

March 2018

DAFRS FAMILY focus

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Friday,
March 9,
2018

SO THAT ALL PEOPLE ENJOY A FULL AND MEANINGFUL LIFE
WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

VIDEO LAUNCH CELEBRATION!

Two Durham families have recently been profiled by Partners for Planning, following their journeys towards having a home of their own and a good life lived within. We are pleased to share these stories in their new video and blog format at our next Imagining Home meeting.

Join us for a screening of these two new videos, including a question and answer period with the two featured families. These monthly housing meetings are open to everyone and families have been meeting enthusiastically to discuss issues relating to home for a few years now. Want to learn more about the group or see a few things that people have been up to? Check out the housing specific website imagininghome.ca. Join us this month; there will be plenty of opportunity to chat about housing and steps forward - this is an event that is not to be missed!

Join us!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018

6:30PM TO 8:30PM

The Gathering Place
20-850 King St. W, Oshawa

RSVP TO SELENA
SBLAKE@DAFRS.COM
(905)436-2500 EXT.2302





Building a Context for Relationship Workshop

March 27th - Register Today!

Roles, relationship, and places of belonging are the focus of a popular interactive workshop hosted by our own Janet Klees. This is a learning event for those who are serious about exploring and discovering the opportunities for welcome, engagement, and relationship that abound in our communities.

If you are involved with planning and supporting a person to be a fuller member of their community and you need a practical approach that works, this workshop is for you!

This day will include stories to stretch your imagination, a basic framework that you can begin to use today, some tips and ideas on support basics from a practitioner of 30 years, and some time for problem solving and brain storming for your own purposes.

This workshop combines a good, principled framework with a practical, straight forward approach for bringing about the two elements that will make the most significant difference in peoples' lives: valued roles and relationship.

In this hands-on practical event we will plan, practice and polish setting up and supporting our own contexts that work. Starting with where you are at, we will find ways to make poor situations good, make good situations better, and shape a few situations to be the best. We will also explore good support strategies, developing natural supports, and have plenty of time to think about and work on your own examples and situations.

The workshop is based upon the belief that when our communities are able to invite, welcome and appreciate the contributions of its most vulnerable members, we all benefit. Communities need support to discover these contributions. Supporters need a vision of possibility, a sound approach and effective strategies to take action.

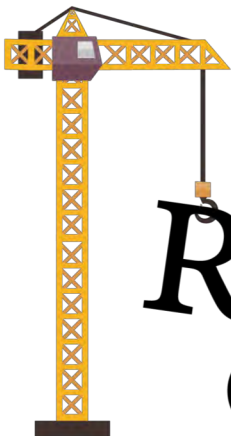
TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2018

9:30AM TO 4:00PM

THE GATHERING PLACE

20-850 KING ST. W, OSHAWA

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY! [CLICK HERE!](#)



R

elationship



Making the Most of Funding Graduates - A New Study Group For You!

Those who have completed any one of our Making The Most series are invited back to a MTM Study Group! Graduates are welcome to drop in to these monthly gatherings, where participants, mentoring families, and facilitators will delve deeper into the topics and activities which were presented throughout the series' six sessions. If you have been working through some ideas, or want to spend more time on a particular area or exercise presented at the series there will be time, guidance, and support to do so.

If you'd like more information or want to RSVP, contact Selena at sblake@dafers.com or by phone at (905)436-2500 ext.2302.

