

**70**  
YEARS

**COMMUNITY LIVING**  
Oshawa/Clarington



*Inspiring Possibilities*



## **Deepening Roots and Branching Out**

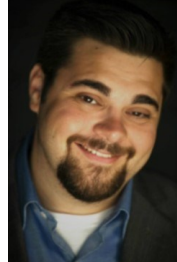


**70th Annual Report 2022-2023**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**TERRI GRAY**  
Executive Director  
Community Living  
Oshawa/Clarington



**MAC MOREAU**  
Board President  
Community Living  
Oshawa/Clarington

This year marks the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Community Living Oshawa/Clarington. We are extremely proud of our grass roots, and those founding families that got things started back in the 1950s, leading to our incorporation in 1953. CLOC has embraced our history in this year's theme, 'Deepening Roots and Branching Out', honouring those who took the initiative to challenge the status quo and envision a better world; those who struggled, one step at a time, to make change happen, and those who helped to build and expand, not only CLOC but the developmental sector. We continue to recognize those who are working on change now, preparing for, and anticipating the changes to come. We pay tribute to all our advocates, the ones that came before us, the ones working so hard presently, and the ones we know will pick up the gauntlet after us. This is a milestone year of celebration!

Brian Weiner is credited for noting that "Life is so ironic. It takes sadness to know what happiness is, noise to appreciate silence and absence to value presence". All of us, we believe, can appreciate this sentiment having lived through the last three years of the pandemic. Now imagine CLOC's founding members' experiences and the many people who continue to experience absence from our community, who know the real sadness that comes from segregation and marginalization. The Community Living Movement believes that the gifts, uniqueness, and innate value of each person should be celebrated, supported, and acknowledged as essential to the completeness of the whole community. And that is why CLOC does the work it does, to help create a community where everyone is included, and our community is a welcoming place that embraces diversity in all of its forms.

We have all been through a lot these past few years and we have grown from these experiences, developing strengths, learning to adapt and respond to the changing world around us, overcoming the challenges this experience has brought with it. It is crystal clear what our values are and what is important to us in our lives. CLOC is extremely thankful to, and proud of, all the people who contributed to making those difficult times bearable; CLOC employees, people receiving supports and services, their families and our generous community partners. Together the tough times were not as tough.

Throughout the challenges CLOC did not lose sight of the important part we play in the lives of everyone we touch. Our

dedicated employees continued to support people in our service and their families, and we all continued to support local business and community partners. There were goals to be achieved, both personal and professional. With these goals in mind, CLOC was successful in staying on target as we begin wrapping up the four (4) year Strategic Plan from 2019 – 2023, even while we navigated COVID, with the collaboration and strength of everyone pulling together.

CLOC continued to grow over the past year, welcoming more people into 'My Day, My Way' and the Clarington Project, once all the COVID restrictions were removed. CLOC's 'My Stay, My Way' respite has expanded capacity as well, and has become a great community service for so many people needing it. Community involvement for people receiving residential supports has increased and focuses on helping people to live their best lives and reaching their goals. Things continue to look up.

Another huge success and celebration this year is the achievement of CLOC's 'My Life. My Community. My Way.' Campaign reaching its \$500,000 target to help people supported reach their goals. Thanks to CLOC's creative Fundraising Cabinet, there were numerous fundraising opportunities offered during lockdown and the times where restrictions were imposed. On May 31, 2023, CLOC hosted our first in-person event since 2019. The response was over the top! A Drag Extravaganza, celebrating CLOC's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Community Living month and inclusivity as it was on the cusp of Pride month. The event was held at the Harmony Creek Event Centre for over 200 people. The event was a great success with a sold out crowd, engaging performers and a magical atmosphere all around. With the help of CLOC's sponsors, donors and participants over the past year, we have now adjusted our Campaign goal higher! Who would have thought we would be making this decision? Thank you to everyone who has contributed to supporting CLOC!

It dawns on me, as Executive Director, that I have been with CLOC for half of this organization's life, this being my 35<sup>th</sup> work anniversary. I have seen many challenges and changes, along with much growth and success. It has been an honour and privilege to be a part of such a wonderful movement and organization that has taken such strides to advance opportunities for authentic community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities.

# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion & Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion



## Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Submitted by Marisa Fortune Hall

The developmental services sector has a long history of advocating for the authentic inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in their communities.

As a microcosm of the sector, over its 70 years of existence, CLOC too, has been on its own journey advocating for the inclusion of the people we provide services to in the Oshawa and Clarington communities. Advocacy that began in 1953 with the opening of the *ODAMR*, has drastically evolved to become true inclusion: where individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities advocate for themselves alongside families, organizations and other allies who continue to advocate with them.

Just as advocacy for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities has evolved over the years, the sector's focus on advocacy through the lens of inclusion has expanded to include advocating for the rights of people from the perspective of equity and diversity.

Using an equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) lens allows organizations to advocate for everyone - individuals receiving services, families and staff - recognizing change is the ultimate goal of advocacy and there is much that can be changed at an individual, organizational and community level. This year, CLOC has joined communities of practices of organizations across our region and sector who are interested in making meaningful and impactful change using an anti-oppression framework. EDI work is not a destination, it is a journey, but the goal of the journey must be to continue to seek out opportunities to change and never assume the work is done.

## Journey To Belonging: Choice and Inclusion Submitted by Kathy Mangunatmodjo

Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion is an initiative that was launched by the Ministry of Community, Children and Social Services (MCCSS) in 2020.

- ♦ Choice revolves around providing people with more choices, and to support them in their choices if they require and request it. It also means giving people more control over the supports that they receive.
- ♦ Inclusion means that all people having meaningful participation in the community, are respected and welcomed.

A main pillar of Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion has been established to enable people to have more say over what they do with the funding they receive. This will focus more on people receiving supports based on needs, providing flexibility and responsiveness as their lives and goals change. Families have also been identified as requiring more services than what are currently available. A part of this journey is to include agencies, like Community Living Oshawa/Clarington, to help create additional services, reduce barriers and close some of the gaps that currently exist.

# STRATEGIC GOALS

## A YEAR IN REVIEW 2022—2023

CLOC is in the process of wrapping up our four (4) year Strategic Plan that was launched in 2019. We are pleased with the many successes and achievements that have been made toward the over arching strategic goals. There were some unexpected impacts over the life of this plan, as we found ourselves in the middle of a pandemic part way in, leading to much uncertainty. We did not waiver and continued to focus on the needs and the goals of the people counting on us. People receiving supports and services, their families and CLOC employees were equally important to our success. The health and well-being of everyone working together forged this united front. Working shoulder to shoulder, we accomplished so much during these unimaginable times.

Here are some highlights of the past year of CLOC's Strategic Plan. There is much pride to be shared among the many who contributed to these achievements, and overcame challenges to making these goals a reality.

### IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & SECTORAL ADVOCACY

- Communications Plan Implementation
  - As part of our communications plan CLOC utilized social media as an effective way to disseminate information to our community, stakeholders, and larger audiences. Social media is also an effective way to support the work of our community partners and further extend their reach through our contacts.
- COVID Debriefs
  - COVID Debriefs were conducted with all locations that experienced outbreaks to gather information, engage with employees and improve processes.
- Communique for Employees
  - CLOC launched its reimagined Weekly Employee Electronic Newsletter, which contains an Infection, Prevention And Control (IPAC) section to highlight important emerging information. It allows departments to provide updates on a weekly basis on important information and upcoming events, and raises awareness around opportunities to engage with CLOC and our community beyond an employee's work location.
- Phoenix Advocacy Group

- The group was meeting virtually over COVID, until July 2023 when in person meetings resumed.
- Community Living Ontario Council members visited CLOC to speak with The Phoenix Group and CLOC participants about advocacy, self care, and the importance of story telling.
- The Phoenix Advocacy Group continues to recruit to expand its membership and scope.
- Engagement Strategy
  - Community Engagement initiatives this past year include:

CLOC's role as Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Champion for Durham Region. Our champions participated in the IPAC community of practice as part of the Durham Region IPAC Hub. In this role, CLOC provided N-95 fit testing to Durham community agencies and was the liaison between Durham agencies and the IPAC hub, providing information, resources, and personal protective equipment.

CLOC became members of two Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Communities of Practice. One is a provincial group that looks at EDI through a sectoral lens and the other is a group that comes together to support each other in learning and EDI implementation across the Region of Durham.

CLOC hosted an amazing 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Drag Extravaganza to promote inclusion and acceptance for all. This event allowed CLOC to develop new partnerships and relationships, while highlighting important issues of how inclusion, acceptance and belonging is for everyone, as these are pillars for the Community Living Movement.

CLOC participates in Community Living Ontario's Communications Group to create and implement community engagement activities in collaboration across the province.

