

The Link

Leduc LINX Connect Centre

February 2012

Recycling Donation Challenge!!

Last year \$600 from bottles and cans were donated to LINX by staff, with \$500 of that being from one staff and his family. Parents donated approximately \$200. Now... Marvin has put out a challenge going to four different groups: staff, families, board members, and employers. Who can truly rise to the occasion to donate the most? Drop off your bottles at LINX, call Marvin (780-980-9423 or 780-893-3490) to pick them up, or take them to the bottle depot and tell your bottles are for LINX. We won't "kick you off the island" if you lose the challenge, but we WILL give you a charitable tax receipt for your donation if you let us know it's from you. This is a game you can't lose! Donations go to us, tax receipts can go to you, and bragging rights at the end of the year go to the best group! Good luck to everyone!!



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Day Program - Cindy Rimmer
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Executive Director Report

2012 is flying along already! With the weather we are having, it definitely was a January to enjoy for the most part. The major exception was of course with the loss of our long time friend Carol. She personally has made me smile for 15 years, and she will be greatly missed by her peers, co-workers, friends, and staff. Our deepest sympathies go out to her friends and family. My greatest thanks go out to all the people who have been supporting the individuals and staff at LINX through this time.

The "Buy a Brick" campaign is going very well. I have attached a poster to your newsletter, and ask that you display it anywhere you can (public board, staff room, kitchen fridge, anywhere). If you would like more posters, I would be happy to email or deliver them to you. A HUGE thank you to Marge Fedor for answering my phone call and being willing to distribute the posters all over for us! Just as a reminder, "buy a brick" before tax season so that LINX can grow, and YOU can get the benefit when you do your taxes. Contact us if you would like to take advantage of this! Don't forget, if you want to be more in the loop with how things are going, and see some pictures from LINX, be our "friend" on Facebook. Send a friend request to Leduc LINX and stay in touch!

Finally, and as always, I would like to thank everyone for all of their support, and wish you a happy, healthy and safe Valentine's month!

- Nicole

Dates to remember:

February 1 – Fundraising
Committee Meeting
February 14 – Valentines dance
and pizza lunch
February 15 – Board Meeting
February 20 – Closed for Family Day
February 24 – Restrictive Procedures

Board Members

Ingrid Seitingner – Chairperson
Mark Tamagi -Vice Chairperson
Bill Dolman – Treasurer
Laurie Tancowny – Member
Jennie Tomlinson – Member
Bill Carr - Member

Board Chair Report

It is a sad time for LINX; we have lost one of our individuals, Carol. She will be missed. Our condolences and prayers go out to her family.

The Board and policy committee are working hard on revising some of the policies and implementing new ones that the Executive Director needs to make LINX function smoothly.

The Board is short one member, since our secretary moved to Fort McMurray. If you are interested, or know someone that could help on the Board please let me know.

I am happy to report that things are going well at LINX. There is a co-operation among the staff and caregivers working together to make things better for our clients. Financially we are very tight and have to budget very carefully. If you have any questions about our finances or policies, the financial statement is available at the front desk and so is the bylaw and policy book.

- Ingrid

Day Program Report

The day program has had a smooth transition into the New Year. The new LRC passes are now being used so if you haven't handed in your fees please do that asap. The cost is \$ 10.00 per month or \$ 120.00 for the year, please make checks out to LINX Connect Centre.

Ceramics classes will resume on Feb.9th In February we are having a pizza lunch and afternoon Valentine's dance on February 14th and we have a long weekend for Family Day on the 20th.

We are researching the possibility of going on a trail ride/ camp out this year. If anyone knows of a ranch that has accommodations for about 40 individuals, pass on the contact information to Cindy or Nicole
- Cindy

Residential Program Report

Just think everyone over half way through the winter. The Residential side of LINX has had a busy month. We have working on a Bathing protocol which is now in the hands of the policy committee. Thank you in advance to all who need to get estimates on an additional plumbing equipment to ensure the safety to all the individuals which we serve. PDD will be paying for the part and any renovations that come from any of our homes that require the plumbing piece.

There is some free training that SHP's were able to sign up for if they chose this month. Free training does not come around that often and I hope that individuals took advantage of them.

The social group will likely be starting up again. Rodney and Laura will be heading it up. If you have any suggestions please forward them to LINX. If anyone would like to volunteer to assist with the social group by providing transportation or any other support that may be needed let us know.

SHP meeting will be at noon on February 21, 2012. Invoices are due by February 22, 2012.

I wish everyone a safe long weekend for Family Day.
- Ronni

Fundraising Report

The time is marching on; our lease will be finished March 31 2013. It is time for us all to rally around, and help to secure our new home. We did what some people thought impossible four years ago, in a very short time. It is time to dig in and help again. Our present quarters are far too small now. It is an old facility, and the maintenance is becoming very costly. So time to roll up our sleeves and get busy again. We have the Buy a Brick campaign going, please try and help with that by letting others know about it. Our 4th Gingerbread Gala will be on November 10, 2012. We have a full agenda, of things that need to be done. We will be trying for a lot of grants and foundation money. We will need people for the Casino and Bingo. We need everyone's help. If you have any ideas how to raise funds please let us know. If you are associated with a service club, have you asked if they could help LINX? We have presentations that we can make at clubs, so that they know what we are all about.

I want to thank a special friend to LINX, Marge Fedor, she has adopted us, she has donated and made us things. She has campaigned for us, she has gone from door to door to business to get us prizes for the Gala. She is presently helping us to distribute the Buy A Brick posters. She is a real ambassador for LINX.

- Ingrid 780 955-5543 antgdolls@aol.com

The recycling challenge is on, LINX!!



Coming Next month...

Next month we are looking forward to a "Self Advocacy" section in our newsletter. Stay tuned!!

If you have ideas of something you would like to see in this newsletter, or would like to submit something to add to it, please contact Nicole at 780-980-9423 or linxexec@linxconnect.ca.

"Just so you know!" ...

Our "... of the month" club!

There are so many people who make our world a better place. So, we have decided they needed individual recognition. We now will be publishing information on our Citizen of the Month, our Support Home Operator of the month, our Staff of the Month, and now our Employer of the month. If you see someone in any of these categories that you would like to see recognized, let us know!

Citizen of the Month

Grant Tomlinson! Grant is a very dedicated young man. He has had been at a consistent jobsite (Wal-Mart) for a while. He has put a great deal of effort into his workout program and is greatly improving his balance and stamina. He is also always on the lookout for new ideas that he can bring to LINX for programming or fundraising. Great job Grant!

Support Home Operator of the Month

Diane Sims! This lady is full of knowledge and is willing to assist at a moment's notice. She assisted the residential manager to get orientated when she first started in this position. She helped to prepare our current SHP contracts. She provides wonderful supports to 2 individuals. Diane has completed the multiple documentations that were required for the home support models.

Staff of the Month

Carolyn DeKlerk! Carolyn is always willing to give an extra hand. She helped the people who were taking their first aid with extra reviews. She is an amazing resource for the self advocacy group. Additionally, she advocates for inclusion whether "on the clock" or not, and supports many people with Friendship club. She also went about and beyond to give encouragement and comfort not only to an individual in the hospital, but to the entire agency (clients and staff alike) when we were faced with a recent tragedy.

Employer of the Month

Executive Express Hotel, Leduc-Nisku! This employer welcomed LINX with open arms. 6 individuals have held various positions there for quite some time. When a job fair was held recently for their newly opening Ricky's, they once again offered employment. They have been a wonderful employer for many individuals, and have showed a great deal of patience with changes in LINX staffing.