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Check out our website www.winnifredstewart.com for all the latest WSA news. You can access employment & volunteer postings, apply online, order garbage bags & wood products through our site catalogues and find out more about all the latest events that you can be a part of.

MISSION IN THE MALL

THE ULTIMATE
TEAM CHALLENGE

On October 5th, 2003, hundreds of Edmontonians will embark on a mission to complete a variety of mental and physical challenges scattered throughout West Edmonton Mall.

The Mission in the Mall, presented by the Winnifred Stewart Association in recognition of its 50th anniversary of serving Edmontonians with developmental disabilities, will be Edmonton's ultimate team challenge.

Combining the thrill and popularity of reality television shows (e.g. "Amazing Race" and "Survivor") with the spirit

and tradition of Edmonton's great competitive events (e.g. Corporate Challenge and Dragon Boat Festival), the Mission in the Mall will provide Edmontonians with the opportunity to participate in a one-of-a-kind event.

Mission in the Mall promises excitement, fun, and a little friendly competition. Friends, families, and co-workers are encouraged to enter a team of four in this fun-filled event. Participants will compete for a number of amazing prizes awarded to teams with the greatest pledge totals, the highest scores, and the most team spirit. Information brochures and registration packages will be available through the Winnifred Stewart Association at the end of May.

A Walk Down Memory Lane

On April 26th, almost 200 clients, family members, former teachers and students of the Winnifred Stewart School, volunteers and other supporters attended our 50th Anniversary Reunion.

Guests browsed through a number of displays showing the growth of the Association over 50 years, as well as toured the building and were served a delicious tea. We were delighted to have MLA Brent Rathgeber and Mayor Bill Smith in attendance as speakers, as well as representatives from PDD and other partners. Author Wayne Arthurson was also present to sign copies of our history book "Strength, Vision and Courage."

It was a great time for people to reunite with old friends and share memories of times past. Many people were surprised at how many things had changed over the years, but were pleased to see that the fundamental values and vision of Mrs Winnifred Stewart remained- to have a place in the community for people with developmental disabilities.



We would like to thank Food for Thought, Krave Caterers and Safeway for their donation of goodies for the tea.

Clean 'n' Win Contest

A contest was started in December for clients at the Work Opportunities program to acquire new skills through a cleaning program. Points were awarded for each task, with the goal being to earn 1500 points.

Everyone worked really hard, and at the end of the program, 16 clients had reached or came very close to the goal. The cleaning crew was very excited to receive a donation from Mr. Gary Gregg from Gregg Distributors, who donated an evening in his luxury suite at the Oilers game on March 28th for the winners of the contest.



All 16 clients, accompanied by four staff, were thrilled to attend the game and be hosted in style by Mr. Gregg and his son Geoff. We'd like to

thank Gregg Distributors for making our cleaning contest such a success and congratulate all the participants of the program for their solid effort.

A seminar and a Round Table Discussion

"How Much is Enough?"

Presentation on the article that appeared in the National Post January, 14, 2003:

"How to plan your estate when you have a dependent adult with a mental disability"

Focus is the "Henderson Trust" and Trusts in general

Presenters Nena Jovic-Andrejevic & Doris Bonora LL.B

Bring your lawyer, accountant or financial planner

Wednesday May 14
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Winnifred Stewart Association

Please RSVP to Beverley, as this session will book up quickly.

Families, Friends and Volunteers

By Jason Keller

Our mission statement is to "Enhance the Quality of Life for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities." We accomplish this, among other ways, through the use of community resources. One of the most important community resources we value within Residential Services are family and friends. We receive much needed support in many areas from the families and friends involved in our client's lives. This involvement comes in many forms, from volunteering for special events to inviting a client for a special event or holiday or just getting involved in the house. I would also like to add that we appreciate the support we receive from families around the various holidays, so our staff might have some much deserved time with their own loved ones.

I would like to focus on one family, in particular, who do so much for our clients in Belmead residence. The Levesque's met the residents of the

house through staff, and for the past few years, they have visited Belmead residence. At Christmas, they came bearing a fully cooked meal with all the fixings for a wonderful holiday feast, with gifts for the clients and spent the night visiting. Although they are of no relation, the Levesque's have become like family to the residents of Belmead and they cherish this special friendship.

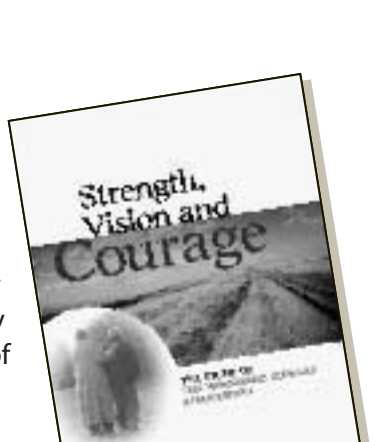
Another resource we value are our volunteers, such as Kelly Arnold, who spends time in to Winnifred Stewart House regularly planning activities such as baking, barbeques and other social events with the clients. These generous people provide valued "extra" services, which are greatly appreciated by clients and by our regular staff who are very busy taking care of the basic services.

