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS

Executive Committee	Ms. Erin Ryan
Behavioural Support/Rights Committee	Mr. Malcolm Tyrrell
Building Committee	Mrs. Angie Maryschak
Finance Committee	Ms. Erin Ryan
Nominating Committee	Mr. Robert Birnie
Program Planning Committee	Ms. Renée Zarebski

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Lambton Kent District School Board	Mr. Malcolm Tyrrell
St. Clair Catholic District School Board	Mrs. Sue McMath