

The LINK

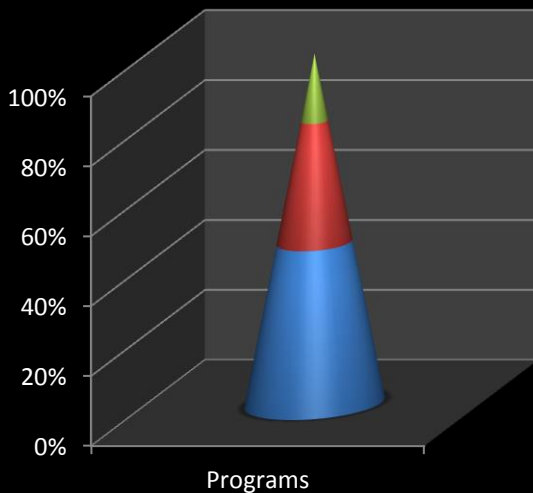
November 2016



**Learning
Inclusion
Networking
X-celence**

"Just so you know!"...

Employment of our Individuals! LINX is responsible for tracking and reporting various statistics for PDD. This quarter, we recognized statistics that we are very proud of. With the whole cone representing 100% of our individuals:



■ **24.6% of our individuals are in community access or volunteer programs.**

■ **75.4% of our individuals are in paid employed independently, in pairs, or in groups**

■ **42.1% of our individuals are in independently paid employed**

It is fabulous to see the benefits of how hard our individuals, staff, and the community have been working together!

Executive Director Nicole Fuhse

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Residential Manager Ronni DeLeavey

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Day Program Manager Heather Jones

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Office Manager Laurie Savill

Email: linxadmin@linxconnect.ca

Dates to remember:

Nov 11 – Office Closed 🌸

Nov 22 – Timesheet/invoices due

Dec 21 – Timesheet/invoices due early

Dec 26, 27 – Office Closed 🎄

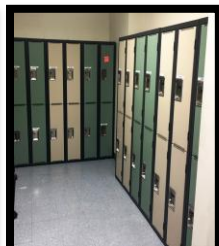
Jan 2 – Office Closed 🎁

Hearts and Heroes



Community & Donor Support!

We are so fortunate to have support come to us in many forms. We recently received a generous grant from Second Glance and a significant donation from Carol and Bob Marsh. With this, we were able to purchase new lockers for our clients. Being able to now have enough lockers for all the clients plus even a few for storage has been such an amazing gift for us. Thank you so much!



LINX is selling Purdy's at Christmas for a fundraiser for the classes! If you need order forms or booklets, let us know and we will bring you one!

To order online:

1. Login or create a new account at purdysgpp.com
2. Type the number 25629 into the search bar.
3. Click JOIN GROUP
4. Invite friends and family to help!

ALL ORDERS MUST BE IN BY
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 23RD.

Board Members

Ed Boender – Chairperson

Kim Dozois – Treasurer

Susan Boyle – Secretary

Maria Semrau – Director

Annis Mattiussi – Director

Cori Barnes – Director

Teara Serena – Client Rep

Recycling Donation Challenge

(as of the end of September)



\$1552.90



You can now safely
donate to LINX online at
www.linx.ngo



Hearts & Heroes!



Mark your calendar for this major fundraising event for LINX! We are working on some new highlights to our event and can't wait to share them with you. Go to www.linx.ngo/donate to get your tickets now. For further details please contact Laurie, Nicole or Susan.

Day Program Report

I would like to welcome Nikita Pawlick and Andrew Giebelhaus to the Job Coaching team. Thank you for choosing LINX and I look forward to working with you both.

As we say goodbye to October and welcome November, let's all stop to remember and thank all the heroes who made our country what it is today. I am fortunate enough to still have my Grandfather with me as he served in the war. Thank you for your stories of bravery and for the honor to have received all your war veteran medals this past summer. Thank you Grampie, and to all the Veterans.

With just over a month before the big lottery draw, good luck to you all who have supported the cause. To date the clients and staff have raised over \$7000.00. WAY TO GO EVERYONE!!!!

Thank you to my staff for your constant flexibility...." Coming together is a beginning of staying together, that's progress, and working together is SUCCESS".

Dress warm, bundle up, and prepare for the cold. Have a safe and wonderful November.

