

SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING NEWSLETTER 

Spring 2019

Welcome

Happy Spring!

Not only does the onset of spring mean sunshine, warmer temperatures and new blooms, but to SNR this also means school entry time! Resource teachers are diligently working on school entry reports and connecting with educators and families to prepare for the intake meetings that will ensure a smooth transition from child care to school this fall.

Strong partnerships between child care centres, SNR, Ron Joyce and the School Boards open the door for the best start possible for our children with special needs.

Thank you to all of you for your participation in this process. Your great work is reflected in the skills of these children as they move through their elementary years in the school system.



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The Team at the Chedoke YMCA featured above from left to right: Claudia Testaguzza, Resource Teacher, Lorraine Robinson, Supervisor, Nazli Gokmen, Support Facilitator, Victoria Duvall, Educator, Alicia Bennett, Educator, and Manal Sayah, Educator.

In September 2018, Chedoke YMCA welcomed a child who was medically complex into their toddler program, embarking on a journey full of new learning, which at times was a little bit scary. The team was dedicated and determined to create a fully inclusive classroom which met the needs of all children at all times. Full collaboration was necessary with the parents, educators, Ron Joyce staff, and Community Living staff to provide an everchanging safe environment, and identify and reduce barriers. Both the child and the staff team made amazing progress, and moved from a status of medically complex to a level 2 service! Educators shared what they were most proud of on their journey, which included "learning to adapt to the unique abilities of children with special needs" and "learning new strategies to provide inclusiveness for children with various needs". **WAY TO GO TEAM CHEDOKE!!! WE ARE PROUD OF YOU TOO!**

DID YOU KNOW? Community Living Hamilton offers Children's Respite Programs for children ages 6 – 21. Day respite is offered Saturdays and Sundays at our Leeming Street location, and overnight respite is offered on weekends and through the summer at our Charlton street home environment. Referrals are made through Contact Hamilton. For more information, please contact Children's Respite Manager, Helen Gough at 905-528-0281 ext. 375 or hgough@clham.com.



CURRENT EVENTS

On March 21, 2019 two SNR Supervisors headed to Thorold, Ontario to participate in training on **Accessible Education for Children with Disabilities and the Duty to Accommodate**.

Upon returning, they were able to share stories of the day, based on the duties and responsibilities in the accommodation process. They were able to thoroughly review a sample child care accommodation policy with a purpose of recognizing a need for accommodation, which can be requested by either a parent or centre staff.

Best practices included setting regular meetings, maintaining ongoing documentation and creating a transparent process. Feel free to reach out to them for more information.



Darlene Fabbro and Amelia Rupsys
Supervisors, Special Needs Resourcing



SNR SOCKS!

On March 21, 2019, SNR rocked our socks for World Down Syndrome Day. Since images of chromosomes are thought to look like socks, staff were encouraged to wear colourful, mismatched socks to create awareness of Down Syndrome. Pictured here are the office socks.



On April 2, 2019, SNR celebrated World Autism Day. We all wore blue in recognition of greater acceptance and understanding of Autism. Staff submitted pictures to demonstrate their participation and connectedness. Pictured here are a blue bunch that came in to the office. Thanks to those centres who joined us!



First Quarter Data

Licensed Child Care Programs visited	207
Licensed Child Care Programs with SNR eligible children	55
Number of children with Resource Teacher support (active ISP)	452
Number of ECSIT assessments completed	77
Levels of service provided	65
Average number of days from ECSIT completion to provision of ECS	65
Number of children waiting for ECS	29
Current average wait time for ECS	45 days

Important Dates

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

- *Victoria Day – May 20, 2019*
- *Canada Day – July 1, 2019*
- *Labour Day – September 2, 2019*
- *Thanksgiving – October 14, 2019*
- *Christmas Shutdown – December 25, 2019 through January 1, 2020 (inclusive)*

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

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For more information on Community Living Hamilton, please visit our website at:
www.communitylivinghamilton.com