

SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCING NEWSLETTER



Summer 2022

Happy Summer!

Summer is here and we hope that you all get a chance to enjoy some well-deserved time with friends and family.

We are excited to support your programs this summer with our new camp resources. Please contact the Resource Consultant assigned to your program for further information.

We have recently welcomed two new Resource Consultants to CLH. Tanya Lynch is consulting on the Hamilton Central Team and Pierangela Lattuca is consulting on the Hamilton Mountain Team and our French language centres. In addition, Brenda Ziemann, Inclusion Facilitator, makes her debut in our 24th Embracing Inclusion podcast. Brenda explores the research on executive functioning, and how to make this goal directed.

We wrap up our year of Shelley Moore themed learning this quarter. Thank you for your intentional commitment to this process. We have enjoyed the journey with you.



Featured here is the Children's Services team at the CLH Employee and Staff Recognition Night in May. This year, we welcomed Drew Dudley as our guest speaker who educated and entertained with his tales of leadership.

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

SHELLEY MOORE INCLUSION CHALLENGES

ROLE OF PLACE

The Role of Place Challenge was a huge success – we were very impressed by the beautiful collages and the creative submissions for this challenge. Due to the confidential nature of the children in your programs, we are not able to include all the fabulous entries in this newsletter but have included a few examples on page 3 where you have exemplified where and how your children belong. Heather Austria and Kristi Crosswell from Westdale Children's School shared "I loved the video on Role of Place. I think it supports inclusion and a sense of belonging and encourages a sense of stewardship when referring to the outdoors". Tamara Marquis from East End Scholars shared this statement: " At first, we found it particularly challenging – how do you photograph that the children belong? It really made us think about what belonging and place really meant and how we show that in our classroom and programming. We are looking forward to more challenges as we learn and grow as educators!"

CHEERS FOR PEERS

This is the last challenge! This quarter we focus on friendships and the natural supports found in these invaluable relationships. The easiest way to do this is to ensure that children with and without disabilities are sharing the same tasks. It is this type of universal approach that builds friendships and supports equity, diversity and inclusion in the classroom.

Check out the Cheers for Peers Inclusion poster to participate in our final Shelley Moore challenge. Submit through CLH staff or the CLHSNR@clham.com email by Friday, September 16th.



Shelley is coming to Hamilton!

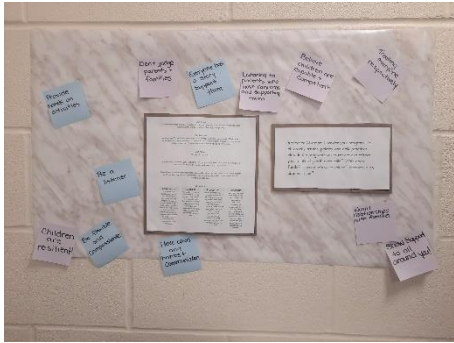
On October 12th we will host a professional development event. More information to come over the summer. Save the date!



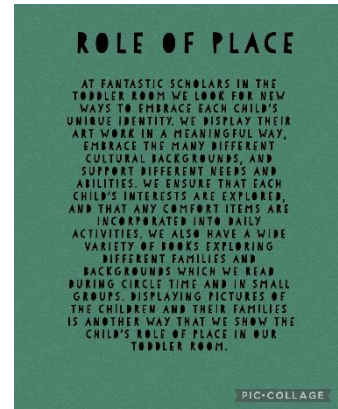
National AccessAbility Week was celebrated May 29th to June 4th. CLH staff wore Embracing Inclusion bracelets to show their support. Thanks to all of you who wore them with us.



Role of Place Challenge Submissions



Holy Name of Jesus (left) took a reflective approach to the challenge creating a board of staff's inclusive thoughts. Fantastic Scholars created a collage and this statement (right) identifying their commitment to embracing unique needs and cultural differences.



St. Ann Early Learning and Child Care took an existing art project and rolled The Role of Place into it. Staff observations and knowledge of the children in their program really allowed them to create a representation of each child that reflects who they truly are. Seen here is Ellison Tecchi, the leader of the project.



Daily Check in Board



To encourage our friends' emotional awareness and checking in with themselves, we have decided to do a "daily check-in board". Our friends explored the different emotions we have posted on the board such as happy, sad, tired, and angry and placed their name under the emotion they're currently feeling.

Great work Toddler friends on exploring mindfulness and well-being!

PIC-COLLAGE

Hebrew Academy took a family engagement approach to this challenge, reaching out to families to include them in the process. They created this daily check-in board (left) where children can share and discuss how they are feeling each day.



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Important Dates

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

- Labour Day – September 5, 2022
- *Thanksgiving – October 10, 2022*
- *Christmas Shutdown – December 25, 2022 through January 3, 2023 (inclusive)*

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