



THE BEACON

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2019

The Salvation Army Lawson Ministries Hamilton



Painting by Kamila Miszeliska

A message from Deanna Finch-Smith, Executive Director

This issue of The Beacon highlights many community-based activities where our staff and clients participated: Bike Day, Ability Walk and Roll, a community clean up, Hot Wheelers wheelchair dancing, downtown Art Crawl, and even National Donut Day! Community inclusion remains one of our top priorities for the people we support. In addition, thanks are due to the Lawson staff who supported over 20 campers at our annual Camp S'mores and Snore, and to the residential support staff who helped them pack and prepare. Program visioning days continue apace as part of our strategic planning work. These days are an opportunity for staff to work on our common goal of providing the best support possible to clients. As I write, our Supported Independent Living (SIL) team is hard at work opening a new support location on Limeridge Road and welcoming another new client. Both SIL and STRIVE day program teams are hard at work planning our annual summer BBQ coming up on August 22nd (details in this issue). Last, we are bidding goodbye and wishing a happy retirement to our business manager, Joeann Unrau, after ten years of service. Her retirement celebration will be held on Thursday, August 8th at the 533 Main St. East location, from 1-3 PM. Congratulations on your retirement, Joeann! And thank you, Lawson staff, for everything you do.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE—DAVE WILKINS

Lisa Schumph
Director of Operations

Risk management is the process of identifying, analyzing and responding to risk factors through the life of a project and in the best interests of its objectives. Dave Wilkins is an amazing team player, and has been with Lawson Ministries since August 2004.

Dave has been active in risk mitigation for our agency since taking on the role of Joint Health and Safety representative. He has worked on many projects and training programs to increase both the team's resilience and its ability to respond to the needs of the people we support with confidence and professionalism. Our work involves risk as we support many people with challenging and changing needs. Dave has had a wide variety of experiences within our agency that involve risk. He has explored and mapped out ways to assist both the people we support and our team to live and

work while feeling safe.

I first remember Dave at Buddy Place at 1600 Main Street West, where he offered to assist staff in improving their documentation skills through a training he had created. Later, he became involved in the development of our Peer Supervision Tool, which was created to assist staff in learning both the core competencies in our agency and our Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services compliance requirements. Dave

was also directly involved in the planning and implementation of the move from group living homes in the community to our apartment program at 1590 Main Street West. This proved to be an incredible challenge, as the apartment construction was not yet completed when people needed to leave their homes!

While Dave has a serious and no-nonsense demeanour, it is easily cracked with his dry humour and enthusiasm for all things music, cars, and people.

Looking back helps us to move forward, and the challenges we have faced as an agency strengthen our ability to meet risks together and to help one another when the need arises. Thanks, Dave, for 15 years of service and dedication to the most vulnerable people in our community. I look forward to seeing what is in store for the next 15!



Dave Wilkins (1590), with Chris T. (left) and Ryan A. (right).

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Rev. Dora Keeping

Dora joined our board when she arrived at Lawson in July 2017. Her role on the board is to bring an inspirational thought and a prayer to get things started on the right foot for each meeting. She also reports on what is happening with FUEL team and with the spiritual groups she leads in Lawson day and residential programs. Dora hosts a Christian Education component for the clients and residents who choose to attend. Here, she helps them learn more about God in fun and exciting ways.

Dora has been a pastor for 23 years as of June 22, 2019, and she has served in many areas. She pastored churches for the first 13



Salvation Army Lawson Ministries Community Council member and Chaplain Dora Keeping brings a light to us all! See Dora's regular column in The Beacon on page 8.

years, where she oversaw the church, the thrift store, and food banks in the three different cities she served. In these situations, you would find her wearing many hats: making soup for the homeless, leading a bible study, teaching an anger management workshop, working with children and youth at camp, doing radio and TV interviews at Christmas, preaching the word on a Sunday, and much more.

After 13 years, she was called in a new and different ministry of Corrections and Justice Services, where she was the chaplain for both the Old City Hall Courthouse and the South Detention Centre in Toronto. Dora found this ministry very fulfilling. She was in

touch with people who had hit rock bottom, and she was able to offer them hope for a brighter future. She has many stories she could share about these years that would make you laugh and cry at the same time.

Then God called her again to yet another ministry—this time, ministering to persons with developmental disabilities. She has worked in both Broadview Village in Toronto and now with us here at Lawson. Dora says she has been blessed beyond measure in her years of doing full time ministry, however she feels that she is now at home and loves the work she does at Lawson. She plans to stay put for a very long time.

