

Presented by,



## COMMUNITY LIVING TORONTO BACKGROUNDER

### **ABOUT US**

Community Living Toronto was established in 1948 as a means of providing alternative solutions to placing adults and children with intellectual disabilities in an institution. As one of the largest organizations of its kind in North America, we have been a source of support for thousands of individuals with an intellectual disability searching for accessible and meaningful ways to live in the community. Whether it is living alone or with a roommate, working in a supported environment or participating in community activities, we are here to help individuals realize their full potential and dreams.

### **OUR MISSION**

“Community Living Toronto changes the lives of people with an intellectual disability by giving them a voice and supporting their choices where they live, learn, work and play.”

### **OUR VISION**

Community Living Toronto is a recognized leader offering a full range of personalized supports and services to people with an intellectual disability and their families. We set the benchmark for excellence, innovation and accountability in the developmental services sector. Our vision for society is one where everyone belongs and we help each other reach for our dreams.

### **SUPPORTS AND SERVICES**

**Community Living Toronto has many supports and services to offer for individuals with an intellectual disability from birth to adulthood. Some of these supports and services include:**

#### **Early Childhood Services**

Early Childhood Services is available to all children from birth to 12 years of age who require additional support to participate in an early childhood setting.

#### **Youth2Work**

Supports youth in the transition from; school to work, or community networks, and increasing self-esteem and self-confidence. Youth ages 18-28 who have already left school can also receive career and life planning.



### **Gooderham Centre**

Includes developing personal care, communication, sensory stimulation, educational/cognitive skills for people with higher and profound support needs. Provides community-based activities such as; swimming, shopping, therapeutic horseback riding, movies, etc. People also volunteer with community based programs. (For example: Meals on Wheels, churches, day care etc.).

### **Spinclusion**

A game which engages children and youth on issues relating to diversity and inclusion. Touching on issues of; race, religion, cultural background, sexuality, and disabilities.

### **ConnectABILITY.ca**

ConnectABILITY is a virtual community focused on lifelong learning and support for children, youth, adults and seniors with an intellectual disability, their families, caregivers and support networks. Users are able to connect, support each other, share, research and advocate via easy-to-use web tools. Registration is free and available to everyone. Just visit the site and register!

### **Personalized Supports for living in the Community**

LIGHTS is a program that's goal is to enable new housing opportunities to flourish for the intellectually disabled and to share the blueprint for success with other communities nationwide.

TIFS Toronto (Try-It-On-For-Size Toronto) is an apartment where people can practice and build skills and confidence to live more independently. It is a one year commitment; at the end a significant increase in independent living skills is realized.

STEPS to Independence is a guidebook that will prepare someone 16+ for semi-independent living.

Step-up! Is in partnership with COTA, provides residential support to youth in transition from MCYS to MCSS. They will have the opportunity to participate in a full-time (up to 3 years), live-in, innovative skill building program.

### **Shadow Lake Centre**

A 300 acre, year round, outdoor recreation facility which operates a summer co-educational, residential camping and recreational program for individuals of all ages with an intellectual disability.



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