



Newsletter

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Message from the Director

Jen's Place has been very fortunate to be chosen to organize the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Workers 50th Anniversary Provincial Conference in Toronto in 2009. It is an extremely important milestone in the Associations history and we are very honoured to have the opportunity to participate and contribute so significantly in this event.

We will be putting out a call for papers/speakers in June. If anyone is interested in presenting a conference, volunteering, make a donation, sponsor, make a suggestion, etc. please feel free to call or email us the information. This can be an excellent opportunity for all involved.

Jennifer Foster
Director of Service

The REAL Program

As we quickly approach the end of our most successful school year yet, we experience the growing program that come from forging any new ground. The ILC, although has been great at providing us academics has challenges in meeting the unique needs of our students. However, Theresa has been fabulous in advocating the needs of her students. Her advocacy has resulted in the ILC adjusting the way they mark the work, the timelines, and the methods in which they provide testing.

We are proud of the students for accomplishing the work they have. We are extremely proud of them and wish them the best in their future school placements.

If you have any questions regarding the program or the progress of the youth in the program, contact Theresa Tonon at 169 Dufferin Street South, Unit 2. The direct number to the REAL Program is 705-241-8079.

What's New at Jen's Place?

We would like to welcome back Karen Mabee from maternity role and into the position of Residential Coordinator. If you need to get in touch with Karen directly, he email address is kdmabee_jensplace@rogers.com.

We would like to extend one of our biggest 'thank you' to IKEA – Toronto. IKEA has very generously donated an IKEA kitchen (cupboards and appliances), paint, mattresses, and computer equipment with more special and individualized furnishings and fixtures for the youth in the home IKEA is looking to provide each of the residents with an opportunity to create their own special spaces within their home. Again, THANK YOU IKEA for your extreme generosity. These kids deserve it!

Happy Birthday this month to Ann Madill and Alana Bell!

We would like to welcome Gunay xxx, our third year Humber student, and Lindsay xxx from Everett College. We look forward to a very exciting summer with both of you.

Alana Bell and Jennifer Foster participated in PRIDE training Module 2 this month.

Jen's Place has participated in a study regarding Privately Operated Residential Care being done by Kiras Garbagini of Ryerson University. We look forward to the results.

Jen's Place is now on the Web, again! The Ministry of Children and Youth have launched their website xxx. Although it is currently a pilot project, CAS's can access the information regarding our program and our bed availability.

CYW Views

Are CYW's altruistic?

Altruism is defined as the selfless concern for welfare of others. It is the opposite of selfishness. Well CYW's may be generous, which is the pure intention of looking out for the common good and giving from the heart without being rewarded in return. So then are we generous, are we altruistic?

One of the first questions that we ask applicants in an interview is why Child and Youth Work, why residential work? The answer is usually the same with everyone. It is because they want to experience making a difference in the life of a child. That is not altruism. We do this, Child and Youth Workers do this, because helping others helps ourselves.

Taoism or Buddhist practice identifies that generosity is a way of expressing the SECOND PRECEPT (Buddhist Code of Ethics). The Second Precept is not to steal. Instead of stealing, exploiting, or oppressing, we practice generosity. In Buddhism, we say there are three kinds of gifts. The first is the gift of material resources. The second is to help people rely on themselves, to offer them the technology and know-how to stand on their own feet. Helping people with the Dharma so they can transform their fear, anger, and depression belongs to the second kind of gift. The third is the gift of non-fear. We are afraid of many things. We feel insecure, afraid of being alone, afraid of sickness and dying. To help people not be destroyed by their fears, we practice the third kind of gift-giving.

However, there is a reward to us who practice the second precept. In not 'stealing' we, the disciple of the noble ones (our children and youth) abstains from taking what is not given. In doing so, he gives freedom from danger, freedom from animosity, freedom from oppression to limitless numbers of beings. In giving freedom from danger, freedom from animosity, freedom from oppression to limitless numbers of beings, he gains a share in limitless freedom from danger, freedom from animosity, and freedom from oppression. This is the second gift.

What other job or relationship can provide such a fortunate reward. Our children and youth offer us the gift, and for that, we must always be thankful for their generosity!

Bed Availability

We accept youth ages 11-18 years. We currently have zero (0) beds available. Please contact Jen Foster or Jennifer Dymont for more information

Employment Opportunities

We are currently looking for individuals for the following position:

- **Relief Child and Youth Workers for Residential Care**

Quote of the Month:

Money is like manure; it's not worth a thing unless it is spread around and encourages young things to grow. Thornton Wilder

Services Provided

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

- ⇒ Residential Services for Adolescents
- ⇒ Behavioural Assessments and Programming
- ⇒ Private Supervised Access Arrangements
- ⇒ Home Schooling/Alternative Day Program
- ⇒ Individual Youth and Family Counselling