



The Grapevine

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Kennedy House Youth Services Newsletter

By Neil Endicott



Cultural Competency Committee

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Cultural Competency Committee
- 1 Storefront – Community Based Programming
- 2 George Chuvalo “Fight Against Drugs”
- 2 Program Highlights
- 2 Strategic Planning
- 2 Holiday Message
- 2 2011 Conference
- 2 Upcoming Events



*Storefront Charity Barbeque
August 18, 2010*

With great sadness, Kennedy House announces the passing of Board Member Philip Tyrwhitt. Philip was active in his community, and sat on the Board of Directors for 30 years. He was also a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He will be forever missed.

Cultural Competency Committee

The Cultural Competency Committee at Kennedy House started meeting in early 2009. The committee meets monthly and includes staff from each program and every level of employee. It is the responsibility of this committee to provide guidance for all programs by ensuring the development of service delivery in a culturally competent manner. By means of the committee, Kennedy House strives to provide effective services to all youth by ensuring unique needs are recognized and considered. The committee continues to utilize the Diversity Tool Kit provided by the Ministry of Children & Youth Services as ongoing evaluation and adjustment continue to contribute to program enhancement. The committee has recently finished a diversity survey and resource analysis that will assist in better meeting the needs of all clients. As this project continues to develop, more growth is planned in the areas of training, client Life Booklets, client assessments, and intake / orientation procedures. The committee members continue to work hard at achieving cultural competence within all aspects of Kennedy House.

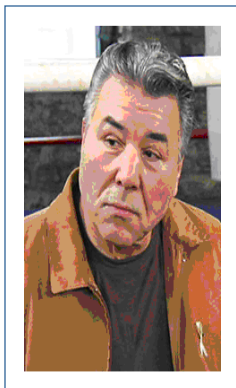
Storefront – Community Based Programming

By Lisa Blanchard

Kennedy House Youth Services has been offering programs at the East Scarborough Storefront for the local community since August 2009. Programming focused on adolescent youth and offered various Life Skills training. In the summer months we introduced a drop-in program for younger children. The summer program offered arts and crafts, games, leadership activities, jewelry making, and team building. There was an abundance of children who enjoyed the program very much and were eager to attend on Mondays. Since the program was such a success an After School Drop-in Program was introduced and began on September 13, 2010.

George Chuvalo "Fight Against Drugs"

Kennedy House presented an exclusive "youth" engagement with George Chuvalo (reigning Canadian Heavyweight Boxing Champion for 21 years) on November 8, 2010, as he shared his personal story and delivered a very powerful message about one of the hardest fights of all...Youth and Substance Abuse



Strategic Planning

The Board of Directors at Kennedy House are currently working with the staff team to develop a strategic plan for the agency. They have enlisted the services of a qualified facilitator to guide everyone through the process and ensure the development of a comprehensive plan.

Season's Greetings

During the Holiday Season more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible, and in this spirit we say, simply but sincerely, thank you and best wishes for the Holiday Season and Happy New Year.

2011 Conference

Kennedy House will be hosting the 3rd annual Ed Blazo Lecture Series on May 18, 2011. This year's conference will challenge your personal resiliency and explore ways to stay positive when working with challenging clients. For more information call 416-299-3157, visit us at www.kennedyhouse.org or follow us on Facebook. Hope to see you there!



Save the Date – May 18, 2011

Program Highlights

Kennedy Road

Recently supported a client of 5 years return home

Galloway Road

Two clients have secured part-time employment, and the home received an updated kitchen

Manse Road

Clients attended cultural theme summer camps

Kingston Road

The girls at Kingston have planted and maintained a vegetable garden for a 3rd consecutive year that has provided healthy food at many meals

Brock Road

Recently received a new look with the purchase of sofas for the living room and new floors throughout

Day Treatment

Staff and students are planning trips to the Holocaust Centre, the Ontario Science Centre, and the Cadbury Factory

Storefront

A free 1st aid & CPR course was offered to members of the community on August 9, 2010

Ajax Youth Centre

Implemented a bible study component for the boys, and is currently preparing for a future music program

Bailiff

Continues to be busy serving youth in eastern region

Upcoming Events

Ajax Youth Centre Christmas Party

Date to be announced

Kennedy House Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 15, 5:00 P.M.

3rd Annual Ed Blazo Lecture Series

Wednesday, May 18, 9:00 A.M.

Next year Kennedy House will be celebrating its 40th anniversary. This milestone will be celebrated with activities for the staff, children, and community partners. Stay tuned in our next edition for more information