SIL VISIONING DAY

Caitlin Donaldson
SIL Relief Counsellor

On Wednesday June 26th, the SIL (Supported Independent Living) team got together for a Visioning Day. When we arrived, we were greeted by our administration team, who told us that we would be participating in an amazing race around Hamilton. We were split up into teams, and we started our race!

While participating in the race, we collected pieces of a puzzle that would take us back to the original starting point. The SIL teams then worked together to open up various boxes with prizes for us all to share. It was a reminder that although we are in the commu-

nity alone, we all share a common goal of supporting our individuals.

We had a quick lunch break, and then we were told to remember a positive moment that was shared between us and an individual we had supported. After sharing these moments, we discussed various ideas we could incorporate into our program that would better support our individuals. Our administration team challenged us to take charge and "put a task on our plate" that we believed we could help accomplish.

The SIL Visioning Day was fun, energetic and productive in helping the team envision a better future for our individuals.



SIL had an amazing time racing through the city and exploring ideas for the future. Above, left to right: Caitlin Donaldson (SIL), Mackenzie Townsend (SIL), and Carla Grandin (SIL).

CAT TRAVEL TRAINING IS GOING PLACES

Michelle Martin
Program Coordinator
Community Access to Transportation

The Community Access to Transportation (CAT) program celebrated the seventh year of its city-funded bus training program with a flurry of exciting partnerships and events. The CAT team participated in the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) wellness fair, in roundtable discussions at the Our Future Hamilton summit, and in the Community Transitions Network (CTN) Pathways to Transition event.

Mohawk College Community Integration through Cooperative Education (CICE) program has invited us to present to their safety classes since 2015—this year was no different. Over the 2018-19 school year, the team was also in Orchard Park, Sherwood, Bishop Ryan, and Cardinal Newman secondary schools. CAT team members Fahima Begum and Kelly Patton are currently working on routes with over 20 trainees.

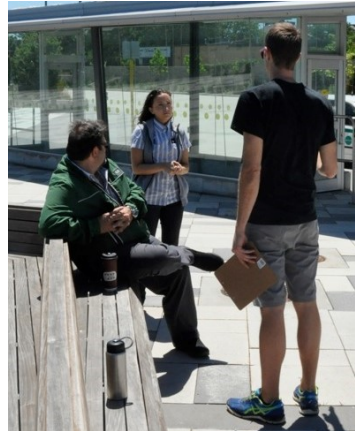
With a small provincial grant, our HSR training video scripts were translated into French, Arabic, Somali and Spanish. Airborne Video

Productions re-recorded and dubbed the narration. You can find the translated videos on our YouTube channel: Community Access to Transportation Hamilton.

CAT was pleased to be a member of the project steering committee and to act as curriculum developer for the Discover My Route travel training project spearheaded by Community Living Toronto. Not content to stop at Toronto, we collaborated with Christian Horizons (CH) Central District and Metrolinx to produce lessons and videos to teach GO Transit routes.

This spring, CAT joined Community Living Toronto and CH Central District to talk about creative partnerships at the Ontario Association for Developmental Disabilities (OADD) annual conference. Last fall, we had the privilege of joining Metrolinx and CH Central District at the annual Canadian Urban Transit Association workshop.

It has been a productive year for spreading the word about accessibility and inclusion on transit. For more information about CAT travel training, visit us at cat.lawsonministries.org.



Pictured left: Airborne Video Productions director Mark Van Noord (STRIVE) working with West Harbour GO Transit employees last June. Pictured right: Matt Llewellyn (Metrolinx Media Relations, left) getting ready to interview CAT actor Carmen Farrugia (right) in Toronto Union Station.



Left to right: Eric Laimer (Community Living Toronto), Michelle Martin (CAT) and Nicole Michell (CH Central District) at the 2019 OADD conference.



Left to right: Leanne Kiely (CAT alumnus), Kelly Patton (CAT, SIL) and Fahima Begum (CAT, ES) at the CTN Pathways to Transition night.



LEARN TO TAKE TRANSIT SAFELY AND WITH CONFIDENCE

Community Access to Transportation is a City-funded program established in 2011 to teach transit independence to youth and adults who have an intellectual or developmental disability.

Funded by the City of Hamilton.