Four management employees were trained to provide assessment for early detection of dementia. These employees provide evaluation and resources that offer opportunities to review relevant information that can be used by the team and healthcare practitioners to aid in shared decision making, and plan-



# STRATEGIC GOALS

## A YEAR IN REVIEW 2022—2023



ning, training, services, and supports. The assessment is used to help in the early identification and screening process for dementia, as well as to provide information to begin the dialogue with health care professionals.

CLOC has been a part of Reimagining Day Services Community of Practice, which is a provincial Developmental Services network gathering to promote voice, choice and inclusion for people receiving supports to belong and participate in their community.

CLOC has been a part of the Culminating Community Wellness initiative through Canadian Mental Health Association (CAMH), in partnership with the Provincial Network, that promotes personal and professional wellness.

CLOC is a part of the Durham Human Resources Committee, a sub-committee of the Durham Systems Management Committee. It is made up of local Developmental Services (DS) agencies that work collaboratively to develop strategies to enhance employee recruitment, engagement and retention.

CLOC participates on the Durham College Developmental Services Worker Advisory Committee to provide consultation for curriculum development.

CLOC participates on the Durham Training network to plan, develop and implement training that builds capacity within DS agencies.

### • Equity Diversity and Inclusion

- CLOC has been successful in utilizing an EDI group to bring diverse perspectives on gaps and how to address them. This group raises awareness on EDI matters across the agency.
- The EDI group has provided recommendations to the Board to transform CLOC's diversity policy into the EDI policy. The group was essential in the crafting the EDI training that is part of annual rights training for people supported.
- The group has lead awareness building initiatives across the agency, highlighting important days that recognize and honour equity, diversity, and inclusion.

### • Town Halls

- In November, February, and June CLOC hosted three

town halls where employees, people supported and their families were welcomed to attend.

- The June 27, 2023, Town Hall BBQ, was held in person as CLOC returned to its Family Membership meeting format.
- These meetings allow CLOC to provide updates, connect, and encourage people supported, families and staff to participate in discussion, ask questions and provide feedback.

## ENHANCING SERVICE INNOVATION & STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

### • 'My Stay, My Way' Respite Program

- 'My Stay, My Way' continues to expand its outreach across Durham Region, thereby allowing families and caregivers the opportunity to pursue other commitments and obligations. 'My Stay, My Way' provides respite that is intended to be a holiday for the people attending and is focused on social and recreational goals, and personal outcomes.
- As a pilot, the respite program has been able to respond to an urgent need that allowed for stabilization, assessment and planning toward permanent housing to occur. We continue to look for ways for this program to creatively respond to community needs.
- The reapplication for Children's Licensing is underway with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) for overnight children's respite.

### • 'My Day, My Way' community supports

- The program continues to include more people and more community activities, assisting many people supported to achieve their goals related to community participation, inclusion and recreation.
- MDMW continues to develop relationships with community stakeholders, generating increased engagement, adding more activities, and facilitating new connections.
- Monthly activities and resources continue to increase and be shared across the agency to all people receiving supports which helps to preserve ex-

# STRATEGIC GOALS

## A YEAR IN REVIEW 2022—2023

isting relationships and create new ones.

- MDMW and the Clarington Project are thankful for volunteers and families that support and allow for increased opportunities through their support and contributions.
- Group living staff and people supported co-create/generate activities and events reflecting dreams and goals of people supported. On any given day you may find folks at a dance party, at the CN Tower, downtown Toronto, Niagara Falls, the local pub/café, playing bingo, gardening, volunteering, visiting with friends and family. The list goes on and on.
- Investment Readiness Grant to explore service innovation and capacity
  - CLOC successfully applied to receive a Community Foundations of Canada Investment Readiness grant, to help us explore new funding opportunities and business models that would allow us to align with the MCCSS Journey to Belonging, and for service expansion to address community needs and pressures.
- CLOC was able to address housing insecurities for people supported, by moving 15 people to new locations to stabilize and/or improve living conditions.
- CLOC created a clinical position utilizing a social worker to provide supportive and therapeutic conversations with people we support, families and our staff team. This has allowed us to provide immediate supports for those on long community resource wait lists. This position provides training and capacity building for our teams as well as service resolution and mediation component. It has allowed us to address post covid stress, anxiety and isolation, moving our teams toward wellness.
- CLOC has created a behavioural support team, allowing us to provide immediate behavioural supports and build expertise and capacity internally as well as bypass long community waitlists. This has provided increased safety, security, and wellbeing for the people we support, their families and staff teams.
- CLOC transitioned from Non-Violent Crisis Intervention to Safe Management (SMG) training for our direct support employees, over the past year. SMG training provides for a

proactive, individualized approach to behavioural management that responds respectfully when people are experiencing difficulty.

### MODERNIZING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY & IMPROVING FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- ‘My Life. My Community. My Way.’ Campaign
  - In April 2023, CLOC was pleased to announce that we have raised 100% of our \$500,000 fundraising goal. The campaign doesn’t actually end until March 31, 2024, so CLOC continues to raise funds for this initiative.
  - The Fundraising Cabinet is working alongside CLOC’s leadership team and Board to establish new fundraising goals to align with CLOC’s incoming strategic plan.
- Core Competencies
  - Core competencies, aligned with provincial standards, were created for all agency positions to facilitate professional development. Growth Stages allow employees to advance skills by identifying goals and exhibiting behaviours that lead to success.
- Wilson Road Expropriation
  - CLOC finalized negotiations with MTO, planned for and secured replacement property, and completed renovations.
  - Planning took place with each person living at Wilson, their families, and the team to ensure a successful transition to the new location.
- Brokering of Funds
  - CLOC brokered \$1,577,083 for people with developmental disabilities and their families, providing support with administration and planning related to direct funding. This enables people to receive community supports focused on choice and reaching goals.
  - CLOC brokered \$775,534 community urgent response dollars on behalf of MCCSS, to support the Durham Systems Management Committee and its processes, address crisis, and short-term pressing needs.



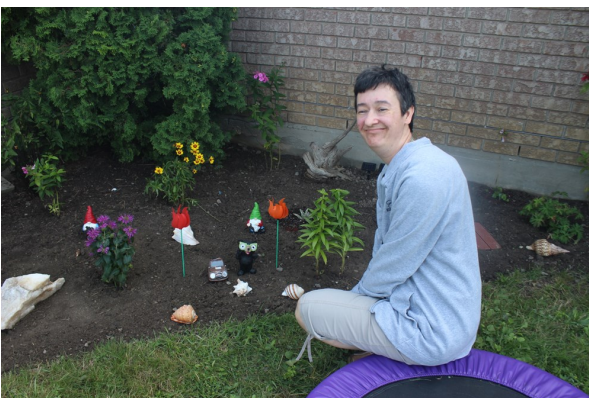
# STRATEGIC GOALS

## A YEAR IN REVIEW 2022—2023



### USE OF TECHNOLOGY ACROSS THE ORGANIZATION TO ENHANCE QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY

- 'My Day, My Way' (MDMW) program has had great success transitioning from the virtual experiences to in person and community activities. The hybrid approach allows for more flexibility and for many to participate.
- Hybrid connectivity
  - OWL technology continues to allow flexibility for people to participate in person, and virtually, in a hybrid model of meeting, to encourage continued engagement when people are unable to physically attend a gathering.
- CLOC upgraded to Microsoft 365 last year, which:
  - Improved capacity for cloud storage, which has been a benefit for business continuity.
  - Improved and updated programs, which have created more opportunities for both CLOC employees and people supported.
  - Has allowed CLOC to modernize its email system to be managed internally.
- Human Resources System improvements
  - CLOC continues to be committed to improving our process to create a seamless system between Human Resources, payroll, and scheduling. Work continues to strengthen and enhance our system and address gaps.



# TREASURER'S REPORT 2022-2023

## For the fiscal year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

### From the Treasurer

In our 2022-23 fiscal year, as pandemic restrictions lifted in Ontario, life gradually returned to a "new normal." By March 2023, we had adapted to living with COVID. In June 2023, the Board received and approved our Auditor's fiscal year report, revealing a surplus of \$38,956. However, cash decreased by \$1.1M, with \$645,000 in bank debt, largely related to investment in Agency facilities.

Expenses rose by 8.5%, and revenues by 8.2%, adjusted for inflation this translates to increases of 5% and 4.8%. Over five years, both expenses and revenues increased by about 4.2% annually, with expenses slightly outpacing revenue by less than 0.1% annually.

As our 2019-2023 strategic plan concludes, we're eager to see how our current planning efforts will strengthen CLOC's long-term sustainability in promoting full inclusion of the people we serve in the communities where they live, work, and participate.