November Lunch Snacks are:

- 🌻 November 4 – Tropical Ham Diner
- 🌻 November 11 – CLOSED Remembrance Day
- 🌻 November 18 – South west Spuds
- 🌻 November 25 – Orange Beef Stir-fry

~ Heather

Executive Director Report



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

~ Nicole

Residential Program Report

Team work is essential to being a manager at LINX. If the three managers and the director did not work and function as a team LINX would not be the agency that it is. We often build, brainstorm, support, prepare, teach, give feedback, fight, argue, are mad at each other, tease each other, and cover each other off.

When it comes to covering each other off it would be wonderful for the entire team to remember that we are doing our own job duties as well as someone else's. We may have the other persons duties split among us, but there are still extra duties and supports that we absorb. When I am covering for someone else I try extra hard to thank that persons team members for being supportive. I actually write the other manager or director a note telling them who their "gold star staff" are and leave notes or verbally thank people.

I wish everyone a safe Remembrance Day.

~ Ronni

MANDT Moment

Team Work

The MANDT system tells us that if we trust each other the people we serve can trust us. How trustworthy are you? How well do you trust the others on the team. If your answers are not well, what are you going to do to change it?

Are you the one gossiping in a way that is hurting the team? Are you the one that spreads glitter and rainbows and telling your team mates they are doing something great?



Through our eyes...

A Completely Rewarding Feeling

Written by: Carly, Dave, Don

Cortnee Brunet is a former board member at LINX, sister to a former client, a past and present volunteer, and card maker extraordinaire, now with the Out of The Box Cards project. Her enthusiasm for LINX has been appreciated over the years as LINX began and to the present.

Cortnee was first introduced to LINX when it opened and her brother was a client there. Her first impressions of LINX were, "I felt that LINX would get my brother and people like him out into the community and give the community a chance to see what we saw, that they are no different than you and I."

You volunteered to be on the board of LINX after your sibling left LINX for services elsewhere. Why did you maintain the relationship with LINX? "I was very familiar with a board setting and still wanted to be involved with the organization even though my brother wasn't."

Why did you feel that was important? "I feel that LINX is a very important organization in the Leduc community and we would be lost without them." How did you find being on the board? "The board dealt with things that were much more in-depth than I ever imagined being a sibling of a past client. There is more to running of the agency and serving the clients than an average person would anticipate. It isn't just snap your fingers and it's there."

If you were asked what LINX can do for people with developmental challenges, what would you tell them? "Actually, I would tell them LINX would be able to open up many different doors for them in society and help them with jobs, adjusting to living on their own, mentorship, and access all the things average people take for granted."

What is your new special project with LINX as a volunteer? "I use a tool (paper cutter) that I am very familiar with to create items the clients can use to embellish the cards they make for Out of The Box Cards. I am extremely excited about it. I am able to use something I have a passion for to help the clients and I get to see them use those things to create something beautiful."

"If someone asked me why they should consider volunteering at LINX I would tell them; not only do they get to volunteer for a great organization, the organization would appreciate their time more than they could imagine. It is a completely rewarding feeling to volunteer at LINX."

Parents! Clients! Employers! Staff! Neighbours! If you would like to be a part of or refer someone for "Through our Eyes", please contact Nicole at 780-980-9423 ext 222 or linxexec@linxconnect.ca.





Newsletter Class

Critters for Calm

Written by: Anthony, Carly, David, Don, Dulcie, William

Animals are wonderful things and if you have the privilege of having a pet you are very fortunate. If you do not have that privilege being with animals can still have a positive effect on you.

The newsletter class had an experience while researching for this article. Everyone was very quiet that day and some were even dozing a bit when we started watching a video about a therapy dog visiting a dying patient. This led to more videos of pets of all kinds and the mood in the room immediately came to life with chatter and laughter. So even watching them can have a positive effect.