For more information, visit our website at:

cat.lawsonministries.org



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HAMILTON BIKE DAY 2019

From left to right: Lisa Schumph (Director of Operations), Mark Van Noord (STRIVE), Kayla Soosar (STRIVE), Steve Hancock (STRIVE), Danny Blank (STRIVE) with children Anya, Sigrid, and Enoch.



From left to right: Danny Blank (STRIVE) and Enoch.

Kayla Soosar
STRIVE Case Manager

On May 27, 2019, hundreds of people gathered outside Hamilton City Hall between 7:00 and 9:00 AM for Hamilton's annual Bike Day. This year, the organizers of the event decided to

change the name from Bike to Work Day to Bike Day in order to encompass all people biking on this day. This includes people who bike to school, to work, or who are just out for a leisurely ride.

Having a day where people are encouraged to bike

their daily commute is great for their mental, physical and environmental wellness. When one chooses to participate in Bike Day, they are rewarded with free t-shirts, and a sampling from Hamilton's infamous donut shop, Donut Monster.

Bike Day was a truly enjoyable way to start off my week. Surrounded by bike enthusiasts and seasoned cyclists alike, I found the energy was full of positive encouragement.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

I wanted to send out a thank you to everyone who helped tremendously with the day's community clean up in our alleyway. Our property and the alley way look fantastic, and it's super awesome to see that we can get our guys involved in such an important thing.

—Nina Szar
STRIVE Case Manager



The team swept us away with their great efforts. Thanks for your hard work! Left to right: David T., Donald W.

NEW EMPLOYMENT SUPPORTS INITIATIVE

Fahima Begum
CAT, ES

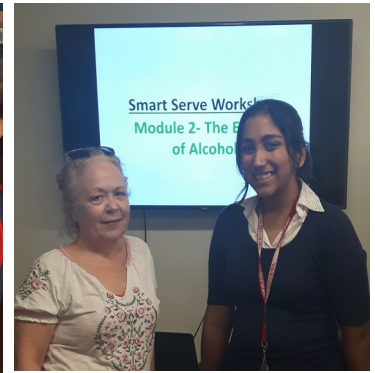
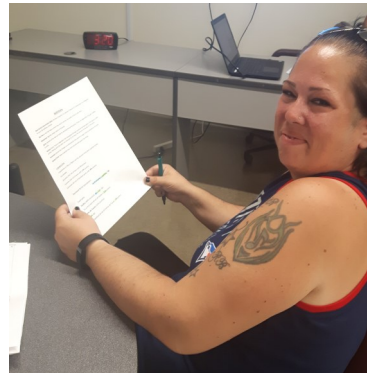
Employment Supports (ES) at Lawson is now offering Smart Serve training workshops for clients to prepare before they take the Smart Serve Training Program and Certification Test. Many workplaces require employees to be Smart Serve certified.

The training is currently provided in three workshops that review the laws surrounding serving alcohol, the effects of alcohol, and

how to maintain a safe work environment. The workshops include quizzes and reviews during the lessons. Additional reviews of the content are also available if requested.

If you would like to learn more about the Smart Serve workshops, please connect with Theresa at:

Theresaspeers@lawsonministries.org
or Fahima at:
Fahimabegum@lawsonministries.org



Above, left: to right: Tara R., studiously going over review notes; Theresa Speers (ES), and Fahima Begum (CAT, ES).



National Donut Day was a delight this June 7th as donuts were given to commemorate the work done by Salvation Army!

Left: Danielle Jobansen (STRIVE), Nathan V., Sara Trewolla (STRIVE), Gwendolyn C., and Amber D.

Right: Amber D.

MAKING HAMILTON A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE IN—KAITLIN'S CORNER



Kaitlin (right) with Laura Styba (1590) having a great time at the Ellen DeGeneres

KAITLIN ALGERA

There are so many places to visit, such as parks and trails, the

Bulk Barn, and Bayfront Park. Hamilton has great transportation and good hospitals. We also have McMaster university.

I have important things in Hamilton. My family lives in Hamilton, my program is in Hamilton, and my bank is in Hamilton.

Hamilton is a safe place and we need to treat this city like it's our city. People often litter in the parks and streets. If we don't do something about it, our city will fall apart and it won't be safe. Garbage will cause a hazard to

humans and animals, and it will cause pollution too. It will make our place look disgusting. Littering is illegal. Only when people put their litter in the right place can we be one team and live in a healthy environment. We need to save our earth now. I am asking everyone to take care of our place.