Anticipated changes in the fiscal year ending March 2024 include shifts in revenue and expenses due to achieving fundraising goals in "My Life. My Community. My Way." Program changes focusing on choice and self-determination will impact our operational position. We look forward to collaborating with our invaluable staff team to understand the impact of these changes.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Cormier

Secretary-Treasurer

### Auditor's Report

The complete Auditor's Report is available at <https://communitylivingoc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Community-Living-Oshawa-Clarington-Audited-Financial-Statements-2022-2023.pdf>. A summary of the report has been prepared by the Secretary-Treasurer to conserve printing. The Secretary-Treasurer encourages and asks members to read the full report.

### Qualified Opinion *excerpt from Auditor's Report*

"We [Smith Chapell Marsh Villander LLP of Oshawa] have audited the financial statements of Community Living Oshawa Clarington (the Organization), ...

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects...."

### Basis for Qualified Opinion *paraphrase from Auditor's Report*

As is common with many not-for-profit organizations, CLOC derives revenue from donations and fundraising activities. This type of revenue is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Due to this, verification is limited to only that which was recorded in the records of the Organization. The auditor is unable to determine if any adjustments were needed to these amounts. However, the Auditor conducted their audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted audit standards.

### Notes to Financial Statements *excerpt from Auditor's Report*

#### 15. Subsequent Event

"On March 11, 2022, the organization was advised that the adult residence at Wilson Road will be expropriated by the Ministry of Transportation in May 2023."



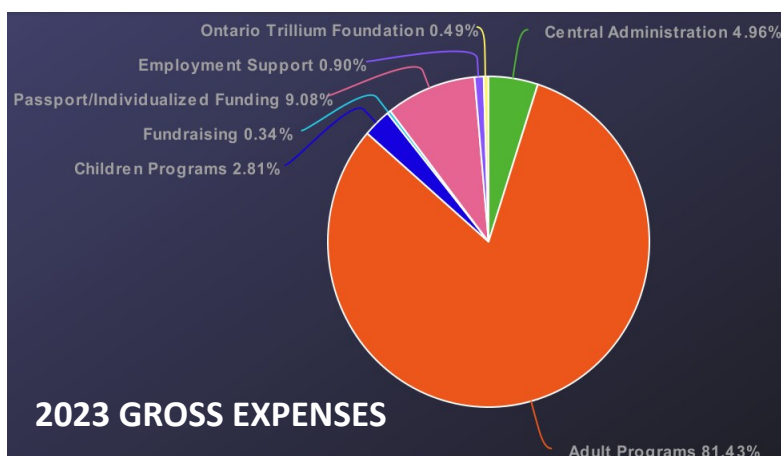


# TREASURER'S REPORT 2022-2023



## Financial Statements

The Comprehensive financial statements are prepared by the Auditor and are available in the Auditor's report, previously noted. These presentations have been prepared by the Secretary-Treasurer to provide an overview of those financial statements received and approved by the Board.



## Comprehensive Statement of Operations for the year ended 31 March 2023

		2023	2022
R E V E N U E	Provincial Subsidy	\$20,258,092	\$18,277,742
	Fiscal Subsidy – COVID Related	0.00	1,821,118
	Other Provincial Subsidy	2,092,544	744,329
	Program Fees	1,160,852	1,116,019
	Trillium Foundation	116,502	33,498
	Donations	22,797	15,528
	Other Revenues	328,577	150,360
	Amortization of Deferred Contributions	22,741	23,986
	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$24,002,105</b>	<b>\$22,182,580</b>
E X P E N S E S	Gross Salaries/Benefits	\$17,928,190	\$17,182,384
	Staff Training	54,083	84,281
	Building Occupancy	1,018,287	763,741
	Travel and Communications	489,258	510,120
	Supplies and Equipment	568,597	699,055
	Other Program/Services	3,719,610	2,596,262
	DSH Mortgage Interest, Audit, & Capital Reserve	18,850	21,514
	Amortization	181,058	173,329
	Vacation Accrual	(14,784)	64,061
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$23,963,149</b>	<b>\$22,094,747</b>
	<b>Excess of Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>\$38,956</b>	<b>\$87,833</b>
	Due to Ministry	0.00	45,133
	Retained by CLOC	\$38,956	\$42,700

# TREASURER'S REPORT 2022-2023

## Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
<i>Current Assets</i> (Cash, Receivables, and Prepaid Expenses)	\$2,321,357	\$2,328,637
<i>Net Capital Assets</i> (Land, Buildings, and Equipment less amortization)	\$4,499,246	\$4,581,862
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$6,820,603</b>	<b>\$6,910,499</b>
<i>Current Liabilities</i> (Debt, Payables, and Funds held in trust)	\$2,806,883	\$2,770,420
<i>Mortgages Payable in Next Fiscal Year</i>	\$408,366	\$148,214
<i>Mortgages Payable</i> (less current amount above)	\$722,672	\$1,131,014
<i>Deferred Contributions Related to Capital Assets</i>	\$429,400	\$452,141
<i>Investment in Capital Assets</i>	\$2,938,808	\$2,850,494
<i>Capital Reserve Allowance – Dedicated Supportive Housing</i>	\$62,775	\$57,159
<i>Unrestricted Net Assets</i>	(\$548,301)	(\$498,943)
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$6,820,603</b>	<b>\$6,910,499</b>

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Investment in Capital Assets	Capital Reserve Allowance	Unrestricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
<i>Opening Balance</i>	\$2,850,494	\$57,159	(\$498,943)	<b>\$2,408,710</b>	\$2,360,422
<i>Surplus (Deficit)</i>	(\$158,090)	-	\$197,046	<b>\$38,956</b>	\$42,700
<i>Change in Investment in Capital Assets</i>	\$246,404	-	(\$246,404)	-	-
<i>Dedicated Supportive Housing Funding</i>	-	\$5,616	-	<b>\$5,616</b>	\$5,588
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$2,938,808</b>	<b>\$62,775</b>	<b>(\$548,301)</b>	<b>\$2,453,282</b>	<b>\$2,408,710</b>

# TREASURER'S REPORT 2022-2023



## Comprehensive Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2023

		2023	2022
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Excess of Revenue over Expenses	\$38,956	\$42,700
	Charges to income not involving cash	186,446	178,917
	Receivables	(477,315)	(884,535)
	Payables	(563,561)	95,776
	Prepays	5,469	(1,693)
	Due to Ministry	(45,043)	15,675
	Funds Held in Trust	67	0
	<b>Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>(\$854,981)</b>	<b>(\$553,160)</b>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES	Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	\$11,000	\$0
	Additions to capital assets	(109,214)	0
	<b>Cash Provided by Investing Activities</b>	<b>(\$98,214)</b>	<b>\$0</b>
FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(Decrease) in mortgages payable	(\$148,190)	(\$143,751)
	(Decrease) in deferred capital contributions re. to capital assets	(22,741)	(23,985)
	<b>Cash Provided by Financing Activities</b>	<b>(\$170,931)</b>	<b>(\$167,736)</b>
	Change in Cash during the year	(\$1,124,126)	(\$720,896)
	Cash at 1 April	\$543,388	\$1,264,284
	<b>Cash at 31 March</b>	<b>(\$580,738)</b>	<b>\$543,388</b>



# 'MY LIFE. MY COMMUNITY. MY WAY.'

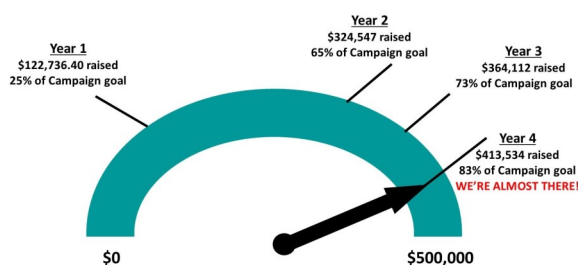
## CAMPAIGN 2019—2024

The 'My Life. My Community. My Way.' Campaign aims to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families, who are supported by Community Living Oshawa/Clarington, through two different streams:

**QUALITY OF LIFE** focuses on community involvement, health, safety, respite care, augmented communication, experiences and providing further personalized opportunities for inclusion within the community.

**BRICKS & MORTAR** focuses on ensuring that people live in safe homes that are adapted to their needs, including repairs & maintenance, and accessibility features such as lifts & ramps, retrofitting and fire & safety.

Originally planned as a four year venture, with a \$500,000 goal, the 'My Life. My Community. My Way.' Campaign was extended for an additional year in 2021, anticipating that funding would be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As we wrap up the fourth (4th) year of the Campaign (as of March 31, 2023), we are thrilled to announce we have reached 83% of our \$500,000 goal, with \$413,534 raised. Thanks to our hard-working Campaign Cabinet for all their creative initiatives to inspire these possibilities.