To all our families, friends, volunteers and supporters, thank you! We would not achieve our mission without your support.

History Books Donated

The Association is delighted to share our 50th Anniversary with as many people as possible by donating copies of our recently published history book "Strength, Vision and Courage: The Story of the Winnifred Stewart Association."

With partial funding from the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, copies of the book have been donated to the Edmonton Community Library (all 17 branches), the City of Edmonton Archives, the Provincial Archives, and the University of Calgary's "Our Roots" historical preservation program. Additional copies of the book have also been donated



PDD Announces Funding Increase

As recently announced by our government, the Persons with Developmental Disabilities Board-Edmonton Region (PDD) has been approved for a nine per cent funding increase. Although actual numbers have not been determined, it is anticipated the funds will be expended in the areas of:

- Uptake - new clients receiving PDD funding
- Service Providers- to augment wages.

It is advised that agencies and service providers remain cautiously optimistic as to the impact the funding increase will have. Although the current environment is relatively positive, history shows us that could change at any time.

The Winnifred Stewart Association's recent contract negotiations with PDD for the 2003-2004 fiscal year resulted in minimal impact on our services for the fiscal year. The most important aspect of the new contracts are that staff to client ratios have not changed, with ratios

continuing to be determined based on client needs.

In order to be prepared for any changes to our contracts in subsequent years, a team of Association staff has been struck to review service models and look for efficiencies in service delivery. We hope this proactive planning approach will enable us to deal effectively with any positive or negative changes to PDD funding in the future.

The Winnifred Stewart Association will continue to work with the Edmonton Council of Service Providers, the Alberta Association of Rehabilitation Centres and the Edmonton Region Board Chairs and Advisors Caucus to lobby with PDD to address priority areas. These priority areas include:

- Simplified funding format
- Improved consistency for allocating client service dollars
- Improved PDD/service provider relationships

Funding for New House Complete!

Our second Assisted Living Home will have its grand opening on June 27, 2003. It will be a special place for ten residents who are experiencing signs of aging such as Alzheimer's, in addition to their developmental disability.

The services provided by the Association to seniors with developmental disabilities are unique in Edmonton and have tremendous impact on the clients, their families and the community. Our thanks to these funders for supporting this special project:

- Private donors from the city of Edmonton and surrounding areas
- Allard Foundation
- ATCO Gas
- Celanese Canada Inc.
- Community Initiatives Program
- Edmonton Housing Trust Fund
- Edmonton Realtors Charitable Foundation
- Knights of Columbus 12353
- Kristie Charitable Foundation
- LIHCAP- City of Edmonton
- Melton Foundation
- Minerva Foundation
- Sawmill Golf Tournament
- Winnifred Stewart Foundation

- PDD's commitment to uphold signed contracts

If you have any questions about what you can do to support these lobby efforts, please contact Dennis Stockman, Executive Director, at 453-6707.

Announcements

Annual General Meeting and Wall of Honour Unveiling Ceremony

Monday May 26, 2003
7:00 PM

Winnifred Stewart Association
11130 131 Street

Memberships will not be sold at the door.

You may renew or purchase a membership by contacting Roxanne or Beverley at 453-6707.

Refreshments will be served.

Please R.S.V.P. to Beverley at 453-6707 by May 23.



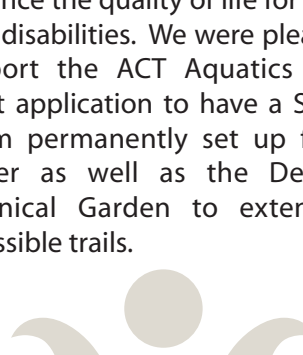
Assisted Living Home II Grand Opening

June 27, 2003

Contact Roxanne at 453-6707 for further information.

Helping Others...

The Association is often asked to provide letters of support for various projects in the community that will enhance the quality of life for people with disabilities. We were pleased to support the ACT Aquatics center grant application to set up a Sensory Room permanently to have for the center as well as the Devonian Botanical Garden to extend the accessible trails.



The Winnifred Stewart Association has been enhancing the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities since 1953. Today we are innovators in working with aging adults with developmental disabilities to design customized programs that address the unique needs of our clients and their families.

Publications
Mail Agreement
40662034

Our core services include:

- Community-based residential housing
- Employment training and placement services
- Recreation and leisure support programs
- Planning and support services

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