Please do not litter. Please learn how to recycle; paper goes with paper, plastic and waste goes with plastic, and waste goes with waste. All you have to do is to sort it out. It's simple. It's easy.

Only when people put their litter in the right place can we be one team and live in a healthy environment. We need to save our earth now.

Together we can make Hamilton better and our earth healthy.

THE BEACON

THE HOT WHEELERS: WHEELCHAIR DANCING

Sara Trewolla,
STRIVE Case Manager

The Hot Wheelers: Wheelchair Dancing group meets every Friday at HARRRP (Hamilton Association of Residential and Recreational Redevelopment Programs), located at 705 Main Street East, from 9:30 - 11:30 AM. We begin our session by listening to an upbeat song that gets us moving and smiling. We listen to a variety of music that inspires us. Our group activities are a mixture of

dancing, laughter, and karaoke. We then end the session with a cool down and a stretch.

Most of our dancers have participated in a variety of music programs throughout the years. They have a deep love of music, and their happiness is readily seen when the music is playing. The Hot Wheelers: Wheelchair Dancing group adds an extra dimension to the music experience by allowing the focus to be on movement and how the mu-

sic can move you.

We have started working on choreography for the song "Let It Go" from Disney's *Frozen* and hope to have an open house to showcase our work sometime in the future. We are also looking for more dancers! We provide the music, the space, and scarves or pompoms for arm movements. New dancers need only bring their smiles, love of music, and a willingness to explore how music can make you move.

This program has been an amazing opportunity to watch ... It gives individuals with limited mobility or dexterity a chance to stretch and move safely, all while having fun! All participants in wheelchairs or who use mobility devices are welcome, and are encouraged to attend!
—Shannon Despond,
Shift Supervisor

The amazing Hot Wheelers logo was made by Rabin B.



ABILITY WALK AND ROLL



Elisa Scattolon
STRIVE Case Manager/Community Advocate

The Ability Walk and Roll was a wonderful event! It was amazing to see the community come together and share the meaningful programs that are offered here in Hamilton, as well as bring awareness to the gifts and talents of the many individuals supported through these programs. Looking forward to the next!

Left to right: Elisa Scattolon (STRIVE), Esther Pauls (Ward 7 Councillor), and Arlene Schwyer (Administrative/ Passport Coordinator).

Caledonia Thrift Store Fundraising BBQ and Bake Sale

Come enjoy hot dogs, veggies and cool drinks! Proceeds will go to our Partners in Mission (PIM) to help our ministry work overseas.



Date: Tuesday August 6th
Time: 11:00 am to 1:00pm
Location: Salvation Army

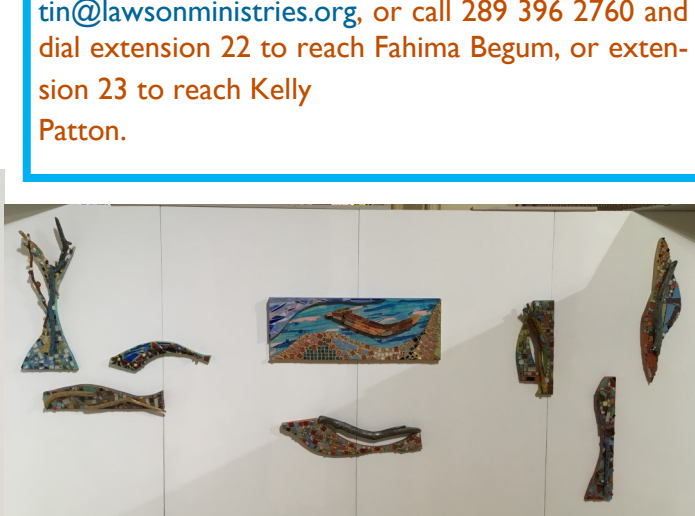
**Caledonia Thrift Store,
322 Argyle St. S.**

PIAC EXHIBIT AT JUNE ART CRAWL



Christ Church Cathedral had an exhibit from our very talented artists at Paparella Innovative Arts Centre (PIAC) during the June Art Crawl. Top left: a section of the exhibit.

Bottom left: Kathryn I. presenting her beautiful piece that was later sold. Below: more PIAC art displayed at the exhibit.



