

The Link

Leduc LINX Connect Centre

December 2011

Buy a Brick!

With the purchase of any Brick, your name will be written on that Brick. We will make this brick wall a feature in our new home. You are our foundation to make this dream happen.

The bricks are in many denominations, so that everyone can help us make this dream become a reality. Your money will be matched by a grant. We are a registered charity, and Income tax receipts will be issued.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions please call.

Nicole Fuhssel, Executive Director – 780-980-9423, ext 222

Alain LeFevre, Fundraising Co-chair – 780-980-9423, ext 223

Ingrid Seitinger, Board of Directors, Chair – 780 955-5543



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Executive Director - Nicole Fuhssel

linxexec@linxconnect.ca,

emergency 587-989-5691

Day Program - Cindy Rimmer

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Residential/Outreach - Ronni

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Dates to remember:

December 4 – Client, family, staff
Christmas party

December 7 – Fundraising Meeting

December 16 – Client gift exchange
and lunch

December 16 – Staff Christmas
Party

December 24-27 – Office closed for
Christmas

December 31-January 2 – Closed
for New Years

Board Members

Ingrid Seitinger – Chairperson

Mark Tamagi -Vice Chairperson

Laurie Tancowny – Member

Bill Dolman - Treasurer

Jennie Tomlinson – Member

Bill Carr - Member

Executive Director Report

It has been another busy and fun month at LINX. We ended October with a lunch, karaoke, and dance at the office, allowing participation no matter what time of the day they worked. This was a great opportunity for some clients to join in from other towns that normally would not be able to.

The long weekend in November definitely was a hectic week. We were lucky enough to have Marvin May do two presentations for Remembrance Day. The classes enjoyed his telling of some of his experiences in the Navy, and it was a fitting addition to the research they had been doing in class. Of course the Gingerbread Gala was that weekend as well. I was so proud to be a part of such an amazing event. Susan Boyle and Diana Manion and their volunteers did a fabulous job of chairing the gala, the donations and sponsors were amazing, and we all had an outstanding time.

This month we were donated a tree to decorate by the Chamber of Commerce for the Leduc Festival of Trees. A class went to decorate the tree at the LRC on November 17, and it was on display until November 20. As we were able to bring our decorations back, the tree is decorated as a LINX tree and is displayed in our front window.

On November 28, Liz Peterson from PDD was kind enough to give two presentations to all clients, families, and staff to hear about the "My Life" process, how LINX specifically did on the survey, and how this process will be the structure for how we provide services in the future. Some results from this survey will be posted at the end of this newsletter. I'm really looking forward to see how we can adapt these principles into what we are doing to provide a better serve to our clients.

With Christmas quickly approaching, I would like to wish everyone a safe and joyful holiday season, and a Happy New Year!!

- Nicole

Board Chair Report

Where does the time fly? First I want to Wish Everyone a Wonderful Holiday with all your wishes and dreams coming true. A VERY HAPPY HEALTHY PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

We have had a very busy year, LINX is growing and there is a lot to be done. Trying to find funding so that programs can be set up, to further our clients chances of getting better jobs is a challenge. The grant we received from the City of Leduc has set up a nutrition program, so that our individuals can learn to cook and become more independent. Also a computer program, they are going to Cottage Computers learning new skills. We are also training them in office skills at LINX; this should lead to better jobs. There are many ways that we can help our clients develop further skills. As we find some funding we will continue to strive to make their lives as fulfilled as possible.

We have started a "Buy a Brick" campaign, this is for us to be able to move from the premises that we have out grown, that now needs lots of maintenance, as things are wearing out. Our lease is up March 2013. Hope fully we will be able to afford to move to our own premises then.

In the coming year we have large tasks ahead of us, to be able to continue to grow and make things better for our loved ones. We need to work on this together!

- Ingrid



LINX Sincerely Thanks You!

Our Third Annual Gingerbread Gala was a success. We have a lot of people to thank for this success. Without you it could not function. To all the people that took time out of their busy lives, to come and support us. To all the businesses and people that donated, to the silent and live auction. The Chamber for letting us promote our Gala, at their meetings. The City of Leduc, Mayor and Alderman for supporting us every year. MLA George Rogers has been a staunch supporter, from the day that we started LINX. To the Nisku Inn and Staff that do everything to help us. Harry Pedersen the Auctioneer, that made us dig deep into our pockets. Then there is the hard working core, that spends countless hours to prepare the Gala. The Gala chair Diana Manion, Susan Boyle, co-chair, and the volunteers did a fantastic job to get everything ready and organized. There are 100's of people to thank. May we wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy, Healthy Prosperous New Year. See you next year at our Fourth Gingerbread Gala. Thank you LINX Clients, Management, Staff and Board of Directors.

- Ingrid

Day Program Report

The day program has been busy getting ready for the Christmas Season, as well as keeping up with work schedules and volunteer placements. Several individuals have found new employment opportunities at a couple of local new businesses. We are having a Pizza Party gift exchange on December 16th at lunch break, ten dollar limit on the gifts. Our employee of the month is **Marvin May**- He is an excellent job coach for several individuals as well as our LINX carpenter/plumber/electrician. Marvin volunteered many hours to help make the gala a success, and works on fundraising throughout the year. Our citizen of the month is **Tracy Wagner**. She is a hard working individual who is a great role model with a positive attitude and has recently demonstrated she is able to be flexible as well. The office will be closed from December 24th-December 27th inclusive, as well as January 2. We are collecting nonperishable food items and hats and mittens for the food bank, please have donations in by December 16th.

- Cindy

Residential Program Report

Support Home Provider for the month of December:
Diana Manion

She has assisted her peers in getting on the Data Base, worked very hard on the Ginger Bread Gala, Completed her programs for PDD, assisted her peers with writing their programs, and has been a great team player.

