



Newsletter

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Message from the Director

For a while now, we have talked about our application to the Ministry for treatment foster care. Well I just wanted to let everyone know, we are still waiting....

This endeavor was embarked upon two years ago when we realized two things, we have kids who are not returning to us because their needs have changed or that they are looking at leaving our program because their situation has considerably improved. When either of these situations are an option, the kids unfortunately face the loss of other connections in his or her community, i.e. friends, counselors, employment, etc. Jen's Place has a goal of providing an all-encompassing program that will meet all of the needs of the youth and the CAS's that we serve. So... we thank you for waiting patiently with us while we go through the process. As soon as we know, we will let you know!

Jennifer Foster BA CYC, (Cert.) BSW, RSW

The REAL Program

As the REAL Program is well underway, we have come to realize how far we really have come in the past two years. Our school now serves, not only our residents from our program, but we have expanded to serve community youth from Alliston, and youth from two other Children's Aid Societies. We have recently examined our progress toward making the REAL Program a private school and it seems we have come further than we thought. We had actually put this plan on hold temporarily but now feel confident that we can move forward, hopefully completing our goal before the beginning of next year. We also are seeking out larger space accommodations for the naturally growing program but also the expected growth from the treatment foster care program.

For more information on the REAL Program, call Mandi directly at (705)241-8079 or email at; realprogram_jensplace@rogers.com

What's New at Jen's Place?

Happy Birthday this month to Jennifer Dymont. Well, another year older!



Happy Anniversary this month to Jennifer Madsen. It has been one year that she has been part of our relief team.

Alana Bell and Jennifer Foster attending PRIDE Training – Module 1 at Simcoe CAS this month. The purpose is to get an understanding of the training that is provided to foster parents who operate through the CAS's. Jen's Place would like to provide the same level of training to our treatment foster care program

Jennifer Foster attended the External Reference Committee with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. This is a committee that examine relevant issues and changes effecting Residential Care in Ontario

Bed Availability

We accept youth ages 11-18 years.

We currently have two (2) beds available, one for a male and one for a female. Please contact Jen Foster or Jennifer Dymont for more information

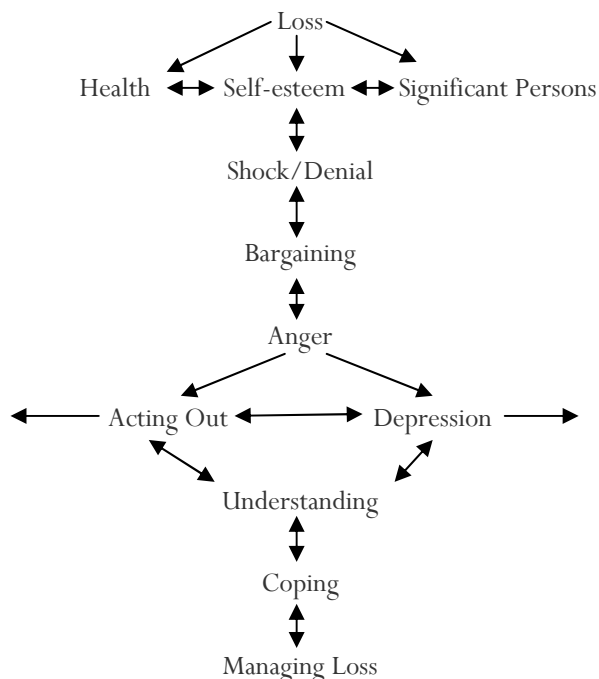
CYW Views

When children and youth come into care or when they change placements, there is the unfortunate opportunity to neglect the child's emotional needs regarding grief and loss. Whether the move was planned or unplanned, on good terms or on bad, there is a loss of connectedness from a place that was not always so turbulent.

When the children or youth move, often we find that they say fairly negative things about the last placement or about the move. It is easy to focus on 'how awful' the treatment was before they came. We find ourselves drawn to understand why they *needed* to move.

However, we need to keep in mind that regardless of the emotional presentation, these children and youth are experiencing grief and loss. Whether or not it is the loss of the parent/foster parent, family, community, peers, employment, school, animals, etc., there is a loss of connectedness which can bring about questions of belonging, issues of trust, and ability to disclose and build further relationships. When we understand the grieving process, we can look beyond presentation, empathize with the child, and respond in a way that may meet his or her needs much more therapeutically.

The Pathway through the Grieving Process



*Taken from Ontario PRIDEbook OACAS. 2004

Employment Opportunities

We are currently looking for individuals for the following position:

Residential Counsellor – Live In

This position is for an adolescent semi-independent program in Barrie and in Alliston. Accommodation & living expenses provided plus a daily per diem rate. A diploma in human services is a must. Tasks include planned daily living skills, providing for child's needs, and providing therapeutic & behaviour intervention.

If you are interested, please forward a resume to Jennifer Dymont at fax number (705)435-6109 or jdymont@jens-place.org

Quote of the Month:

Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Michelangelo, Mother Theresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Tomas Jefferson and Albert Einstein

H. Jason Brown Jr.

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



'We can't find anything wrong with you, so we are going to treat you for SYMPTOM DEFICIT DISORDER'