### DONOR BREAKDOWN

Events:	\$37,888.28	9%
Grants:	\$286,756.56	69%
Individual Donors:	\$31,934.00	8%
Business:	\$27,682.00	7%
Service Groups:	\$18,476.90	4%
In Kind:	\$6,590.00	2%
Funds/Foundations:	\$1,958.25	0.005%
Employee Giving:	\$2248.00	0.50%

### PROJECTS FUNDED

- ◆ Roof at Holt Road
- ◆ Masonry at Old Scugog
- ◆ Creation of the Hub @ 39 Wellington
- ◆ 'Cercle Social' French Culture Club
- ◆ Four Months of COVID Isolation Activity & Food Kits
- ◆ Renovations at 947 Adelaide
- ◆ Morale-boosting Activities for COVID Outbreak Locations
- ◆ Multisensory Room at Respite Location (in process)
- ◆ Electric Wheelchair Lift for Van
- ◆ Floor Sanitizing Machines
- ◆ Furniture
- ◆ Maintenance & Repairs

### CAMPAIGN CABINET MEMBERS

*Honourary Chair*

**Dan Walters**, Ontario Tech University

*Campaign Chair*

**Amber Derby** - Holiday Inn Express & Suites

*Members*

**David Barber**, Piper Barber Insurance

**Paul Beauvais**, Peak Benefit Solutions Inc.,

CLOC Board of Directors

**Derek Grieve**, W.B. White Insurance

**Rachel Taylor** - Supervisor - Facilities, CLOC

*CLOC Support to the Cabinet*

**Marnie Saloni** - Manager, Resource Development & Public Relations

**Terri Gray** - Executive Director

**Marisa Fortune Hall** - Director, Engagement





# THANK YOU TO ALL OF CLOC'S DONORS AND SPONSORS



## 100 Women Who Care Durham Region

Alex Talmor  
Allan & Lynne Bertrand  
Alyssa Sennema  
Anna Hooper  
Barbara Catalano  
Bernie Daya  
Bev Sturtevant  
Black & McDonald Limited  
Bradley Motors  
Brian Poole  
Caroline De Jong  
Caroline Sutherland  
Carolyn Maugeri  
Carolyn Russel  
Carrie Blanchard  
Catherine Davis  
Catherine Finley  
Catherine Pike  
Cathy Biggar  
Christ The King Lutheran Church  
Clarington Cycling Club  
Colin and Jane Rae  
Colleen Carson  
Connie Ciulla  
Diana Winsor  
Diane Dickson-Kailan  
Diane Robertson  
Donna & Paul MacDonald  
Donna Anderson  
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Eric & Terry Cay  
Gabriele Croft  
Gail & Joe Boccabella  
GC Electric & Fire Protection  
George Bremner  
Gisele Larocque  
Go Easy Care

Helen Long  
Helen Miklaszewski  
Irene Bennett  
J. Jeffrey Rouse  
Jacquelynn Tanner  
James Houghton  
Jamie Letros  
Janet Boychuk  
Janet L.  
Jean-Claude Legault  
Jennie Tyl  
Jennifer Dempsey  
Jerry Biggar  
JoAnne Drumm  
Jody Herc  
John Karapita  
John Olver  
Julie Mephram  
Julie Robertson  
Kathy McKay  
Kathy Pittman-Feltham  
Kellie Dorion  
Kim Reid  
Kristina Garrels  
Larry Grabowski  
Laura Apps  
Laura Imbeau  
Leela James  
Lia Bandola  
Lindsay Lyons  
Lisa Cahill  
Lisa Miller  
Lori (Patricia) Roberts  
Lori Lopes  
Marisa Fortune Hall  
Marlene Marco  
Melanie Martin  
Melodie Pritchard  
Michelle Leduc  
Nancy Beverly  
Nancy Draper

Nicola Mulima  
Ontario Power Generation  
Oshawa West Lions Club  
Paige Goldsmith  
Pam Ablett  
Pamela Adamcewicz  
Paradisaic  
Patricia Cherry  
Patricia Offer  
Patricia Scovil  
Patricia Sheppard  
Pauline Field  
Pauline Mattie  
Richard & Alice Whitney  
Robert Tooley  
Ron & Gail Croll  
Rose Collier  
Sali Fitzpatrick  
Sandra Wilk  
Sara Bradford  
Shannon Sheppard  
Shannon Stuart  
Sharon Alakas  
Sheri & Doug Bredewold  
Sheri Gundry  
Sofie Kehdi  
Sondra Pavelic  
Spencer Dawson  
Stephanie Doan  
Susan Philips  
Susan San Cartier  
Susan Witteveen  
Terri Gray  
Terry Smit  
The Coca-Cola Company  
Valerie Denbok  
Vera Felgemacher  
Wayne & Brenda Klinowski  
Wendy Henry

***We hope the  
'My Life. My Community. My Way.'  
Campaign continues to Inspire  
Possibilities for many years to come!***

# SERVICE AT A GLANCE



**31 Residential Locations**



**Employing 370 People**



**Serving 609 People**



**Providing Summer  
Respite for 22 People**



**Brokering Passport Funds  
for 224 People**

## Virtual Engagement



**301,259  
Website Visits**

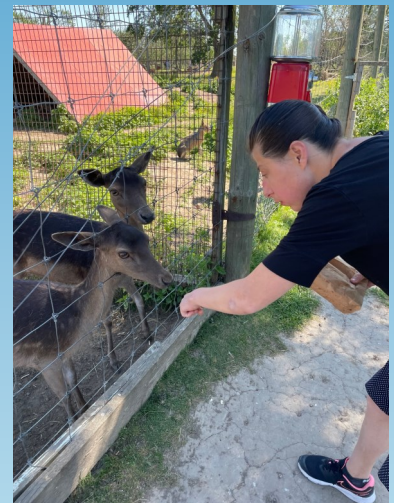
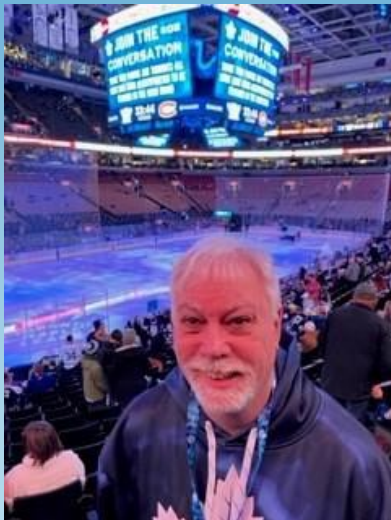
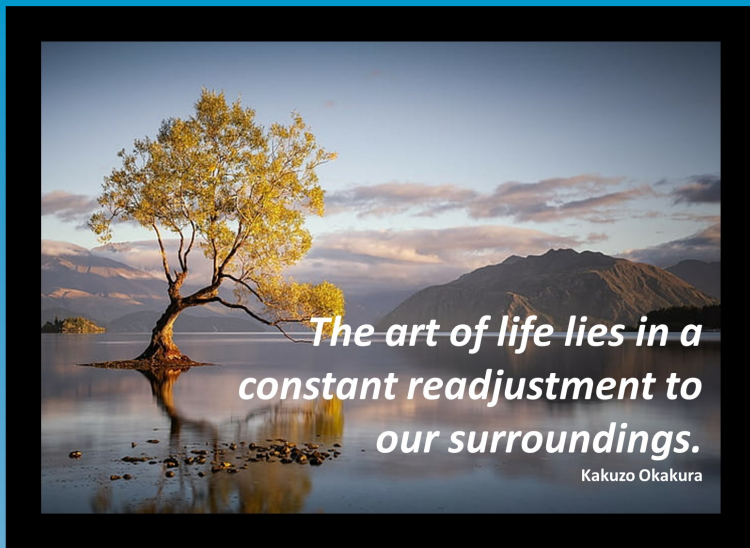
**4071  
Social Media Followers**

**310,093  
Social Media views for the year**



*Get Involved!*

# Out in the Community 2022 - 2023





# Fun Summer Spirit Days and Dancing The Day Away





# Thank you!

## Community Partner Awards 2022/23



### Cobs Bread—Yummy Creations

A year ago, Theresa Van Manen approached me to see if we were interested in partnering with the local COBS bread on Taunton Road in north Oshawa. The arrangement meant that each Tuesday evening, our Support Services staff would venture out and pick up any breads, sweets, and rolls that were not sold that day. There were lots of bakery items and we began to wonder if we could distribute all of them out to those we support.

We all know that with the increase in the costs of food any help to people living on a fixed income is welcomed. They say the average person spends around \$200 a month on groceries. When budgets are tight due to other costs such as rent, any donation towards food items helps. The COVID-19 pandemic has had implications for trade. One of the other reasons why food prices are high in Canada is due to Climate change. Heat waves, wildfires, floods and droughts are significantly impacting farming, and in turn the cost of vegetables. It's costing more to do everything in the food industry for distribution to transportation, processing. So obviously it's highly unlikely that prices will drop.