We have had a busy month preparing for and attending mandatory trainings as well as a few that were not mandatory, completing work for our PDD Home Support Models, planning parties for the holidays, and PDD visited us on the 28th to share the My Life Presentation.

Residential is continuing to looking for someone that would like to live in a clients home with the client(s). Residential is always looking for Respite workers- if you know anyone that would be a great addition to this position encourage them to come in and check it out.

A great big LINX thank you to all Support Home Providers and everyone else that assisted with the Gingerbread Gala adding this on top of all you already do is so appreciated.

- Ronni

Fundraising Report

This has been a very hectic 3 months for the fundraising committee. Organizing the Gala is a huge task. We had a perfect team to chair and co-chair the Gala Diana Manion and Susan Boyle. They and their team worked very hard and long hours. Thank you Diana, Susan and all the volunteers that helped. A special thanks to Marge Fedor, that pounded the streets for us to get the donations. The last calculations are not in but clear, so far its at least \$15,000 on the Gala.

We donated 20 table centres to the Festival of trees and also decorated a tree for their display, it is nice to participate in the Community that is so good to LINX.

At the Gala we unveiled our campaign to "Buy a Brick" for our new home fund \$1400.00 was donated at the Gala. The bricks are so designed in denomination that everyone can afford to be a part of helping us build our new home. Every client can participate if they wish. There will be further information on this and a poster available. We need everyone's participation in our effort to raise funds.

In the New Year we will, try for the grant and foundation monies that become available. We are always looking for new ways to raise money, if you have any ideas please let us know. Hope to see you at the Christmas party at Telford House Dec. 4 at 1 pm.

- Ingrid

"Just so you know!" ...

Charitable Tax Credit

Alberta has one of the highest charitable tax credits in Canada. The provincial tax credit was enhanced a few years ago to help increase private charitable donations to Alberta's non-profit and charitable sector. As LINX is a CRA-registered charity, donors to LINX will receive these tax benefits.

When an individual Albertan files their personal income tax, they total up all their charitable donations during the calendar year. They may be eligible to receive a combined 50% non-refundable tax credit on the total donations made above the \$200 threshold. Donations below the \$200 threshold continue to receive a combined tax credit of 25%.

Visit the program website at www.communityspiritprogram.ca and click on the "Charitable Tax Credit" link for more information. In addition, the Program Toolkit contains a flash banner ad highlighting the benefit of giving and gives a document that provides further information to donors about the benefit of the charitable tax credit.

- Nicole

Making Your Charitable Donations Work Harder

Total Annual Donations	Alberta	Federal	Total Tax Credit
\$500	\$83	\$117	\$200
\$1000	\$188	\$262	\$450
\$2000	\$398	\$552	\$950
\$5000	\$1028	\$1422	\$2450
\$10 000	\$2078	\$2872	\$2950
\$25 000	\$5228	\$7222	\$12 450

"My Life" Results

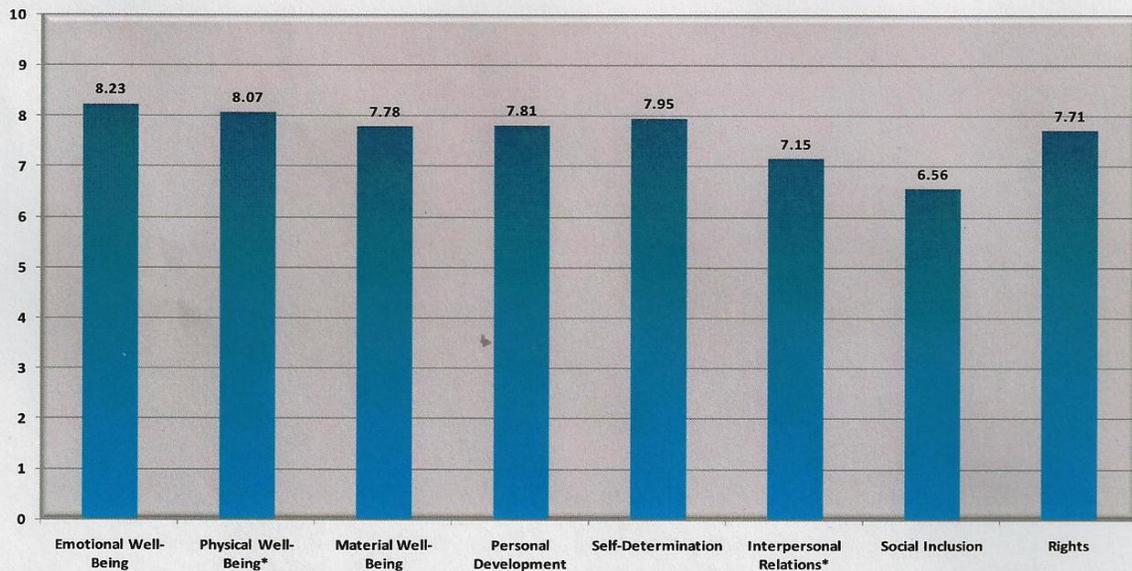
The following graphs are a quick summary of how LINX did at our survey in December 2010 and January 2011 in comparison to a survey of the general population. For further information on how we will be using these results to implement improvements in our services, please contact me for further information.

- Nicole

Presentation of Results

The average domain scores for adults served by LINX (n=24) are presented in the following chart. Scores are presented on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 represents low quality of life and 10 represents high quality of life.

Average LINX scores across My Life: Personal Outcomes Index™ quality of life domains



* The index reliability scores for these domains were below the "acceptable" level. Caution should be used when interpreting results.

General Population Average Score (2008)

