

FOCUS NEWSLETTER

Inclusive Communities ~ Innovative Leaders



Celebrating 65 Years

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All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.

Walt Disney

How do you reflect and celebrate 65 years of service to people with developmental disabilities? we believe you start by honouring and respecting the past while looking forward to the future.

In 1955, a group of pioneering parents dreamt of a meaningful life for their children beyond institutions. This grassroots movement marked the establishment of the agency's humble beginnings. This group realized there was a gap in the education system with no structured learning environment for their children. The realization led to the opening of the first ever school for people with developmental disabilities in Lambton County located at the Lord Baden Powell House in Petrolia. The rest is history as they say.

Much has changed in 65 years. We have grown. We have learned. We have laughed. We have cried. We have seen governments and people come and go. We have also seen the types of supports and services offered change and evolve.

[Click here to view video](#)

However, some things have not changed - who we are, what we do and why we do what we do. It has always been about people; the people we support and their families. Our work is driven by the people we support and serving them "One Person at a Time". We have been blessed to have employees and volunteers that are dedicated and committed to live our vision of "Inclusive Communities ~ Innovative Leaders" for the agency and for the people they support.

We are extremely fortunate, proud and humbled to be able to provide 65 years of supports and services throughout Lambton County. We look forward to the challenge and opportunity to provide many more years of support and service, hopefully under the approving eyes of that pioneering group of parents that made their dream a reality 65 years ago.

2020 will be full of events to celebrate and honour this significant milestone. We invite you to come out and join in the festivities!

Nick Salaris, Executive Director

LCDS Has a New CPI Instructor

Congratulations, Kevin Ireland!

Please join us in congratulating one of our newest members of the LCDS Internal Trainer's team, Kevin Ireland. After conducting an internal search, Kevin was chosen to become the new(est) LCDS CPI (Non-Violent Crisis Intervention) Instructor. Kevin has been employed with LCDS since 2005, throughout his career here he has worked at several locations, gaining the skills, tools, experience and knowledge to assist with this role.

Kevin brings to this position a passion for facilitation and leadership, he approaches each role at LCDS with the same dedication and positive mindset. We are excited for him to grow in this new professional development role.

Kevin will begin his CPI Training February 2020, once trained he will join Larry Robinson in facilitating both CPI Full & Refresher courses, as well as, offer ongoing support and resources to teams using the NVCPI Model.



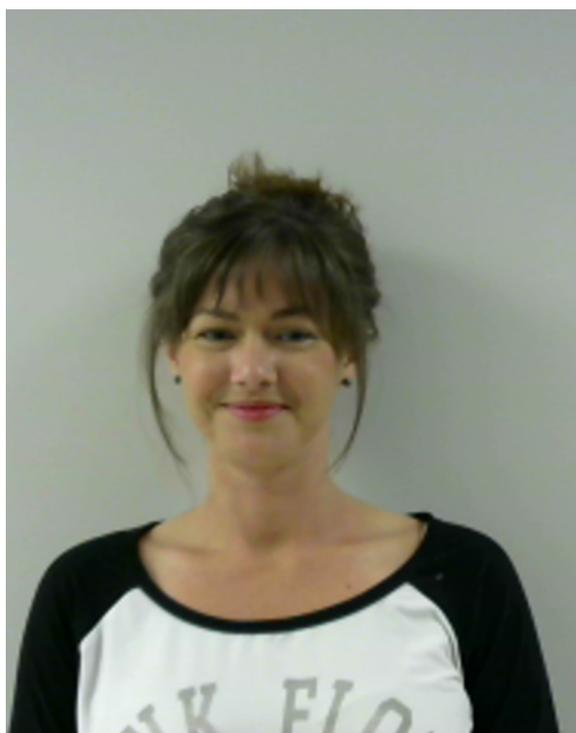
LCDS Has a New Myers Briggs Instructor

Congratulations, Colette McNairney!

Please join us in congratulating our newest member of the LCDS Internal Trainer's team, Colette McNairney. After conducting an internal search, Colette was chosen to become the new LCDS Myers Briggs (MBTI) Instructor. Colette has been employed with LCDS since 2007, throughout her career here she has worked at numerous locations, gaining the skills, tools, experience and knowledge to assist with this role.

Myers Briggs has always been a passion of Colette's, her current full-time position with the John St. team and this additional role align perfectly with her past and present professional development goals.

Colette will begin her Myers Briggs Training February 2020, once trained she will assume all the facilitation responsibilities related to Myers Briggs here at LCDS, providing the initial training to employees and offering ongoing support and resources to teams based on the Myers Briggs curriculum/personality types model.



