



## **VISION:**

Building possibilities; investing in people with intellectual disabilities.

## **MISSION:**

To enhance the quality of life for people with intellectual disabilities at all life stages, in partnership with Simcoe Community Services and the community by:

- Building relationships
- Fostering community understanding and acceptance
- Generating resources

## **The Foundation Today:**

The Simcoe Community Services Foundation partners directly with Simcoe Community Services (SCS) in supporting both adults and children with intellectual disabilities across Simcoe County. The Foundation is a separately incorporated registered charity # 896155629.

Funds raised by the Foundation go directly to individuals and families for services and supports that receive partial or no government funding. Since 2002, the Foundation has successfully raised over \$400,000 through a variety of means including an annual fundraising campaign, a planned giving program, bingo revenue, and two annual events - a golf tournament and a fashion show.

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation collectively possess a wealth of skills and experience and are committed to involving the community in addressing the unmet needs of many deserving individuals and their families.

Our recipient agency, Simcoe Community Services, was founded in 1953 by concerned parents and citizens. The organization is a well known provider of quality services to people with intellectual disabilities. It has developed a number of formal partnerships throughout the community with employers, educators and various human services professionals. Recently SCS was accredited by the

Centre for Quality and Leadership Canada and is a long-standing member of Community Living Ontario.

Today, Simcoe Community Services provides supports to over 1,500 children, youth and adults with intellectual disabilities in Barrie, Orillia, Bradford-West Gwillimbury and surrounding townships. Individuals and their families have access to a diverse range of services at any stage in their life from preschool to teenage years, as a young adult or a senior. Service options include preschool programs, community involvement, family support or employment. SCS also provides accommodation in group home settings, with individual families or by supporting those who are able to live independently in the community.

## **The Need:**

SCS is faced with critical pressures and significant waiting lists for services from infancy through to senior years. It is important to note that while some services receive substantial government funding, others receive partial or no funding whatsoever. However, government funding provides for only the basic needs of people supported by SCS. The Foundation is a major contributor in helping people reach beyond this level to achieve their personal goals and become valued members of the community.

Through the generous gifts of our donors the Foundation has been able to:

- Provide funds for youth to be involved in job training and social skills.
- Support families in caring for family members with special needs by raising funds for the Respite/Family Relief Program.
- Pay for membership fees for individuals to enjoy recreation and leisure activities in their community.
- Subsidize necessary supports to allow children with special needs to attend summer camp.
- Support parenting workshops to discuss useful strategies.

It is clear that the supports offered by the Foundation can only be sustained through the financial contributions of committed individuals, local businesses and service clubs.

## Changing Lives Through Donor Support:



Ethan's family wrote their Resource Teacher to say *"Thanks for all you have done to support our family. Ethan has come "leaps and bounds" thanks to your guiding hands. You have been our sanity, our shoulder to lean on and our walking parent resource. Much love and many thanks."*



*Donna landed the job she always wanted at Canada Post after receiving support from SCS's Employment Support Services. She remarked recently "I feel proud of myself and I do my job well. SCS has helped me get the support I need at different stages in my life and helped me to become more independent." Donna has developed strong leadership skills that enable her to be a member of the Self Advocates Council and effectively speak up for the rights of others.*



*As a teenager, Kyle, became an enthusiastic member of the Youth in Action service, a combined recreational social skills training program. He particularly loved the summer camp opportunity. "I was always busy and made lots of new friends". After completing school, the SCS Employment Support program helped him obtain a job at Simcoe Trophies. He proudly remarked "I go to work early and we like to talk about wrestling, TV shows, sports and joke around together. Then we work really hard to get the job done. Work is great!"*



*Emily, aged 14, attended "Get O.U.T.", a social skills program in Orillia. Her mother, in a thank you letter to SCS wrote, "Emma has been so happy and confident this past week. She is looking forward to learning more about the summer programs and future Get O.U.T. activities."*

## **Give A Gift And Make A Difference:**

These are only a few of many great stories that illustrate how your gift can help individuals supported by the Foundation.

You can make a real difference in the lives of individuals and their families by giving them an opportunity to be meaningfully involved in their community.

*Please help by making a  
generous gift today to the  
Simcoe Community Services Foundation.*

**For more information about how  
you can support the  
Simcoe Community Services Foundation,  
please contact the  
Foundation Resource Developer  
at (705) 726-9082 ext. 254 or email  
[lpope@simcoecommunityservices.ca](mailto:lpope@simcoecommunityservices.ca).**

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