The COBS Bread delicious treats are not difficult to distribute each week, and everyone has loved them. It has been exciting to see what people make with the bread and some have shared pictures of their creations. We've seen pizzas being made with the flatbreads, bread puddings of all sorts made with different breads, homemade croutons and breadcrumbs, and French toast enjoyed by many. During the holidays staff have also used the bread to make delicious stuffing for that turkey dinner.

Each Wednesday morning the items are packed into bags ready for all staff to look at and take what they can use. Over time,

we have found easy-to-make recipes and we leave them on the front desk at our office for those picking up bread to also grab.

We are thankful for this opportunity with COBS bread, to our main contact Jen Mallett, and staff who are very friendly and helpful when we show up on a Tuesday evening. Thanks to our employees who have shared a recipe or two, and to those who come out each week to pick up the goods. Special appreciation to Theresa, Mary, Gillian and Petrina from Support Services who commit to help with the pickup each Tuesday evening and bag the items up on Wednesday morning, so they are ready when people come to 947. It certainly takes a team of wonderful people to make it all happen.

We know the benefit of helping others far outweighs the work involved.

So much more than bread!

By Suzanne Nobes



### Uzma Danish



Community Living Oshawa/Clarington is a non-profit charitable organization providing supports and services to assist people with developmental disabilities to achieve their goals, and most importantly, to engage in building inclusive communities.

CLOC's vision is for people with developmental disabilities to be included in a community where everyone lives, works, participates, succeeds, and flourishes.

CLOC's work is rooted in the principle of inclusion. CLOC remains a leader and strong advocate for the full inclusion

of people with developmental disabilities in their community. Inclusion is the way in which all people experience their right to full participation and have opportunity to contribute as citizens. It is through participation and inclusion that people feel valued.

CLOC believes these rights extend to our staff as well. When employees participate in discussions and are included in deci-

sions, they feel a sense of enhanced value. CLOC's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Group (EDI) began as a staff driven initiative, created to engage in conversations around equity, diversity and inclusion. This group is made up of front-line staff, management, students and community members who come together to advance EDI efforts across the agency.

Uzma is a long-time community representative engaged with this group. She lends her expertise, experience and knowledge while working with the EDI Group to make recommendations on policies, facilitate conversations, and identify service user centred solutions where needed. This group also makes recommendations to CLOC's Board committees. The time Uzma dedicates to this group is voluntary and invaluable.

Thanks to Uzma's commitment, contribution, and leadership, CLOC has been able to make many advancements through the EDI work within the agency. We are fortunate to have her work with us.

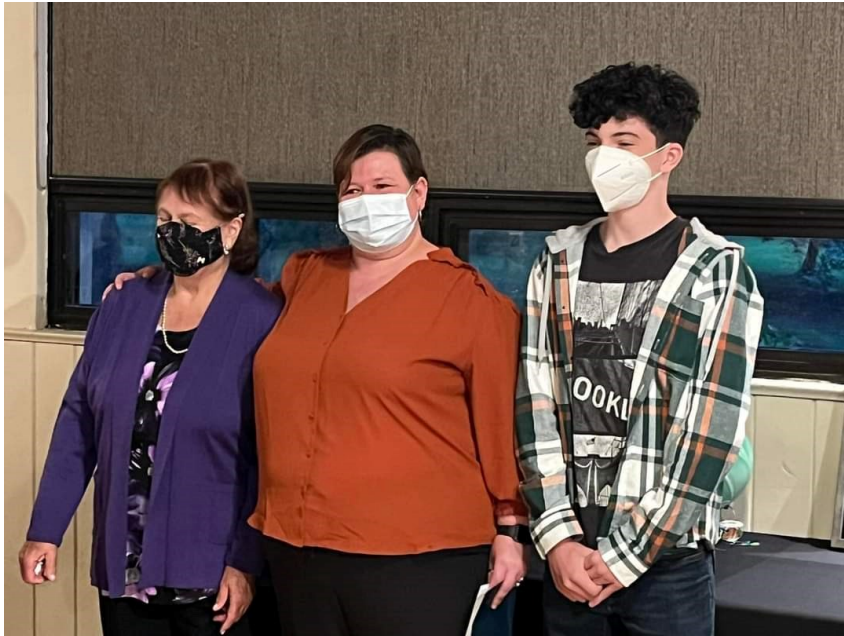
By Marisa Fortune Hall

# Mark Forgette Award Winner

## 2021/22—Nicole Pagett

*The Mark Forgette Award was presented by Mark's mother, Ginny Forgette, and her grandson, Aidan.*

*Congratulations to Nicole! And it was so nice to have the AGM in person again to truly pay tribute to the amazing winners!*



2022

Well, here we are, still living under the wrath of COVID. Who would have thought a year later we'd all be in this conundrum? I can't say enough about how well we've weathered this with the leadership of everyone at Community Living Oshawa/Clarington. Now you can look back and tell yourselves you did the RIGHT thing from the get go. You hunkered down with PPE and got the job done! Every time I turn on the TV or read the paper and see all the new updates on the COVID numbers, I have to admit I still feel pretty smug that our family members are being looked after so well. And yes, neither Steve nor I have lost a night's sleep in the past year (well, maybe with the red wine a couple of times, but that's on us).

Nicole is a saint. She does, as always, an awesome job keeping Andy busy with all the activities she plans within the CLOC guidelines. Who would have thought this

would open up a busier, more focused life for him. We never know what's going on in his mind, but he has come so far ahead this past year with his signing and thoughts. Last week when he and Nicole were in his backyard blowing bubbles he signed for "Cinnamon" because she did that a lot with him when she worked with him. Then he signed Dad, Mom, Cinnamon and swimming (we had a small backyard pool). Cinnamon worked with Andy when he was 12 (she was 18) for a couple of years – that's nearly 35 years ago. We were all gobsmacked to see just how much he has retained from those early years. Cinnamon moved on to university to become a marine biologist. I'd love to find her so Andy could see her again.

The implementation (thank you Nicole) of our daily calls to Andy has been a godsend. I don't think in his 45 years we've ever been as close to him as we are now. We look forward to those calls to catch up on what his day has been all about. I would never have known that he folds his underwear exactly like his dad does so in those early years he was taking in a lot more than we ever knew.

I'm rambling too much. Once again, Andy's family would like to thank everyone at Community Living Oshawa/Clarington for being there for us.

Submitted by

Steve and Nancy Smith (2022)

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# President's Award Winner 2021/22—Marland/Gibb



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*The President's Award was delivered by the President of CLOC's Board of Directors, Mac Moreau, to team representative, Stacey Austin. Congratulations to the Marland/Gibb Team.*

The **Marland 1 team** has been supporting people successfully in three different apartments, on two levels, for many years. However, the past two years have been a bit more challenging. The core competencies that stand out for us are initiative and advocating for others.

## INITIATIVE

The team recognized that people supported missed some events they had participated in prior to COVID. This led to the creation of Thursday night Virtual Bingo for not only the people they supported but for every person supported residentially at CLOC. The team has been hosting this event for the past couple of years. They secured donations for prizes and would travel around Durham dropping off bingo cards and prizes to the homes. This event became so popular the agency soon realized that if we planned an event, it should be held on any other night but Thursday. This allowed the people supported to not only play a game of Bingo, but to reconnect virtually with their friends from CLOC.

The team also saw the importance of having the people supported at Marland remain connected to others in the community, so worked with them on individual goals. Some of these activities were virtual painting classes, virtual group training from LRCSS and Sunrise.

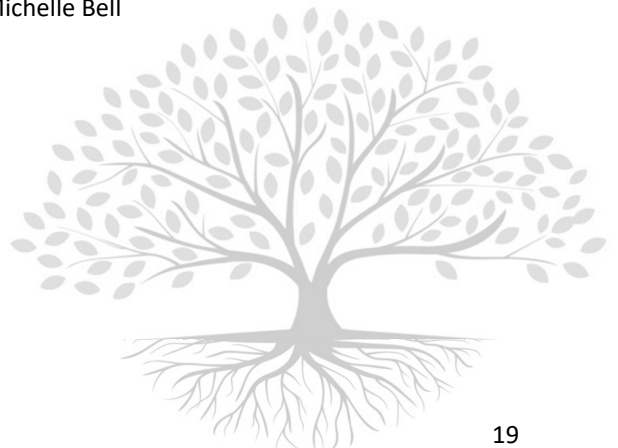
## ADVOCATING FOR OTHERS

When the Marland model was created almost fourteen years ago, it was an innovative way to provide support to individuals. Over the years, the building has gone through many owners and superintendents, and it was clear it was not being maintained as well as it had when we originally rented the apartments. It became evident that the people supported there needed to find another place to live. The team advocated for alternate accommodations and continued to advocate until the agency was able to secure somewhere different, clean, and meeting the needs of the people they supported.