MAKING THE MOST STUDY GROUP



MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2018 at 6:30pm

The Gathering Place - 20-850 King St. W, Oshawa

Environmental Sensitivity, Diet and Nutrition, Sensory Integration and More the Focus of Monthly BioMedical Study Group

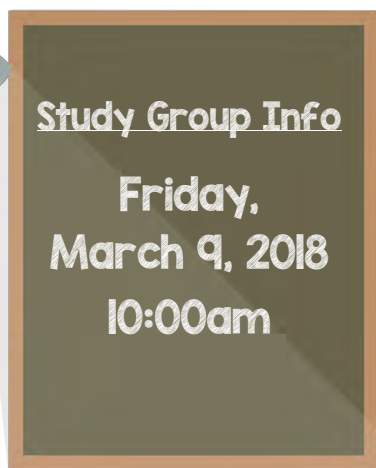
This month the Bio Medical approaches Study Group will come together in conversation about where we are all at. We will do some reflection on the past few group gatherings – Marian and her helping us with good dialogues to clarify our path, books we are reading, and other topics that are top of mind. As always we will have a chance to touch on topics that we have been learning more about over the year: diet and nutrition, sensory integration, epilepsy, mindfulness, medical marijuana, and more! We are hoping some of you will return to tell us how those bouncing chair balls have worked out!

We are a group of family and community members who find it inspiring, helpful, and personally rewarding to talk with each other about our own experiences and share new information all about optimal health, balance and well-being. We think about wellness in terms of food and nutrition, making sure sensory needs are met, figuring out mindful and conscious approaches, or looking at what recent research can tell us about medications, seizures, digestive issues and more.

Our conversation focuses on the whole person and how people may respond with more or less sensitivity to their environment, including diet and nutrition, brain coherence, sensory integration issues, the calmness or agitation of those around them, and more.

The group has been meeting monthly for over a year and is open and welcomes new participants! We meet at The Gathering Place (20-850 King St. W, Oshawa), the second Friday of each month at 10am.

Please RSVP your attendance to jklees@dafers.com so that we can plan a successful morning.





Making the Most of Your Dollars

SPRING 2018



Durham
Association for
Family Respite
Services

WWW.DAFRS.COM

20-850 King St. W, Oshawa, ON



Families throughout the Region of Durham are invited to participate in an innovative and interactive six-week workshop that will support in re-imagining opportunities and real options for their family member. The heart of the series is to move beyond traditional uses for funding to plan for a life that reflects interests, hopes and dreams.

The series is led by mentoring parents that engage in useful conversations and share their experiences in planning and creating opportunities. These conversations highlight simple choices that families can make to discover ordinary, yet significant ways for family members to be involved in their neighbourhood.

This series runs bi-weekly for six sessions.

Mondays at 6:30pm:

April 30th, May 14th, May 28th,
June 11th, June 25th, July 9th.



To register, or for more information, please contact
Selena Blake
(905)436-2500 ext:2302
sblake@dafrs.com

Interested in Access to Disability Supports? Lend Your Voice to the CLO 2018 Policy Forum

On March 16, Community Living Ontario will host it's yearly Policy Forum at Ryerson University, in collaboration with the Ryerson University School of Disability Studies. This forum will take a look at what it would take to introduce a new government policy mandating disability supports for people who have an intellectual disability and ensure people are guaranteed access to the support they require without unreasonable delay.

“Despite the introduction of new Developmental Services legislation, an extensive exploration of the sector by the Ombudsman and a Select Committee of the Legislature, and an unprecedented multi-year investment of new support funding, more people than ever are waiting for the supports and services they need to live in the community”.

If you are interested in being part of this policy/law reform discussion you are welcome to attend! Those who support community inclusion, including family members, people who have a disability, volunteers, service providers, and policy makers are welcomed.

The day will explore:

- » What a system of mandated services might look like;
- » What are the range of supports and services that people might expect under such a system;
- » What safeguards would need to be in place;
- » Legal obligations that currently exist for government to implement a system of mandated service;
- » How should such a mechanism be integrated into other entitlement systems such as employment income and health services;
- » What models currently exist in Canada and internationally that we might learn from and adapt for use in Ontario.

FIND OUT MORE ON THE POLICY FORUM EVENT PAGE!



