

**SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING NEWSLETTER**



Spring 2021

**Spring is Here!**

And with it – hope! A year has passed since the start of the pandemic, and upon reflection, there has been both challenges and opportunities. Currently, our program is serving 315 children, which is significantly less than this time last year. Our staff are still only able to visit one program per day, but the waitlist for Inclusion Facilitator services has still been maintained under 5.

The pandemic introduced us all to a world of virtual services, one which we will continue to offer along with our in-person services. Thank you for your partnership as we continue to work alongside you.

If 2020 taught us anything, it's that we are capable of change. In a time of uncertainty, you created certainty for the children and families you welcomed back. As we look back, we are grateful for the opportunities we found before us during the pandemic, but as we look ahead to the coming months, we are looking forward to the end. See you there!



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**Special Needs Resourcing** is provided through funding from the City of Hamilton

# Kids and Company – Hamilton Site



Clockwise from top left: Sarah Johnson (RC), Alexa Spasic, Julianne Daley (Centre Director), Diana Najjar, Lekha Das, Grace Jee, Catherine Grattan, Roshani Williams, Safiye Arli, Sayeda Rahman, Jo-Ann Tigalo, Ashley Marshall and Ghadir Yousof

The Hamilton Kids and Company Child Care has shown what it means to be collaborative partners as they continue to work towards a fully inclusive program. They have openly welcomed children and families with many diverse needs, and in their commitment to continually increase their inclusive practices, they have purchased specialized equipment, which is serving many needs. Staff can often be heard saying “How can I support?”, an attitude that fuels the success of the Educators ongoing learning and development. They have not only adapted their classrooms and programming, but have sought out additional training to build their confidence in the use of equipment and catheterization. Their ongoing collaboration with the Resource Consultant, Inclusion Facilitators and Community Partners has benefitted all children who attend. Way to go Team!!



## Resource Update

Family Engagement modules are now available in French. Reach out to your Resource Consultant to access this resource.

An ISP supportive document is in it's final stages of creation to assist with the development of ISPs. This template and guidelines are available to support the planning process.

Sign Language Songs is a demonstrative video file that breaks down the words to common child care songs.

Schoolage Inclusive Practices is a new resource being developed especially for Educators in Before and After School programs. Look for this one in the next month!





In the  
Spotlight



## AN EVENING WITH SHELLEY MOORE

**Prepare to be inspired! It was almost a year ago when Shelley was to be our special guest, live and in-person in Hamilton for a full day event. The pandemic changed those plans, but did not change our pursuit to bring Shelley and her entertaining stories of inclusion to our child care community. This year we will celebrate National AccessAbility Week with an evening with Shelley. This week is about recognition, not only for the contributions of our persons with disabilities, but also for those who support them. Relax, enjoy, and celebrate you! Registration will begin in May for a 2 hour virtual event on June 2/21, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. More details to come by email on how you can participate.**

**For an introduction to Shelley's entertaining stories of inclusion, click the photo above to open the link to listen to our latest Embracing Inclusion podcast. Hope to see you all there!**

For more information about Special Needs Resourcing services, please contact:

Karen Pavao  
Senior Manager – Special Needs Resourcing  
905-528-0281 ext. 360  
[kpavao@clham.com](mailto:kpavao@clham.com)

Darlene Fabbro  
Supervisor – Special Needs Resourcing  
Hamilton East  
289-682-0146  
[dfabbro@clham.com](mailto:dfabbro@clham.com)

Amelia Rupsys  
Supervisor – Special Needs Resourcing  
Hamilton Mountain  
905-746-2759  
[arupsys@clham.com](mailto:arupsys@clham.com)

Rebecca Salisbury  
Supervisor – Special Needs Resourcing  
Hamilton West  
289-683-0249  
[rsalisbury@clham.com](mailto:rsalisbury@clham.com)

Tracy Sherriff  
Supervisor – Special Needs Resourcing  
Hamilton Centre  
905-973-0335  
[tsherriff@clham.com](mailto:tsherriff@clham.com)

Connie Young  
Administrator – Special Needs Resourcing  
905-528-0281 ext. 376  
[cyoung@clham.com](mailto:cyoung@clham.com)

## Important Dates

Special Needs Resourcing services will be unavailable on the following dates:

- *Victoria Day – May 24, 2021*
- *Canada Day – July 1, 2021*
- *Labour Day – September 6, 2021*
- *Thanksgiving – October 11, 2021*

**COMMUNITY LIVING HAMILTON** is an accredited not-for-profit organization and registered charity that offers a full range of services to people with special needs. We are one of the largest not-for-profits in Hamilton; each year we provide service to approximately **1,400 children, teens, adults and families**.

In offering a full range of services to our community, we support individuals with special needs from childhood through to their senior years. At Community Living Hamilton, **we hope to create a lifelong partnership to support the individuals and community we serve.**



For more information on Community Living Hamilton, please visit our website at:  
[www.communitylivinghamilton.com](http://www.communitylivinghamilton.com)