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The Youville Centre is an innovative centre that

**motivates,
educates
& nurtures**

young parents and their children to become self-sufficient contributing members of society.

Early Literacy

A group of student teachers from the Faculty of Education at the University of Ottawa recently conducted an Early Literacy workshop for our young mothers. The session included several "Mom and Me" topics: sing-songs; puppetry; book selection; reading aloud; interactive books; music centre; shared reading; memory and scrapbook creation. In addition to snacks and beverages, gifts of books and early literacy resources were provided to our Moms and to our Centre. Youville Board member **Ann Collins** was involved in the initiative and helped to coordinate the collaborative effort with Youville Centre staff. Many thanks to these university students for this meaningful and enjoyable project. Thanks, as well, to local residents for their kind donations of books and resources.

Student Focus:

Jolaina Heslip - First M.F. McHugh Apprenticeship Student

Jolaina Heslip has been a student at McHugh/Youville since September, 2007. In that time she has achieved her secondary diploma by completing 15 high school credits and taking part in two co-op placements and will graduate this June.

Jolaina is now ready to sign an apprenticeship contract to achieve certification in hairstyling and must perform 3500 hours of work to achieve her licence. Jolaina is the first M.F. McHugh Apprenticeship Student at Youville.

Jolaina's apprenticeship is possible due to her sponsoring agency, **Freda's Family Hairstyling Ltd.** at 1745 St. Laurent Blvd.

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Alumnae News

Congratulations and thanks go out to **Megan Brown** (Grad 2008) who took part in a recent "In Love and In Danger" conference. Megan was a guest speaker who represented Youville Centre as an alumna and spoke candidly about domestic violence to a group of high school students from across the city.

Reminders to Alumnae

Bursary funding for former graduates entering their second, third, or fourth year of post-secondary study, as well as the \$1000 Second Generation Bursary for the children of former students entering post-secondary studies are available through Youville.

For more information please call Caterina at ext. 107. Application forms for the \$1000 Second Generation Bursary can be found online at www.youvillecentre.org.

Requests for both bursaries are due May 15th, 2009.

Student Focus: *(continued from page 1)*

For 19 years, **Freda Rodney** has provided hair styling services to many families. She has specialized in wigs and hairpieces and responded to the need for registered mastectomy fittings as well.

Both Jolaina and Freda share the common desire to help people feel better about themselves and see hairdressing as both practical and therapeutic.

Freda has always trained hairdressers and her willingness to apprentice high school students is truly commendable.

Congratulations to Jolaina, apprentice-to-be, and to Freda for her long, selfless service as well as her support of fledgling hairdressing apprentices!

Thanks as well to **Wendy Ronberg**, our co-op teacher, for her efforts in this initiative.

Frontline: A Focus on the People at Youville

Elaine Bisson, the Coordinator of our Child Development Program, has worked at Youville for the past 11 years and comes highly qualified.

Elaine has worked in the field of Early Childhood Education (ECE) for over 30 years, has a diploma in ECE from Algonquin College and a degree in ECE from Ryerson University.

She has worked at Canadian Mothercraft and at the lab school at Algonquin College in the childcare program. She also worked as Program Coordinator of the ECE Continuing Education program and as an ECE professor at Algonquin College before Youville Centre.

As part of our staff professional development efforts, Elaine participated in the *Infant Mental Health* program sponsored by York University. This program is designed to provide front-line providers with essential knowledge and practical skills to encourage positive parent-infant interactions and promote optimal developmental progress in infants. This certification will enable Elaine to serve as a resource to her staff and to the families of our 55 children in the area of infant mental health.

Elaine is married to a Childcare educator and is a parent to 3 grown sons.

Kudos to Elaine!



Alumnae Dates to Remember

May 15, 2009

Application deadlines:

Bursary Funding for Former Graduates

Second Generation Bursary Applications for Children of former Youville students

For more information:
613-231-5150 ext 107

June 25, 2009

Graduate/Alumnae

Picnic

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Youville Centre

We Couldn't Have Done it Without

You

The generous support of the community makes many of our programs and services at Youville possible. We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their generous support:

Willy Perkins and Dominique Levesque Bridal Salon for a donation of \$3,430 from the recent Extrava'Gown'Za held at Nepean Sportsplex. The \$5 entry fee was directed to our Centre.

Father Joe Leclair, Marlene Shepherd and the fabulous Blessed Sacrament Fashion Show Committee who organized the "Advent of Style" fashion show at the Church last November. This sensational event supported two agencies, with \$6,185 coming to our young families.