They also advocated for a person that needed more staff support as their ability to remain independent was declining. This is a challenge as the allotted hours and schedule did not offer any additional hours. The team met with the person's family to discuss alternate residential options, but were unable to find a suitable one. They realized that having the person share a three- bedroom apartment, instead of living in an apartment by themselves, would provide for the additional support to assist with those tasks the person could no longer complete.

Thank you for all that you have done to ensure that the people CLOC supports are happy and healthy.

Stacey Austin	Emerald Kemp	Tammy Newhook
Jessica Bain	Joy Davies	Frank Muto
Marta Macolino	Shylo Steininger	Carol King
Jane Nnawuchi	Caroline Misick	Jessica Connolly
Michelle Bell		





# AND THE MOVE IS ON!

## The Wilson Road Story



The goal for many of us is to live our day-to-day lives with happiness and contentment. We make the changes we want and are mostly content with the rest. There is a great amount of love and pride when it comes to family and home for everyone. After all, family is the glue that binds us, and the safety net that supports us when we need it. Home is where our heart lives. It may be a rental, or a purchased home, small or grand, no matter the details, it is Home Sweet Home.

For the three people living at 580 Wilson Road South in Oshawa, February 2022 brought an unexpected change. Community Living Oshawa/Clarington (CLOC), was notified that this location was to be expropriated by the Ministry of Transportation and would be demolished to allow for road construction for the expansion of the 401 bridge that goes over Wilson Road.

YIKES! Where do we begin?

After a brief meeting with MTO, CLOC needed a plan to get from the start to the end, it needed to be smooth, and it had to be considerate of the people living at Wilson Road.

After many months of working with MTO to determine the value of the home, and the planning required to ensure everyone living there had a new home to go to that would match their wants and meet their needs, a plan began to form.

A new location was secured, and the renovations began. There is always a need to make changes to a home that is occupied by supported people, to ensure they have a sprinkler system, appropriate security, necessary safety items and accessibility. WOW! What a list. That didn't include the homey touches like favourite colours painted in the bedrooms, extra outlets for specialized equipment and oh my!, a new flower garden out front, and out back.

An amazing group of people pulled it all together - senior management, the Health and Safety team, facilities, maintenance, operations, families, and direct support staff.

Once the work was started, it felt like forever to see progress and then it was no time until this new place was looking pretty and inviting. It was a lot of hard work, but it was all coming

together. Between the snow, and the rain, and the mud, and the flood, and the heat in April, yes, unexpected hot days, we made it work, and everything was in place for the move into the new location on April 26, 2023.

For the people living at Wilson Road and their staff, it started with packing a couple of weeks before the move. No one likes that part. More planning, organizing, and purging. And then, suddenly, it was moving day! It was a long day for the moving company, the extra staff that pitched in to help, and CLOC's maintenance team who were there to assemble and hang items as needed. The residents left the Wilson Road location for the last time around 8:30 am on April 26<sup>th</sup> and went out for the day to allow the movers and fixers to do their thing.

Well into the afternoon the bulk of the move was done, and it was time for people to come home. All they needed to do was arrive at their new home and unpack. So much easier said than done.

Andy's Mom, Dad and brother (Cam) came to help out with the final reveal and brought 2 XL pizzas and a homemade double layer chocolate cake. What a great way for Andy and his family to share the thanks with the ladies living upstairs. Tracey and her support staff from upstairs came down to see how Andy was doing and to say "Hi" to his family. Tracey said, "Hey Andy, we gotta get your bed made - let's find the new sheets" and she did and the bed did get made!! She is a great friend to him and they, along with Melanie from upstairs, have formed a great "family". It was a few days before everything had found a place in the new location, but it all fit in well. For the people living at the home, it was a family shared experience.

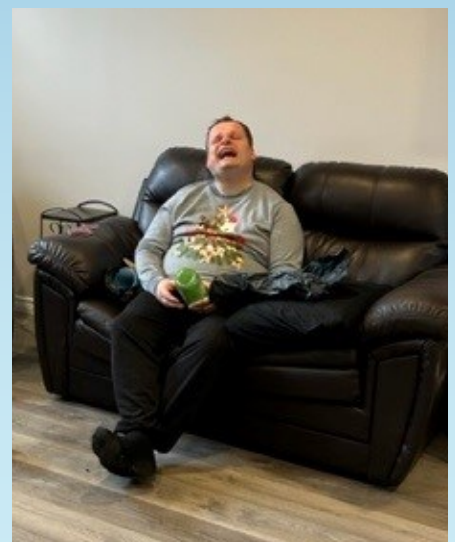
It has been a few months since the move now, and anyone who thought they may not be sure about the new location has embraced this amazing opportunity, full of new adventures.

Andy lives in the downstairs apartment. He is a busy fellow, always on the go and with his motivated staff he is diving into new adventures all the time. His staff and family thought the move to the new location at 346 Annapolis was going to be a challenge for Andy. It turned out there was nothing to worry about. The bright, comfortable apartment seems to fit him just fine and he has adjusted very well to his new surroundings. In this case, we found the change was positive.

Tracey and Melanie live on the main level at the new Annapolis location. These ladies chose bright and vibrant colours for their new home to match their personalities. They have both settled in comfortably and continue to enjoy some of the advantages their new home offers. They enjoy sitting on the front deck, on this quiet street, watching the squirrels and people walking by. It has become a tranquil paradise. Who knew that would be one of the perks to moving.



# WILSON ROAD SOUTH TO 346 ANNAPOLIS AVENUE





# ADVENTURES WITH CLOC



Love this. CLOC allows my son to live his best life (and his family 😊)



~ from the parent of a person supported at The Clarington Project



# A Journey to Belonging ~ with Blaine



## Blaine's Story

Life is filled with difficult choices. They can range from the ones that affect the immediate future like this week, to those that affect the rest of your life.

When it comes to people transitioning from home life with their family to a supported residential location, it can be an overwhelming, difficult decision. There are so many things to think about, concerns and considerations. None of which are taken lightly.

In the case of Blaine, it was a very long, thorough consideration of what was best for Blaine, AND his family.

This is where we were.

One year has now passed since Blaine moved from his family home in Newtonville to CLOC's Wyndfield Crescent location in Whitby.

It was one of the hardest things we had to do as a family, but we are so thankful we did it.

There were so many people who assisted us through this, and we send thanks to you all.

Craig, Erin, Claire, and Jen J. who let me cry on their shoulders.

The CLOC management team for navigating the whole process.

Thanks to Julie Coneron who continues to support Blaine and has become a very important part of our family.

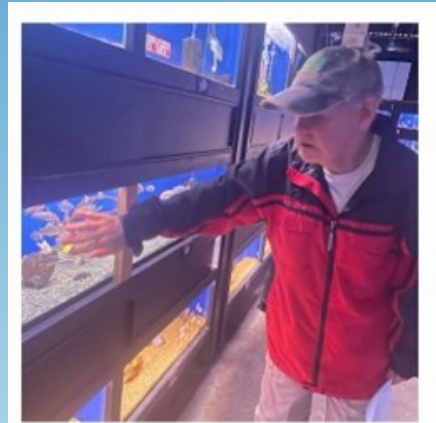
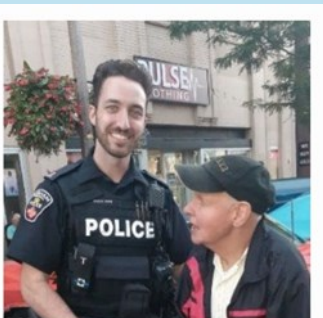
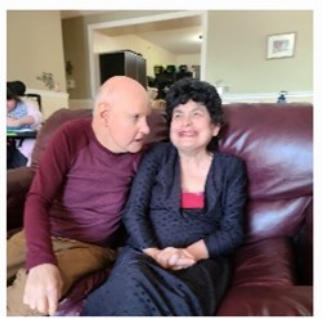
Our biggest thanks to Fabian, Cassandra, and Wyndfield support staff for going above and beyond.

We love receiving pictures of Blaine and his friends doing activities. He always looks so happy.

Mom really enjoys receiving phone calls from Blaine with help from his support staff. It's these little things that count.

And of course, thank you to Brenda, and Christine for accepting Blaine as part of your family.

Story submitted by Teresa Ellegett





# Do I know you?



## **The Man The Myth The Legend**

GEOFF DILLON By Cathy Morgan

I'd like to introduce you to Geoff Dillon. Geoff has been a member of the Community Living Oshawa/Clarington (CLOC) family for 35 years. He currently resides at one of CLOC's houses with his four housemates.

This year has been a very special year for Geoff. In March, Geoff celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. This is a milestone that everyone should celebrate! Geoff's celebration was a bowling party with friends and family. It had been 3 long years since people had gathered in celebration and everyone was so happy to share this milestone with Geoff.

