



Newsletter

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Message from the Directors

Throughout the past couple of years, we have moved away from our Jen's Place emails. Effective immediately, we will be using the following email addresses:

Jennifer Foster – jfoster@jens-place.org
Jennifer Dymont – jdymont@jens-place.org
Karen Mabee – kmabee@jens-place.org
Ann Madill – amadill@jens-place.org
Rachael Greenland Smith – rgreenland@jens-place.org
Jacqui Menon – realprogram_jensplace@rogers.com
Jenn Burke – jburke@jens-place.org
Shaunacey Hamilton – shamilton@jens-place.org
Carole Sylvain – csylvain@jens-place.org
Alison Childs – achilds@jens-place.org
Wendy Neely – wneely@jens-place.org
Thanks in advance

Jennifer Foster – Director of Service

What's New at Jen's Place?

Happy Birthday this month to Jennifer Dymont and Mark Simms. What is it that they say, another year older, another year wiser?



We would like to welcome Jacqui Menon as our new Certified Teacher to the REAL Program. Jacqui is a graduate of the University of Winnipeg and is Certified in three provinces. We welcome Jacqui with pen arms as our program moves forward.

Rachael Greenland Smith attended 'Gang Training and Worker Safety' through Metro CAS.

Jen Foster, Jenn Dymont, Karen Mabee and Ann Madill went to the National Child and Youth Care Conference in Prince Edward Island. It was both an amazing learning experience and a beautiful trip. Karen won tickets to see Ann of Green Gables on stage, which she donated to a residential program on the island. Congrat's to Ann who was the big winner of the conference won the hotel stay for us

The REAL Program

As we advance forward with the Private School license, we will begin with all new students to the program being registered in the REAL Program rather than registered through the ILC. We are now able to offer our own course curriculum and tailor it to the learning needs and style of the students. We will also be able to 'PLAR' student's previous work not recognized in other learning environments. Hopefully this will enhance the success of our students and our residents.

Here is our updated contact information for the Real Program
Mailing: 169 Dufferin Street, Unit 11, Alliston, ON L9R
Telephone: (705)241-8079
Fax: (705)435-6109
Email: realprogram_jensplace@rogers.com
Contact: Jacqui Menon BA (4 years), B Ed

Bed Availability

**We accept youth ages 11-18 years. We currently do not have any (o) beds available
Please contact Jen Foster or Jennifer Dymont for more information**

Jen's Place continues to plan the OACYC 50th Anniversary Conference 'Achieving Gold' – June 24-26, 2009. It will be held at the Metropolitan Hotel/University of Toronto- 89 Chestnut.
For complete information, please visit the website
www.oacychievinggold.com



Employment Opportunities

We are currently looking for individuals for the following position:

- **Treatment Foster Care Coordinator**
- **Therapeutic Foster Parent**

Please contact Jennifer Foster for more detail regarding the program, applications, training, and timelines

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

Quote of the Month

Avoid the crowd. Do your own thinking independently. Be the chess player, not the chess piece

Ralph Charell

CYW Views

I am not sure if it is a personal or professional pet peeve but the term 'manipulate' used as a negative drives me insane.

How often do we say, write, think or diagnose a youth as 'manipulative'. Why is it a negative and why does it cover an array of behaviours we do not like.

According to the Miriam Webster Dictionary, the term manipulate has a number of definitions including; a. to manage or utilize skillfully b. to control or play upon by artful, unfair, or insidious means especially to one's own advantage .

So let's break this down. The term skillful, artful, is used implying a positive strength in being able to attain wants and needs. However, it also uses terms like control, unfair and insidious which leads one to believe that manipulation is devious and victimizes others.

However, as people and professionals, what do we do with youth? In our attempts to work with, transform, change, teach, guide, etc., can that not be considered skillful, artful manipulation. I am sure that the reluctant or untrusting youth would consider it unfair and *insidious*.

As adults, as professional caregivers, we have a difficult time when youth try to get the best of us. We are afraid to be seen as unprepared, unskilled, or weak victims. That affects our pride and our sense of control.

Developmentally, youth are attempting to form the immediate world around them. They need to experiment with methods, skills and learn themselves that not all people can be dealt with in the same way. This is all in attempt to get needs met, needs that are being determined by a growing brain that has not yet reached its full logical potential☺

Manipulation in all its forms is a way of ensuring survival. Behaviour is purposeful and always is an attempt to meet a need. We need to refrain how we see manipulation. Is it an attempt to purposely victimize others or is it strength, a positive skill, a measure of resiliency?