# SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING NEWSLETTER



Summer 2019

# Welcome

We are pleased to announce a warm welcome to five new support facilitators that will start by the end of July – bringing us to a full complement of staffing in Special Needs Resourcing for the very first time since we launched! These staff will participate in 2 weeks of mentoring before they take on placements of their own.

May 26th - June 1st Children's Services celebrated National AccessAbility Week with daily activities that helped us to reflect on access barriers and the work we do to overcome these challenges and advocate for children with disabilities. Check out page 3 to see highlights of the week, including a retweet from Shelley Moore who loved our endeavour to spread the word of inclusion through polka dot shoelaces.



Resource Teachers attended the launch of the Halton Early Years Mental Health Toolkit on May 6, 2019. This was an introduction to an online toolkit which included tools and resources to support their practice.

From left: Elizabeth Hovan, Ashley Chabot, Kailee Huehn, May Biello and Renata Bulkowski.

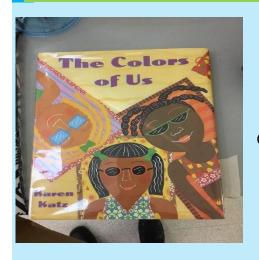
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**Special Needs Resourcing** 

is provided through funding from the City of Hamilton

### **Continuously Achieving.....**

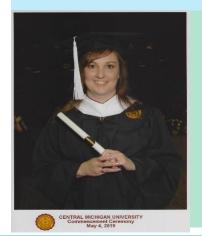


On May 4, 2019, a few staff attended the Equity in the Early Years Conference in Toronto. Workshops included Anti-Bias Education, Celebrating Gender and Sexual Diversity, Creating a Sensory Classroom and Building Inclusive Classrooms Where Everyone Belongs.



On May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> all staff received training from long-time community partner, Lory Protulipac, ECRS with the Early Words Community Support Team at Ron Joyce. Staff were eager to receive the workshop on **Building Interactions to Grow Relationships**. Lory guided staff through the 4 R's, remembering the "brain", and action and response.





Congrats, **Tracy Sherriff** (Supervisor)
on the successful completion of your Master of Arts and
Education from Central Michigan University!
You persevered through the challenges and we are all so
proud of you.
Way to go!!!

# National AccessAbility Week May 26 - June 1, 2019



The "aha" moment happened when the child smiled at her for the first time.



It was in that moment, she saw the benefit of visuals.

National AccessAbility Week is a time when inclusion and accessibility is promoted across communities and workplaces and is an opportunity to recognize the efforts of Canadians who are actively removing barriers and ensuring persons with disabilities have an equal chance to participate in all aspects of Canadian society. Children's Services wore polka dot shoelaces as our symbol of inclusion, (adapted from Shelley Moore's Evolution of Inclusion) and exchanged stories of inclusion, not just with each other, but also with the educators they are working with in the community. In all, 77 emails were received regarding inclusion - some of which are featured



Can you find yours?



Special thanks to Jennifer Krawczyk, Director of Operations, CLH and Marion Trent-Kratz, Senior Research Advisor, City of Hamilton for "walking" with us.

I walked away from my visit smiling at how amazing these educators had been in wanting him to be there.



Inclusion is so much more

than physical proximity!

Second Quarter Data	
Licensed Child Care Programs visited	213
Licensed Child Care Programs with SNR eligible children	141
Number of children with Resource Teacher support (active ISP)	509
Number of ECSIT assessments completed	153
Levels of service provided	145
Average number of days from ECSIT completion to provision of ECS	74
Number of classrooms waiting for ECS	14
Current average wait time for ECS	87 days

#### **Important Dates**

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

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

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