COMMUNITY LIVING
Ontario



Current Passport and SSAH Funding Recipients to Receive a Funding Increase

News has recently come out that current recipients of Passport or Special Services at Home funding will receive a slight increase to their contract amounts. This increase is to compensate for the increased expenses to families due to Bill 148, [Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017](#). The government has recognized that this new legislation may impact the cost of support services. To help manage these costs, additional funds are being made available.

Existing Passport and SSAH recipients will receive a prorated 15% increase in their approval amount for the period of January 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018. When contracts renew in April, existing Passport and SSAH recipients will find a 15% increase to their annual approved amount. For new Passport or SSAH funding allocated, these additional funds will be included in the approval amount.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your Passport Agency Representative.

New Website Devoted to Education Advocacy in Canada for Students with a Disability

A number of organizations, including ARCH Disability Law Centre, Community Living Ontario, Inclusive Education Canada, Brockville and District Association for Community Involvement, have joined forces to launch a website designed to provide an overview of the most important concepts in education advocacy in Canada.



EDUCATION ADVOCACY
for Students with a Disability

The website offers tools, training modules, knowledge, videos, and advocacy resources to help outline the steps and supports needed to access inclusive education.

[Check the website out here!](#)

Celebrate Home Grown Achievements at a Video Launch During This Month's Meeting!

Housing is a popular and relevant topic these days and we have our ear on the ground when it comes to all areas of affordability and change happening in our region. The housing group, [Imagining Home](#), has been actively seeking out both information and change and has lots to discuss at its monthly meetings.

This month we showcase two new videos which profile local families' work on creating home and a good life. We will be joined by the featured families who will host a Q&A after the screening!

The next housing meeting will take place on **Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 6:30 pm**. This meeting will be at The Gathering Place, here at the DAFRS office located at 20-850 King St W.

Contact Selena for more information at 905-436-2500 ext. 2302 or sblake@dafrs.com.



HIPPIEFEST 2018

Thursday March 29, 2018



TOWN
BREWERY

THE
CHARLES
STREET
BAND

PLAYING YOUR
FAVOURITE SONGS!



50 50 DRAW
SILENT AUCTION
CASH BAR
PRIZES FOR BEST
DRESSED

GREAT PEOPLE,
GOOD FOOD AND
DRINK,
AND THE BEST
MUSIC EVER!

A Counterculture celebration to raise funds for the Bascule Bursary
A small but joyful fund generated by the Durham Association for Family
Respite Services Staff and Friends

Tickets Available From:
905 436 2500 ext. 2311
or [click here!](#)

Doors Open At
7:30PM

Tickets - \$30.00
All proceeds support
the Bascule Bursary

HEYDENSORE PAVILION
589 WATER ST, WHITBY, ON L1N 9V9

Do You Submit Invoices for Direct Deposit to DAFRS? Helpful Forms and Documents are Now Online!

Families and supporters who use DAFRS finance and administration services will be pleased to know that helpful documents are now online and available for download. Visit dafrs.com/finance and you will find a number of documents including the Direct Deposit Schedule, an Invoice for Self-Employed Contractors who provide support, an Expense Invoice, and an update on the payment process for this year.



respiteservices.com



Respite Worker Orientation

Keep an eye on the website for the next Orientation!

Or call Jeanne for more details! (905)436-3404

The CHAP Respite Worker Orientation is a mandatory session for potential support workers joining the CHAP program worker bank. Families and their support workers are welcome to attend the orientation. The day includes an introduction to supporting families and their family member who has a disability, an introduction to understanding the meaning of respite, understanding and developing roles, language, community involvement, the support worker's roles and responsibilities with families and respiteservices.com.

To attend you **must** be registered with respiteservices.com/durham and you will need to RSVP due to limited space. Contact Jeanne at (905)436-3404 or jgodfrey@dafrs.com



For more information on our organization or any of our events, please visit our website at

www.dafrs.com

Or
contact Heather by
phone:
(905)436-2500
ext. 2314

For more information please visit our website at www.dafrs.com and see the "What's Happening Now" tab

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