CAT Summer Classes

Community Access to Transportation is pleased to offer a summer 2019 session of classes!

Date: August 6th to 16th, Tuesdays and Fridays

Time: 10 AM to 12 PM

Location: 333 King St E

Space is limited, so email Michelle at MichelleMartin@lawsonministries.org, or call 289 396 2760 and dial extension 22 to reach Fahima Begum, or extension 23 to reach Kelly Patton.

Health and Safety Tips

Maria Cipolla-Virly
Senior Employee Relations Advisor

Check in to your emails for regular health and safety tips! In May, we looked at BBQ/ Propane safety and self-care challenges, while in June, we covered ways to deal with stress, and strategies for breaking our smart phone habits. In July, we explored how to care for and prevent heat exhaustion, the safety tips for benefits of exercise, and self care tips for the summer.

Coming up in August: ladder and stairway/walkway safety, realistic self-care tips, and caring for yourself. In September, we'll cover how to prevent accidents by watching where we're going, and look at science-based self care tips for the upcoming fall and winter.

A warm welcome to new members of the Lawson team !

Natalie J. Hamilton

Nina Moss

Olivia Clarke

Michelle Jamieson

Jacob Owen

Rose Adusei

Eilhan Farah

Kourtney Woodhouse

Isabel Krysa

Sarah Bulk

Tania Kluge

Morgan Carter

Rebecca Hamel

Abigal Ndlovu

THE BEACON

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Rev. Dora Keeping

Recently, The Salvation Army shortened the original nine core values to four key values. These are HOPE, SERVICE, DIGNITY, and STEWARDSHIP. I thought I would take HOPE and speak about it in this issue of The Beacon.

Hope: We give hope through the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The dictionary says that hope is to cherish a desire with anticipation, to want something to happen or be true, to desire with expectation of obtainment or fulfillment; hope is desire accompanied by expectation of, or belief in, fulfillment.

We in The Salvation Army work diligently each and every day to bring hope into the lives of people who have no hope: those who worry

At the end of the day, it is our desire that each person we come in contact with will know that they are cared for and that they will find hope in their lives.

about where their next meal will come from, those who are sad and lonely in their homes, those who are in the streets or in prison, those who are being abused and trafficked, and those who are marginalized for a variety of other reasons. We have shelters, addiction facilities, churches, and social ministry programs that help people in their time of need.

In the Bible, Isaiah 40:31,

we read, "... those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

As a Christian organization, we believe that our hope comes from God in the form of Jesus Christ. We work to share that love and hope with people by being the hands and feet of Jesus in all the different services that we offer. In the churches, it may be in a form of praise, worship and preaching. In our social centres, it will be by example and by lending a hand of support.

At the end of the day, it is our desire that each person we come in contact with will know that they are cared for, and that they will find hope in their lives.

I leave with you these words from Romans 15:13, "May the God of hope fill

you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

FUEL TEAM MERIT OF THE MONTH AWARDS

Make some noise for our Merit of the Month winners from the last quarter! Thank you for all your hard work!

APRIL 2019

1590: Laura Stypa
Strive: Sara Trewolla
SIL/ CAT/ Farm: Michelle Martin

MAY 2019

1590: Man Huynh
Strive: Lesley Poole
SIL/ CAT/ Farm: Emily Shaw

JUNE 2019

1590: Lenora Hurburt
Strive: Natasha Boyd
SIL/ CAT / Farm: Carla Grandin

STRIVE Closing Dates

Summer Shutdown

Monday, July 29th to
Friday, August 9th

Labour Day

Monday, September 2nd

Thanksgiving

Monday, October 14th

Christmas 2019

Wednesday, December
25th to Wednesday,
January 1st, 2020

Lawson Ministries Annual Summer BBQ

Lawson Ministries will be having its Annual BBQ with the theme of Art in the Park this year! Come out and enjoy the delicious food and fun activities!

Date: Thursday, August 22 **Time:** 5:00 pm-7:00 pm

Location: Dundas Driving Park, Kitchenette 4
71 Cross St,
Dundas, ON L9H 2R5



3rd Annual Partners in Mission Cake/Pie Auction

Calling all staff and families of Lawson who are able to help with donating or buying cakes for the Annual Summer BBQ.

Please let us know if you can help and bring it to the BBQ. If you aren't attending but still want to donate, please let me know so I can arrange a pick up:
Dorakeeping@lawsonministries.org, 289-682-2557.