Carly & Theresa Move Into Their New Home

Congratulations and Welcome Home, ladies!

Thank you Habitat for Humanity, Sarnia Lambton. We are so grateful for this partnership and be able to work along side your organization to change the lives of many. **What you do for our community is wonderful.**

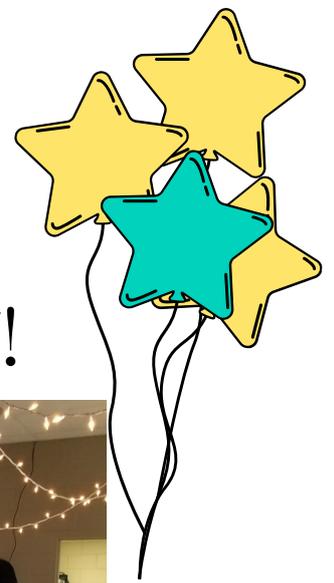


The poster features a yellow background with a black border. In the top left corner is the Sarnia Sting logo, a cartoon yellow and black stingray holding a hockey stick. The main text is in large, bold, black letters: "Sarnia Sting VS. London Knights". Below this, in smaller black text, it says "\$16.00 PER TICKET - ALL AGES" and "Saturday March 21, 2020". A white rectangular box in the center contains the text: "If you cannot attend the game, you can still support LCDS buy purchasing Chuck-a-Pucks! \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00". At the bottom left, it says "Please contact LCDS Reception to purchase tickets, pucks or for further information!" followed by the phone number "519-882-0933". On the right side of the poster is a black and white photograph of a man wearing a dark beanie with "NorthPoint" on it, glasses, and a dark work jacket with reflective stripes. He is smiling and standing in what appears to be a workshop or warehouse.

Vicky Turns 60 in Style

Elvis Presley stopped by Community Skills Development to perform for Vicky and her friends! So awesome!

HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY VICKY!



Valentine Charity Auction A Great Success!

A huge thank you to everyone who came out on Saturday, February 8th to participate in our Annual Charity Auction!

We had an amazing crew of volunteers that ensured the auction ran without a hitch and was a huge success. Another great Auction for Lambton County Developmental Services.

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes, sponsored, or helped out in anyway. We could not do what we do without you.



- Pembina
- Shelley Machine & Marine
- Lambton Home Building Centre
- Integra Technologies
- McCallum Build and Renovate
- Hodges Home Renovations
- Basement Boss
- McKeller Inspections
- Allied Chartered Accountants
- Re/Max - Scheana Lasenby
- Coastal Wellness
- Armstrong Construction
- JD Lawn Service
- City-Com
- TGH Safety
- L&D Concrete
- RBC
- D & S Landscaping
- Knox Church Ladies
- Mooretown Juvenile Silverstick
- A&W Locksmith
- Arkona Appliance
- HEAR Solutions
- McCormick Insurance

A special thank you to LaPiers Flowers for decorating the hall and making our vision come to life. Thank you to John Stephens, and Great West Auctions, for providing professional auctioneer services.

THANK YOU TO OUR
TITLE SPONSOR



LCDS - Pembina
Valentine Charity Auction



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Thank you to everyone who came out to support
Lambton County Developmental Services. It was a full
house, with 300 people in attendance!
An evening filled with excitement, amazing prizes,
and a whole lot of money raised for LCDS!
Another successful year!!!
We are so very grateful for this wonderful community!

Lisa & Krista Enjoy Giving Back!

Lisa and Krista had a wonderful time giving back to their community during Operation Christmas Tree. This was their second time volunteering with this organization - they absolutely love it! The ladies helped sort all of the food from local schools, to be organized into hampers.

Thank you to the Corunna Optimist for giving back to the community and giving us the opportunity to give back too!



VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Long-Time Volunteer

Mrs. Janet Smith



Janet has been volunteering at LCDS for over 20 years. She is the mother of Doug Smith, who lives in Watford.

She is the chairperson of the Valentine Auction. Janet spends countless hours getting donations, recruiting her friends and family to help with the auction and has always been a huge supporter of all our fundraising efforts!

Janet has been involved in the Ride into Summer event since it began in 2014. The event was created by Janet and Wayne McCormick as a fun day for individuals supported by LCDS and their families. She was adamant there be no cost to participants and their families. Janet has been the driving force behind the event and recruited other community members to become involved.

Janet's ability to find people in her community to become involved and give of their time and money is definitely a gift. She really wants to give back to LCDS and give the people supported a fun, free day with their families.

One of the reasons she does this out of appreciation, as a parent, for all LCDS has done to support her loved one over the years.