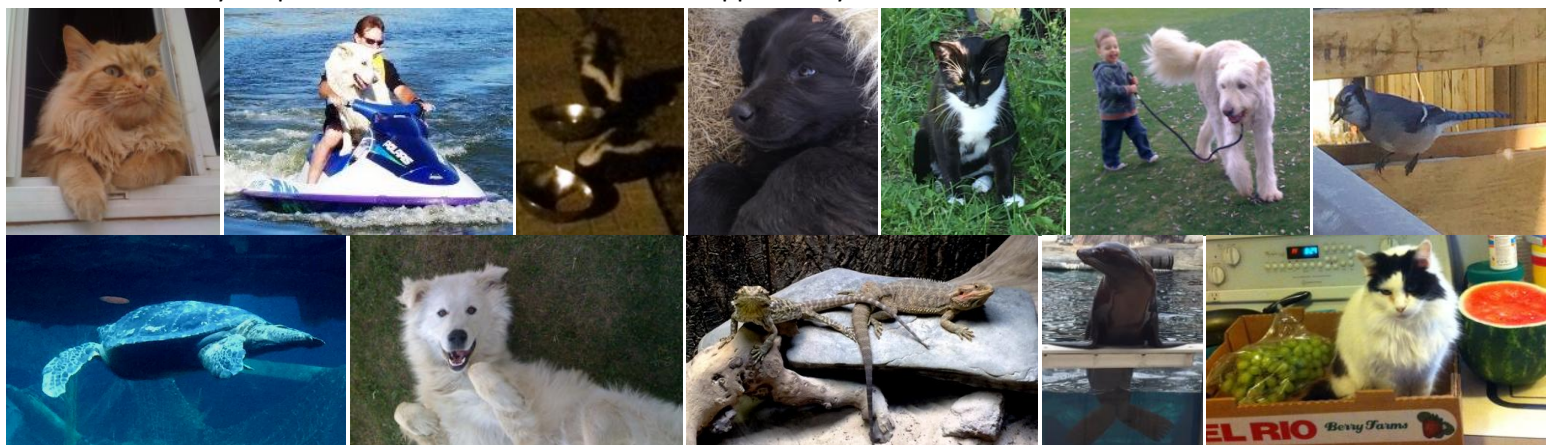
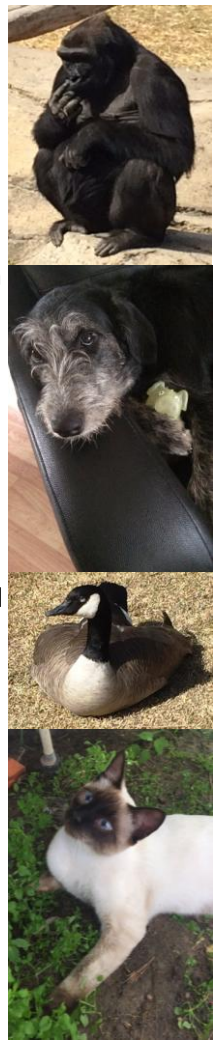
"You can't look at a sleeping cat and be tense." - Jane Pauley

One of our clients had the opportunity to experience the work of a service dog at Salem manor and wrote a short article about him. Joey first arrived at Salem manor nursing home and knew exactly what he was there to do. He visited residents throughout the home, did some tricks which made some smile, and some laugh. He was a well-mannered dog who brought excitement and happiness to the patients and gave them something to look forward to. When Joey was around them he helped the residents feel happy because they felt understood and he was there for them when they needed comfort. Those that could not bend down to pet him had the volunteer helper pick him up and hold him so they could have the interaction. He also helped calm down residents when they were upset.

"Joey was a very calm, and well behaved dog. He felt comfortable there." - ~Dulcie Mayr

Science has proven that contact with pets has great benefits on: blood pressure, heart, peace of mind, and pain. Petting an animal causes an immediate relaxation response. For mental health: lowers depression, makes people feel included, helps people communicate, gives comfort, heightens interest, comforts, encourages recovery in some people, helps kids with speech and emotions and reading, and focuses literacy skills. For physical therapy: encourages joint movement, motor skills, and gives motivation to move and exercise for longer. <http://www.pawsforpeople.org>

Whether you own a pet or not contact with them can be very beneficial to people. Share your pets with those who don't have the opportunity to own one.



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. Please help us celebrate our Citizen of the Month, Residential Staff of the month, Staff of the Month, and Employer of the month. If you see someone in any of these categories that you would like to see recognized, please let us know!

Citizen of the Month

Nicole Donald! She is actively involved in the Leduc community working and when she is not working she is volunteering with seniors. She is very talented in writing and is often seen crocheting with just her fingers. Ryan has described Nicole as totally outgoing and easy to talk to. Nicole has worked very hard on herself and has made some very positive changes in her life. Keep up the amazing work Nicole. I'm so proud of you!!!