Looking back at Geoff's life, his is the story of a man who has been through many changes and through each, he has thrived to be stronger and more ready to move on to the next.

I met Geoff in and around the early 1990s, when he was working at the Zellers store at the Five Points Mall. Some people

will remember that store fondly, I know I do because I worked there for a bit, as well. For many years it was the place to go where you could buy clothing, small furniture, electronics, 'records', albums, CDs and DVDs. My, how the times have changed. With all of that shopping, it was always a pleasure to stop in at the Big Z Café for a hot coffee, a cold drink, a snack or a full meal. That's where you would see Geoff working at clearing tables, picking up things around the area and greeting everyone that stopped in. It wasn't a greeting position like some stores have these days, it was Geoff being Geoff. The regulars at the Big Z quickly recognized Geoff's "Hi. Do I know you?" question, and the chatter would begin. The seniors loved him! And why not? He was a friendly, handsome young man (in the 1980s) with a big smile and an outgoing personality. Sometimes you might see Geoff taking a trolley to one department or another. He was always up for an adventure. The staff at the store knew Geoff well. His friendly manner would put a smile on anyone's face.

As do many chapters in our lives, Geoff was about to close one when the Big Z Café at Zellers was shut down and Geoff became unemployed. Nothing to worry about. Geoff has worked at many places in his career. He spent some time at Dewey's Café in Bowmanville where CLOC had a café inside the Clarington Public Library. This was a place where people supported by CLOC could learn or improve their skills in food service and cash exchange to go out into the community with an improved opportunity to engage employment. Geoff has also worked at places like Don Cherry's Sports Grill and I'm sure his most favourite, Leisure Lanes Bowl. He also spent time as part of CLOC's Day Program where he socialized and engaged in activities with several other people supported by CLOC, both at 39 Wellington and in the community. Geoff's next step were falling into place.

I didn't know then that one day I would reconnect with Geoff through CLOC. It was some time later that I was employed by CLOC and was pleasantly surprised to see Geoff again. In no time, it felt like it was only yesterday since we had last seen each other at Zellers, and we picked up right where we left off.

Geoff is a bowler. Not only does he love the game, but he is extremely good at it. Geoff has played in leagues for many years and has been on teams that have won their division. He was an Ontario Division Champion! COVID was a very difficult time for him as restrictions kept him at home and away from his favourite sport. Like for so many people, Geoff found that the pandemic was trying and difficult. But, there was one ad-

# Meet Geoff!



vantage for Geoff. His second love – music. It is amazing to talk to Geoff about music, or to listen to it with him. He is so into it; knows the name of the song when it comes on; knows who the band or singer is; knows so much, so quickly. ‘Name That Tune’ is Geoff. When Geoff wants to sit back and relax, he enjoys the old classic TV shows. He’s like a Renaissance Man.

As COVID receded, there were a few times Geoff could get out to bowl, but never enough. Then, as Geoff’s 60<sup>th</sup> birthday was approaching, it was decided that a Bowling Birthday would be the perfect party! The invitations went out, and the response was fantastic! So many people showed up to wish Geoff a Happy 60th birthday. I don’t think the smiles could have been wider or brighter. Things were looking up.

In March of 2023, CLOC had a pair of tickets donated for the Toronto Maple Leafs vs Montreal Canadiens at the Scotiabank Arena in Toronto. That is the Canadian East rivalry that everyone loves to see. After a month long contest where people could purchase 1 of 52 playing cards on a board, with one of the cards having Winner

written on the back, you guessed it! Geoff was a winner! He was on a roll! Geoff enjoys hockey almost (not quite, but almost) as much as bowling, so this was a really exciting surprise!

Geoff’s smile started the day he found out he won and lasted long after the game ended. The adventure was a once in a lifetime opportunity for Geoff, and I am thankful that I was able to be Geoff’s support for this experience. The pictures and Geoff’s expression say more than any words I ever could. A few captions have been added by others as everyone was able to share in Geoff’s experience vicariously.



*Did you know that Geoff has some pretty cool friends who are almost as important as he is?*



Is it time to go yet? I’m so excited.



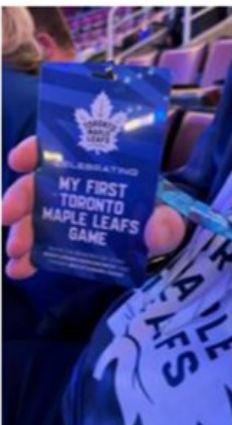
We took the GO Train to the game. This will be one of the best games ever!!! Everyone loves to see the rivalry between Toronto and Montreal. I can’t wait!!!!



We’re finally here! Yes, you can have one more picture and then I’m going in. The game is going to start and you’ll still be out here snapping away.



Look at these seats!!!! I made it! I’m finally here!!!!



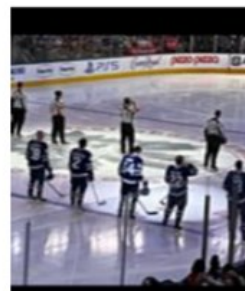
This is My First Toronto Maple Leafs Game and I’m loving Every second of it!



Look t the view 😊. I’m so close. I can’t believe it!!!!



I guess Cathy can be in just one of the pictures.



Look how close the players are! I could almost reach out and high five my favourite player, Austin Matthews!!!!

I will say, it has been my pleasure to have Geoff in my life for many years, and to know our paths crossed for a reason. I continue to look forward to the many new adventures Geoff will enjoy!

By: Cathy Morgan

# CLOC 's 70th ANNIVERSARY

What a way to top off Community Living Month!

This year, Community Living Oshawa/Clarington took one step further in celebrating the movement that strives to promote authentic community inclusion. On May 31<sup>st</sup>, CLOC held its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Drag Extravaganza! It was the perfect opportunity to take the knowledge, experience and strength of an established organization, that has developed over its 70 years, and share a stage with the LGBTQ2 community, that is blazing its own trails in much the same way, with many of the same values.

The Community Living movement believes that the gifts, uniqueness, and innate value of each person should be celebrated, supported, and acknowledged as essential to the completeness of the whole community. It is the same for the LGBTQ2 community, as they grow from the same type of grass roots movement as Community Living, inspiring people who dream of a better future, where all communities are fully inclusive.

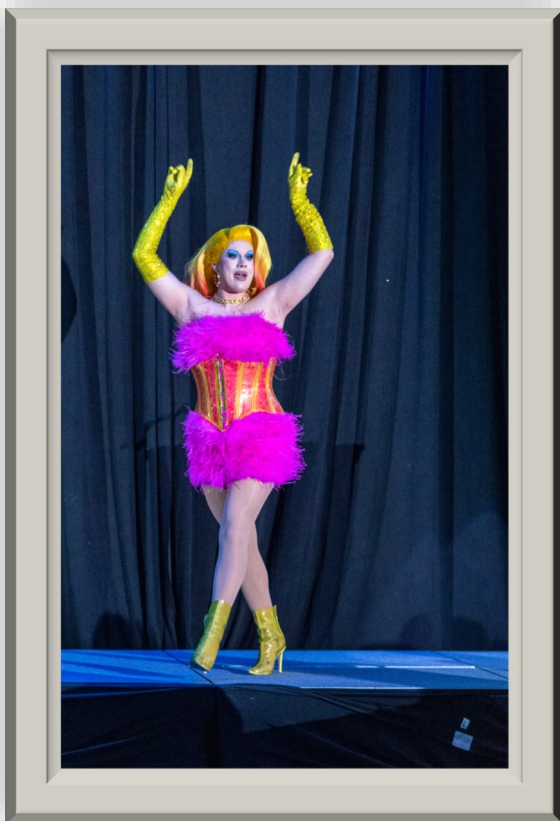
CLOC was created with the vision and mission to see people supported live meaningful lives, included and participating in community life, and realizing true citizenship. The same goal is set for the LGBTQ2 community, and the same awareness and support is needed. "Afterall, Inclusion happens when the lives of adults and children unfold no differently than the rest; immersed together with their peers, taking the same pathways and having experiences of a life common to us all." *Inclusion Canada*.

On this festive occasion, CLOC joined together with families, people supported, community partners, politicians, and the general public to enjoy an evening of entertainment with a spectacular group of drag performers, Lemon and the Spice Queens. So, what do all of these people have in common? CLOC's mission is to provide opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to be included within their community, and to empower the community to embrace the diversity and inclusion of all of its citizens (and fun! We all love fun!). Drag embodies the same values and qualities (and just as much fun!). Everyone wants to belong, to be included and to be treated fairly; so there is a common thread woven between us.



On this spectacular night of fundraising and fun, everyone joined together and celebrated the strides that have been taken over time toward embracing diversity and inclusion of all people as valuable, contributing members of their community and lent their support in creating a community that is a welcoming place that embraces diversity in all its forms.