THANKYOU JANET, FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!

Lambton County Developmental Services would not be what it is today without your giving nature, perseverance and dedication! We are so grateful.



REWARDING

Know anyone
looking for
employment?
Be you **BEST** with
LCDS!

BE YOUR BEST WITH LCDS

JOIN OUR TEAM AT:
LCDSPETROLIA.CA/CAREERS/



Valentine's for Veterans!

This year, the individuals that utilize the Petrolia King St. Drop In Centre, were asked if they would be interested in sending Valentines cards to Veterans who are in long term care facilities, throughout Canada. Information from the 'Veterans Affairs Canada/Valentines for Vets' website was reviewed with several of the individuals and they were so excited to start the process of making or using store bought valentines, to send to Canadian Veterans. Saying Thank You to our Veterans, and giving them a special card on Valentine's is an all around wonderful initiative to be a part of.

The concept of this program actually originated in 1989 by none other than Ann Landers, the late newspaper columnist (2002). She asked of her readers each year, to send handmade valentines to Veterans all over the country. Forward to 1996, Veterans Affairs Canada became involved in the program and has been receiving and distributing valentines to Veterans in care facilities across the country.

***In the words of the Valentines for Vets 'team' here at King St.
"We are happy we can make them feel special on Valentine's Day!"***

Heather Thompson, King St. Team Member

LCDS Recipient of "100 Women Who Care" Donation

On February 5th, LCDS had the pleasure of being one of three charitable organizations to provide a 5-minute presentation to the "100 Women Who Care" Sarnia-Lambton Chapter to compete for the up to \$10,000 donation for the evening. The Alzheimer Society of Sarnia-Lambton and Snacks for Summer Program (St. Vincent DePaul) were the other charitable groups that presented that night. We are pleased to report that LCDS was chosen as the fortunate recipient at the end of the evening! The funds will be used to enhance our Respite Program.

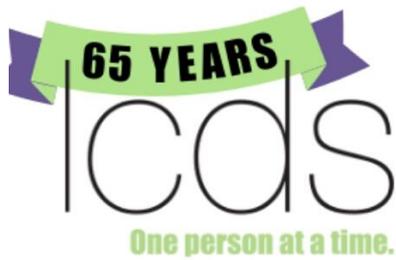
The "100 Women Who Care" is a group of women that care about our community. They invite three charitable organizations to attend and present at one of their four meetings they host each year. Organizations present, participate in a Q&A session and are informed before they leave who is the successful organization. The women each donate \$100 to that organization. It is the power of 1 x 100! It is a truly a phenomenal and humbling experience.

Thank you Karen McClintock for laying the groundwork for this opportunity. A special thank you to Lynn England of DeGroot's and member of the "100 Women Who Care" group. Lynn is also a member of our Fusion Committee and nominated LCDS to present night. This is a great example of community connections benefiting the agency.



I enjoy connecting the people we support with their loved ones and getting them out in their community. Taking time to make every moment meaningful!

Direct Support Professional at LCDS



FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2020

LCDS VALENTINE CHARITY AUCTION

February 8, 2020
Doors Open 5:00PM
Brigden Fairgrounds

LCDS TRIVIA NIGHT

May 14 2020
7:00PM
Petrolia Legion

LCDS CORPORATE APPRECIATION EVENING

April 23, 2020
Victoria Playhouse Petrolia

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

June 22, 2020
Annual Meeting 5PM, BBQ 6PM
Petrolia Lions Hall, Petrolia

LCDS/MPW ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

July 16, 2020
Widder Station, Thedford
To register, please call 519-882-0933
ext. 28

LCDS/PETROLIA LIONS BEER & WING NIGHT

September 17, 2020
5-7PM
Lions Hall, Petrolia

LCDS STAFF APPRECIATION

September 2020
6:30pm
The Riding Club, Sarnia

LCDS ANNUAL BANQUET

October 16, 2020
Doors Open 5PM, Dinner 6PM
Wyoming Fair Building

FUSION: DISCOVERY OF LOCAL FOOD, WINE, BEER

November 13 & 14, 2020
5-10PM
Degroot's Nurseries, Sarnia

LCDS MEAT RAFFLES

Every Wednesday 6-8PM
Actor's, Petrolia



I enjoy giving clients the opportunity to get out in the community and be active. And with funding it gives them more opportunity to contribute back to the society without being limited to what they can normally afford. Plus it's fun doing most of the activities and hardly feels like being at work at all. Sometimes a smile on a face or just a simple laugh makes it all worth it.

Direct Support Professional at LCDS



United Way
Sarnia-Lambton