

Newsletter

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Message from the Director

We have just returned from our third annual Child and Youth Care conference that was held by the OACYC in Sudbury. As usual, we have come back all motivated and ready to implement all of the new information and new idea's that we learned.

One of the interesting aspects that never cease to amaze me is the amount of people who are working in residential care, who are not Child and Youth Workers or even in a related field. Although it was nice to see that people from different disciplines are interested in learning CYW theories, practices and skills by attending these conferences, the more curious question is... why this continues to be a trend in employment. As CYW's, as owner/operators, as CAS workers, I challenge everyone to question why it is ok to have persons who are not qualified to work with our youth in residential care. There is an increasing push toward accountability toward these youth and ensuring safety and treatment needs. This conference, as all of the other ones, have demonstrated there is quite a pool of very qualified, skilled, ingenious and committed group of people who are capable of working with this population of youth. I believe that if we utilized Child and Youth Workers in our residential home, there would be less of a concern regarding 'accountability' of appropriate treatment and programming.

Think about it Jennifer Foster BA CYC, (Cert.) BSW, RSW. Director

The REAL Program

Summer is finally here. Enjoy your summer- For more information on the REAL Program; please contact Jen's Place at (705)435-3080.

What's New at Jen's Place?

Alana Bell has rejoined our team after being off for a one-year maternity leave position and has picked up right where she left off! Welcome back Alana ©

On May 31st, Jen's Place had the MCSS to the house to complete the annual licensing review. All went extremely well and as soon as we receive a coy of the new license, we will forward that on to the CAS Resource Departments.

As most agencies who utilize us, we have made an application to the MCSS for Therapeutic Foster Care. We are hoping to expand and be licensed for a 20-bed foster care program. Although we were initially hoping to have this well under way, it does not appear that the Ministry will get to License us until the fall. Thanks for everyone's patience.

Stephanie Dunklee, Ken Dutka, Alana Bell, Marie Gross, Jennifer Dyment and Jennifer Foster attended the OACYC 3 day Conference in Sudbury. All went very well



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<u>CYW Views</u>

The YCJA made some changes to the process and consequences that these young people face. We hear more and more about extrajudicial sanctions, which is a fabulous program when implemented properly.

Extrajudicial Sanctions include:

- 1. Out of Court Responses such as;
 - a. Police warnings
 - b. Cautioning
 - c. Referral to community programs
 - d. Apology to victims
 - e. Acknowledgement and reparation of damages
 - f. Community service work

If the young person fulfils their conditions, the criminal charges are withdrawn or dismissed

2. Empowering the Community

- a. Non-court measures as immediate and effective ways to address most types of youth crime
- b. Use of court and custody to become the 'alternative' measure
- c. Court proceedings should only be used if community-based measures can not hold the young person accountable
- 3. Conferences
 - a. Conferences are a group of people convened to give advice to a decision-maker at any stage under the Act
 - b. Conferences provide people the opportunity for a wider range of perspectives, solutions that are more creative, better coordination of services, and increased involvement of the victim and other community members
 - c. A conference could include the offender, his or her family, offender support systems, the victim, and the victims support systems
 - d. Possible mandates for conferences
 - i. Advice on extrajudicial measures
 - ii. Pretrial release conditions
 - iii. Sentences
 - **iv.** Reintegration plans
 - Examples
 - O Family group conferences
 - Sentencing circles
 - Interagency case conferences



Bed Availability We accept youth ages 11-18 years. We currently do not have any (0) beds available. Please contact Jen Foster or Jennifer Dyment for more information

We are currently looking for mature and responsible CYW for one to one contract work and relief positions. If you are interested, please forward a resume to Jennifer Dyment at fax number (705)435-6109 or jdyment@jens-place.org

Quote of the Month:

The grand essentials of happiness are something to do, something to love and something to hope for Allan K. chalmers

Services Provided

Jen's Place provides the following services to both CAS clients and to community members

- $\Rightarrow~$ Residential Services for Adolescents
- \Rightarrow Behavioural Assessments and Programming
- \Rightarrow Private Supervised Access Arrangements
- \Rightarrow Home Schooling/Alternative Day Program