Inspire

Systems of Prevention and Care Project Updates
Funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

CORE Open House and Youth Presentation

On May 5, 2011, community leaders, neighbours, students, and youth workers gathered at The CORE Centre on Britannia Avenue in Hamilton, Ontario to hear about the exciting activities taking place at CORE and to tour their facility.

CORE, Community Agencies Reaching Everyone, is an innovative Hamilton Community initiative involving College, University, and Community Agency groups and individuals, and is a programme guided by current policy initiatives about children, education and mental health. CORE is designed to engage youth in meaningful activities while learning through the Arts. Current secondary school and re-engaged students can gain high school credits with their CORE art studies. Re-engaging students may lead to reduced school dropout rates and may have a positive impact on poverty reduction for Hamilton.

Students put together a presentation referred to as “Silencing the Red” in response to the award-winning Hamilton Spectator article “Code Red” on poverty in Hamilton. The Youth presentation touched on the challenges they face and it stressed the importance of a community working together to overcome those challenges.

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SAVE THE DATE

LOCAL

June 18, 2011

Good Shepherd
A Golden Jubilee Celebration
50th Anniversary Mass
Cathedral Christ the King Church
714 King St. W
Hamilton, ON

LOCAL

June 10, 2011

James Street North Art Crawl
CORE Youth Presentation
Thier-Curran Architects Building
2nd Floor, 118 James St. N
7:00 - 10:00 pm
Hamilton, ON

YWCA 2011 Women of Distinction Award

Nicki Glowacki, Vice President of Community Operations, YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford was one of nine women nominated for the YWCA Women of Distinction Award for work in Community Development and Social Activism.

The Women of Distinction Award recognizes exceptional women in our community who make changes and advocate for improvements in the community and have inspired and improved the lives of others. The award was presented to Medora Uppal, Director of Good Shepherd Women’s Services.

The Awards presentation took place on May 3, 2011 at the Hamilton Convention Centre and was led by Honorary Chair, and three-time Olympic Gold Medal Winner, Becky Kellar.

Congratulations Nicki on your Nomination and Medora on receiving the Award!
Perkins Centre Welcomes McMaster School of Nursing

McMaster University School of Nursing (SON) will locate a neighbourhood cooperative at the Homestead Christian Care’s Dr. John M. Perkins Centre located at 1429 Main Street East in Hamilton, which is scheduled to open September 2011.

Along with 46 apartments, the main and lower floors of the building will occupy a community centre, SON office, classroom, and clinic space for student community learning. In addition, McMaster’s Student Outreach Collaborative (MacSOC) will be based out of this facility.

“In some ways when we are generous in small, barely detectable ways; It can change someone else’s life forever.”

~Margaret Cho; Weblog 03-11-04

Good Shepherd

50 years of Charity Unlimited

- A daily hot meal program;
- A food bank and clothing program;
- Financial management assistance;
- A palliative care hospice;
- Non-Profit Housing and related support services for individuals living with a mental illness and who have found it difficult to maintain housing in the past;
- Women and Youth Services including:
  - teaching life and living skills;
  - assisting youth with returning to school and finding employment;
  - providing therapeutic recreational activities and events; and,
  - helping youth apply for Social Assistance and housing.

In 1961 the Good Shepherd opened their first men’s hostel in Hamilton. It provided a warm meal for approximately 160 transient men each day.

As the needs of the community changed, Good Shepherd evolved. Today, over 1,000 individuals are served daily through a multitude of programs and services such as:

On April 19, 2011, the Good Shepherd celebrated 50 years of providing assistance to vulnerable people in the Greater Hamilton community. The 50th Anniversary Breakfast at Liuna Station was hosted by Brother Richard MacPhee, Executive Director of Good Shepherd and featured guest speakers, Brother Justin Howson, Superior General LBGS, Rob MacIsaac, President of Mohawk College, and Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, OMI, Bishop of Hamilton.

Good Shepherd will be hosting a 50th Anniversary Mass on June 18th and all are welcome. See our website for details.

Social Work Makes a Difference

At the Ontario Association of Social Workers (OASW) Provincial Conference in November 2010, Dr. Gina Browne presented findings from the collaborative works of randomized trials conducted by the Health and Social Service Utilization Research Unit at McMaster University.

Her presentation More Effective/Less Expensive Comprehensive Care: Lessons from Randomized Trials is available for download from the OASW website at www.oasw.org or by contacting our office.

Following her presentation, Dr. Browne was interviewed and spoke briefly on the importance of doing research on the cost effectiveness of health and social services. Visit our website to watch this video.
CORE Youth… continued

The determination of these young adults to make a difference will continue long after their experience at CORE as they present their artistic reaction to the Code Red Series in Visual Art, Poetry, and Live Musical Performances during the June 10th James Street North Art Crawl. This opportunity was made possible with a grant from the Hamilton Community Foundation.

These youth have discovered something valuable while enrolled at CORE and it will be this community’s support of them and of future CORE youth that will ensure their continued successes.

“Dare to be yourself”
~Andre Gide

2009 Postpartum Screening and Low Birth Weight Data for Hamilton by Forward Sortation Area

Using the Canada Post Forward Sortation Area (FSA) as a guide to group data on low birth weight and data on postpartum screening collected with the Parkyn Tool, we sought to determine if there were any areas within the Greater Hamilton community that reflected high or low reporting that may indicate a need for more directed community support services. Maps showing Low Birth Weight and Postpartum Screening Data for 2009 are on page 4.

Backgrounder
Parkyn Postpartum Screening Tool:
The Parkyn Tool is administered by hospitals or midwife prior to mother and child leaving hospital and after receiving consent from the birth mother.

This tool screens on 14 factors and is meant to assess whether a new baby may be at risk of developmental challenges from such factors as smoking during pregnancy, low birth weight, no prenatal care, and many others, and whether families may be at risk for parenting problems. A high score of greater than or equal to 9 on the Parkyn Scale may indicate a risk of future health concerns.

Backgrounder
Birth Weight:
Average birth weight is considered at full term when the baby weight is approximately 6-9 pounds (2700 to 4000 grams).

Low birth weight is classified when a baby weighs below the defined limit at any age; but is also considered ‘low’ when a baby weighs less than 2500 g (or 5lb 8oz) at full term.

Low birth weight may be the result of a pre-term birth or poor fetal growth.

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The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt within the heart.

~ Helen Keller

Parkyn Scores and Birth Weights are presented as a percentage of the total number in each Forward Sortation Area (FSA).

Based on Parkyn Scores data from 2009, the areas in red on the map to the right show highest number of families scoring greater than or equal to 9 on the Parkyn Scale and who may be potentially at risk for parenting problems. These FSAs would include North, Central, and East Lower Hamilton and indicate 33%-38% of total births in these areas combined.

Low Birth Weights recorded in 2009 are indicated on the map to the left. The areas in red indicate a higher percentage (6%-10.8%) of total births weighing 2500g or less and which may or may not represent children at greater risk for developmental problems. These low birth weight areas would include portions of North and Central Lower Hamilton, portions of Dundas, and portions of West and Southwest Lower Hamilton.

For information about our Unit and Community Projects, contact:

Dr. Gina Browne, Director
Systems of Prevention and Care • Health & Social Service Utilization Research Unit • McMaster University
McMaster Innovation Park (MIP) • 175 Longwood Road South • Suite 210A • Hamilton, ON L8P 0A1
Tel: 905.525.9140 Ext. 22293 • Fax: 905.528.5099 • Email: gina.browne@mcmaster.ca
Website: www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/spe • Website: www.fhs.mcmaster.ca/slru