Day Staff of the Month

Mary Johnson! "Mother Mary" is how I would describe Mary. She is always there for all the clients and the staff. She is willing to help and assist whenever she is needed. She continues daily to guide all the clients' at LINX, in helping them achieve their goals and be the best people they can be. Thank you for your dedication, creativeness, and love that you have as an instructor☺. Bradley has described Mary as a good listener and very easy to talk to. One client has said he nick named her "Mary Mary Quite Contrary"!!!

Employer of the Month

Canadian Tire, Wal-Mart, Safeway, and Co-op! Thank you to the these stores who have employed several of our LINX clients over the years. They have also supported us in many of our give back programs. Most recent is allowing our client and staff into their stores for us to sell tickets week after week to support the Black Gold Health Foundation and the Wetaskiwin Hospital in raising money for new emergency equipment and a new CT machine. Big THANK YOU to them. We have with your help, raised over \$7000.00!!! You are our Employers of the month!!!

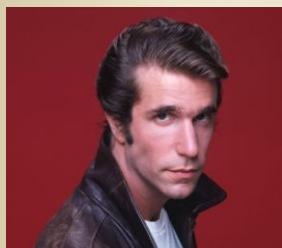
Residential Staff

of the month

Katie Burt! selected this month as she has recently taken on some extra clients. She has been using great communication skills to advocate for her clients. I appreciate that she makes appointments to talk to me when we both have a block of time to cover the topic appropriately. Her paperwork is in on time, correct, and completed well!!!

LINX Employers

✿ Basintek	✿ Dollarama	✿ McDonalds	✿ Petro Canada Nisku	✿ Sobeys Beaumont
✿ Black Gold Real Properties	✿ Executive Alexandra Hotel	✿ Leduc McDonalds	✿ Planeview Place	✿ Sport Chek
✿ Boston Pizza	✿ Extendicare	✿ Nisku McDonalds	✿ Playing For Keeps	✿ St. Paul's Anglican Church
✿ Canadian Tire	✿ Flaman	✿ Sparrow McDonalds	✿ Ricky's All Day Grill	✿ Staples
✿ City of Leduc	✿ Gateway Family Church	✿ Nisku Inn	✿ Safeway	✿ Subway Leduc Common
✿ Co-op Food	✿ Kosmos	✿ No Frills	✿ Salem Manor	✿ Tim Hortons
✿ Co-op Lumberyard	✿ Leduc Rep	✿ Notre Dame	✿ Second Glance	✿ Wal-Mart
✿ Coffee News	✿ Leduc Library		✿ Silver Shears	✿ Zulu



Henry Winkler, Dyslexia – He is a Golden Globe Award-winning American actor, director, producer and author. He is perhaps most famous for his role as Arthur "Fonzie" Fonzarelli on the popular sitcom Happy Days. Winkler received his bachelor's degree from Emerson College and his MFA from the Yale School of Drama. Having struggled throughout his school years with unidentified dyslexia Winkler, at age 31, finally understood what he'd been grappling with all his life, when making a documentary about dyslexia, Winkler himself found that he was dyslexic. ~~ www.disabled-world.com

LINUX Employers!

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| ☛ Black Gold Real Properties | ☛ Executive Alexandra Hotel | ☛ Leduc | ☛ Planeview Place | ☛ Sport Chek |
| ☛ Boston Pizza | ☛ Extendicare | ☛ McDonalds Nisku | ☛ Playing For Keeps Toys and More | ☛ St. Paul's Anglican Church |
| ☛ Canadian Tire | ☛ Flaman | ☛ McDonalds Sparrow | ☛ Ricky's All Day Grill | ☛ Staples |
| ☛ City of Leduc | ☛ Gateway Family Church | ☛ Nisku Inn | ☛ Safeway | ☛ Subway Leduc Common |
| ☛ Co-op Food Store | ☛ Kosmos | ☛ No Frills | ☛ Salem Manor | ☛ Tim Hortons |
| ☛ Co-op Lumberyard | ☛ Leduc Rep | ☛ Notre Dame | ☛ Salvation Army | ☛ Wal-Mart |
| ☛ Coffee News | ☛ Leduc Library | | ☛ Second Glance | ☛ Zulu |
| | | | ☛ Silver Shears | |