Miriam Fraser and the Rotary Club of Nepean-Kanata for their most recent

donation of furnishings for our Collective Kitchen Classroom. The new tables and chairs are enjoyed daily by our Breakfast Program participants and used for special classroom purposes such as presentations, power-point lessons, large group sessions and as our Visual Arts classroom during summer school.

Jennifer Klatt, the Students and staff of Sacred Heart Catholic High School in Stittsville for their on-going efforts on our behalf. Their latest donation included: \$1,000 cheque (raised by selling lollipops at lunch), toys, clothing and the products of a successful diaper drive.



OC Transpo Bus Strike

Kudos to the staff and students of our Centre for their flexibility, cooperation and efforts during the recent OC Transpo bus strike. Youville opened at 6:30 a.m. to receive clients and closed as late as 7:00 p.m. when the last ride or taxi had departed. Routines, schedules, and procedures were adapted to enable our students to remain on track academically, to attend school, receive childcare and manage their lives with limited access to support services and strained resources. The entire Youville community is to be applauded for the inventiveness, problem-solving and generosity displayed during this very trying and challenging ordeal.



Upcoming Events

May 5, 2009

Bon Appetit Event

5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Aberdeen Pavillion
Lansdowne Park

For information call:
613-231-5651

June 4, 2009

Graduation

1:00 p.m.

Kinsella Hall
150 Mann Ave.

October 22, 2009

*Ooh 'n Ahh
Fashion Show*

Making Christmas Magical for our Young Families

Thanks to the following people and organizations for making Christmas special for our Moms and their children:

The Parishes of St. Philip and St. Clare for their Angel gifts to 48 families along with turkey dinner and all the trimmings for our mothers and Youville volunteers. Thanks to all of the generous parishioners, to **Father Giles Joly** and his assistant **Debbie McSheffrey** for their generous support.

Ken "the General" Grant for contributing to our Moms' Christmas lunch and for ongoing support of our lunch program.

The **Inglis and Mahaffy Families** for their annual donation of gift cards for our families.

St. Clement School students for gift boxes of hygiene products for children.

Employees of Bank Street Home Depot for Christmas stockings, toys and reusable bags.

Employees of Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada for over 300 baby and Mom gifts, a cash donation and gift cards.

Jayne O'Neill and employees of BMO, College Square Branch for their gifts to our families for the third year.

Employees of Red Lobster, Merivale Road for angel gifts for 55 children.

Employees of Service Canada, River Road for \$25 Loblaws gift cards for all of our Moms.

The Minor Peewee A Cumberland Junior Grads who, for the third year, raised \$500 through a skate-a-thon to buy items for our families. Special thanks to the young players, their coach **Stephane Bergeron**, Assistants: **Brent Clary** and **Alex Moyes**, and **Doug Wicks** at **Canadian Tire**, Innes Road who provided discount prices to help the dollars go further.

Stewart Hewlett and the **Ottawa Bytown Rotary Club** for their kind donation of \$500.

The **Cumberland Community Singers** who hosted a successful Christmas Music Matinee which raised \$1,845 for Youville.

Special thanks to the following organizations:

The Ottawa Food Bank, Alpha Gamma Delta, Barrhaven Childcare Centre, St. Patrick's Parish and CWL (Barrhaven), Zellers Bayshore, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Algonquin College staff, Church of St. Columba.

Thanks to the following individuals:

Joanne Carter, Ruby Ewen, Catherine Fydell, Lucy Kennedy, John Klatt and Dr. Ian Milne.

Did you know that...?

You can donate all or part of your HBC rewards to Youville Centre! Simply complete a "Supporting Member Donation" form at any Zellers, Home Outfitters or Bay Location. Our Public ID number is 2787597. Thanks to all of the folks who have already donated rewards.



Youville Centre *News*

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To be removed from the mailing list, please call 231-5150 x.104 or send an e-mail to remove@youvillecentre.org

Youville Centre Support

YOUVILLE CENTRE 150 MANN AVENUE, OTTAWA, ON K1N 8P4

Yes, I/We wish to support The Youville Centre, an innovative centre that motivates, educates and nurtures young parents and their children to become contributing members of society.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

I/We wish to contribute \$ _____ per month, commencing _____.

I/We wish to contribute \$ _____ at this time.

Payment to be made by: Cheque Visa MC Amex

Card# _____ Expiry _____

Signature _____

We also accept donations online at www.youvillecentre.org