With the celebration of a the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Community Living Oshawa/Clarington in full swing, a message of inclusion was shared by Chris Beesley, CEO of Community Living Ontario. His organization was recognized, as they too celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year! As the evening drew to an end, Community Living Month began to recede and ahead was the beginning of Pride Month, sending best wishes and support with the extraordinary Drag Artists as they began their own month of celebration, continuing on their path to awareness and inclusion. Events like these, that bring together people from across





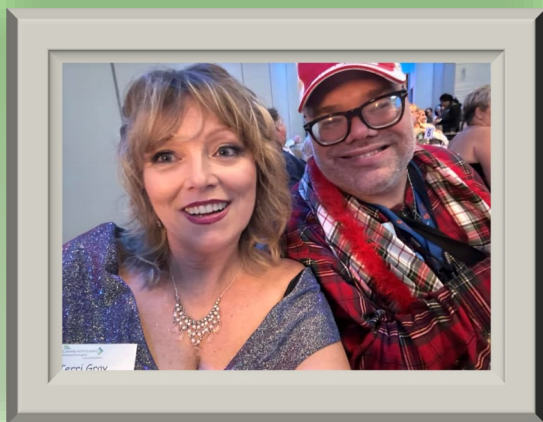
# DRAG EXTRAVAGANZA FUNDRAISER



our community, truly reflect what inclusion is all about.

The evening would not have been possible without the generosity of sponsors and the openness of those who came out to celebrate. Thank you to OPG, Durham Regional Police Services Board, GC Electric & Fire Prevention, Hammond Design & Landscape Ltd., Brookfield Residential, Carnevale Law Office, and Hicks Morley.

We would like you to reflect on one thing – the art of drag and the act of inclusion are not so different from the journey of the DS sector. Both provide people of diverse backgrounds the opportunity to express their uniqueness, and be included and accepted by their peers, and within their community. All are encouraged to continue to inspire possibilities in others.



# THE ANNIE SHORTEN ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Annie Shorten Achievement Award is presented every 5 years as CLOC celebrates milestone anniversaries.

Annie Shorten was one of our founding members. She worked tirelessly to ensure that people with developmental disabilities stayed with their families and were a part of their community. The word “institution” was not part of Annie’s vocabulary, and she brought together other families who felt the same, to create the foundation upon which CLOC was built.

The Shortens owned the white home (still standing in 2023) on 10 acres of farm land, at the corner of Simcoe and Wellington, and raised their family there. Later on they donated approximately three acres to the agency, upon which 39/43 Wellington stands today. Annie was an achiever, no doubt, as she wanted to make sure her son Bobby, who had Down Syndrome, had a rich and full life in his community and with those who loved him. Hard work taking care of the farm and her family didn’t stop Annie from becoming active in service organizations across the city, and getting this agency started.

CLOC is honoured to present the prestigious Annie Shorten Achievement Award this year to someone who has helped to build CLOC up, and is truly part of CLOC’s family.

Ginny Forgette started with CLOC as a family member, seeking services for her son Mark many years ago, and has continued on as a volunteer since the year 2000. Ginny was an active participant in Mark’s life, always supporting and encouraging him along the way, as parents do. Sometimes this doesn’t seem like enough. For those with insight, strength and determination, giving support and encouragement is only a stepping stone to finding a way to further engage with the people around you. And Ginny was not shy about stepping up with other family members and community stakeholders to do the work that needed to be done in order to make change. She held a seat at many of CLOC’s Board and non-Board committee tables, and has been the President of CLOC’s Board of Directors. Over the decades, Ginny has seen the many challenges encountered by the agency, and has been a big part of creating change. For many years, Ginny volunteered her time at 947 Adelaide where she became part of a weekly adventure for many people attending the program, taking them out for coffee and enjoying time out and about the community. Ginny forged many friendships and relationships over the years, enjoying an abundance of laughter and sharing countless stories. Ginny is now a historian of sorts with her knowledge, understanding and experience of all things CLOC. She gave back to the community, showed appreciation for the support Mark received and helped to direct an agency to where the future would be more inclusive. And she hasn’t given up all of her volunteerism! Ginny is currently sitting on CLOC’s Policy Committee, providing her special touch to the fun of policy review.

The Forgette Family continues to give back to CLOC in other ways. It was a time of great sadness when they lost their dear son Mark. A short time later Ginny approached CLOC about setting up an award in honour of him. The Mark Forgette Award was created to acknowledge employees at CLOC for the work they do each and every day. The nominations for the award come from people supported, family members, co-workers, stakeholders or others who see the difference that is made in peoples’ lives.

Every year Ginny attends CLOC’s AGM to present the Mark Forgette Award to a deserving CLOC employee. A few years ago, Ginny started bringing her grandson, Aidan, to help make the presentation. We have had the pleasure of watching Aidan grow up year after year, and now, he too has become a recognized member of CLOC’s family.



There are so few opportunities in our lives to be able to honour someone who has been such a fixture in the lives of so many people. Thank you Ginny for all you have given, for so very long, to so many.



# THE JOHN STRANGE AWARD

John Strange was the past Chair of CLOC's annual spring Gala, a Member of CLOC's Board of Directors and a Community Partner who supported many local charities. To people at CLOC, he was known as 'Mister Community Living', as he held the honour of raising the most money at CLOC's Fundraising Comedy Auction for several years in a row, and was out at the front of the line, pounding the pavement to bring awareness to our community about the lives of people who have developmental disabilities, and the supports and services that CLOC provides for them. John was an ADVOCATE, and he made a tremendous difference to Community Living over the few short years that we knew him. John passed away unexpectedly in August of 2013. In honour and in tribute of him, the John Strange Award was created. The John Strange Award is to be given annually to a person or group who has made a significant philanthropic commitment to Community Living Oshawa/Clarington by way of financial gifts, in-kind gifts, and volunteerism.



CLOC is honoured to present the John Strange Award to our resident music man, Jean-Claude (JC) Legault, in acknowledgment of his many years of contribution to the agency.

JC's journey with CLOC began as a volunteer with The Clarington Project in 2010, where he acted as a driver, chauffeuring people into the community so they could access activities such as swimming and bowling, and he often joined in on the fun himself. Once people at CLOC discovered the musical talents of J.C. and his family, it opened up an opportunity for him to hold scheduled or impromptu sing-a-longs with people across the agency. J.C., or J.C. and his musical friends and family, were incorporated as part of the monthly calendars at CLOC's day service locations. On any given day, J.C. could be found playing music in the park next to the Clarington Project, or singing carols dressed as Santa Claus for holiday celebrations. J.C. and his children have provided musical entertainment several times for CLOC at Annual General Meetings and fundraising events, and he has acted as Master of Ceremonies for some of those events, as well. Any time we need some entertainment, J.C. jumps at the chance to volunteer his time.

J.C.'s unwavering support of CLOC soon led to him serving as a member of our Board of Directors, where he stayed for eight years! He provided CLOC with support and guidance as the President of CLOC's Board of Directors for two years during COVID-19, and is fondly referred to as the 'Pandemic President'. J.C. was instrumental in helping CLOC pivot from in-person services and business meetings, to providing services and holding meetings online. During this time J.C. also led the delivery of a grant-funded online French cultural education program for people supported within and outside of CLOC, called 'Cercle Social'. This weekly program exposed people to French culture, the French language, French food, French music, and so much more! We think that J.C. had as much fun running the program as people did participating in it! During his time as Board President, J.C., who has always been a strong supporter of CLOC's fundraising efforts, became a member of CLOC's Fundraising Cabinet, a steering group that oversees all of the agency's fundraising endeavours. J.C. was able to connect CLOC with some service clubs within the Municipality of Clarington, and even sent a holiday appeal to his personal connections for donations, raising well over \$1200 for the organization.

Since J.C.'s term on CLOC's Board of Directors came to a close, we have continued to see him in his favourite role as volunteer, or is it musician, or Santa? J.C. has been a part of many memories people at CLOC have shared over the years, and we know that even more memories will be created each time he appears at 'My Day, My Way' or the Clarington Project for a sing-a-long, or he dons his Santa suit for holiday carolling, or he drops by 39 Wellington to join us for ice cream after the 'Garden Party'. Everyone knows him, and everyone loves to see J.C..

Thank you, J.C., for all that you do for CLOC!







# CLOC's BOARD OF DIRECTORS—2022/23



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President



Wayne Klinowski  
Vice President

To our amazing  
Board of Directors



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# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



*Your generous support inspires people with developmental disabilities and those working in the sector to embrace DEEPENING OUR ROOTS AND BRANCHING OUT!*

## MISSION

CLOC is a charitable organization offering opportunities for personal growth, community inclusion and empowerment to people with developmental disabilities and their families.

## VISION

For all people to be included in a community where everyone lives, works, participates, succeeds and flourishes.

## Contact Us

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