



Youville Centre News



Summer 2010

Graduation 2010

Youville Centre celebrated its 20th graduation ceremony on June 3, 2010. The accomplishments of 23 young women were applauded – one of the largest grad classes in our 23 year history. More than 45 bursaries were awarded to graduating students, alumnae, and to the children of former students – a testimony to Youville Centre’s commitment to lifelong learning and to our ongoing success with two generations.

Four of the grads received their diplomas after following ILC courses with our Learning Coach. The remainder studied on-site



at the M.F. McHugh Education Centre housed on our third floor. Our valedictorian, **Chelsea Chamberlain**, shared her story and thoughts about Youville with her classmates and audience: “Throughout the course of my pregnancy, I always had the insecurity of

ending up a single mother, on welfare and living cheque to cheque. It seemed as though that thought was engraved into my mind and would never leave. I now stand before all of you today confident and proud to say I am a young mother who is now making something of my life. I know those words would have never been spoken if it wasn’t for Youville.”

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YouRide

Our first annual YouRide event was held on May 16th in beautiful Strathcona Park. 30 participants rode 5, 10 and 20km in support of Youville Centre. It was a family, fun-filled event on a lovely day. After the ride everyone celebrated with a barbecue and music. A grand total of \$8,000 was raised. Thanks to everyone involved and a special thanks to our sponsors, **Scotiabank, Kunstadt Sports, Culligan Water, the Sens Foundation and Sandy Hill Lounge and Grill!**



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In keeping with tradition, an Alumna was asked to serve as emcee for the ceremony.

Jenn Clark, Grad 2004, is now a front-line worker at St. Joe's Women Centre. She, too, shared her story and, in doing so, served as a beacon of hope for the 2010 class.



they have helped me, by giving back to the community. I have been working in the field for over 4 years now and am currently working for St. Joe's Women Centre. It is gratifying every day knowing that I have secured full time and rewarding employment, working with



In Memoriam:

Rebecca Emery

Rebecca Emery, a 1993 graduate, passed away on April 1, 2010, this past Easter weekend. Her parents, JoAnn and George Emery, and her son, Jacob, requested In Memoriam donations for Youville Centre. To date, over \$5000 has been received. Rebecca's family agreed to have an endowment sub-fund created at the Community Foundation of Ottawa (CFO). This sub-fund will provide a minimum of \$250 annually, in perpetuity, to be awarded as a bursary at future graduations. Any contributions to this cause will be forwarded to the CFO and will increase the amount awarded to future recipients. The Emerys have chosen to honor Alumnae pursuing post-secondary studies for this award. Donations have come from family and friends and from Rebecca's colleagues at NAV Canada. This is the first bursary recognizing the legacy of a Youville Centre Alumna to be established at our Centre.

"Upon graduating in 2004, with the encouragement of Youville, I went on to Algonquin College and received my diploma in Social Service Work, in 2006. I have been working with homeless, low-income and disadvantaged population with the confidence I gained from the Centre. I feel as though this is my opportunity to show Youville just how much

women whose shoes I once walked a little in. I will forever be grateful to the Youville Centre for helping me to get to where I am today."

Everyone present: students, staff, graduates, families, donors and supporters of Youville Centre congratulate these young women, who have persevered and overcome outstanding obstacles to achieve their dual goal of high school graduation and strong parenting. We are proud of them and their efforts and we wish them many future successes.

Youville Centre



Class of 2010

We Couldn't Have Done it Without **YOU**

The generous support of the community makes many of our programs and services at Youville possible. We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their generous support:

Our wonderful partners at **Sandy Hill Community Health Centre** who provide the services of an Addictions Counsellor and two Nurse Practitioners for our young mothers.

Bon Appetit Ottawa for an increase in funding to support food-related programs at Youville Centre including our Nutrition/ Mom & Me Classes.

The **Knights of Columbus Holy Redeemer Council 9544** for their generous donation of \$3,000 from their recent golf tournament. These funds will support the transportation needs of our young mothers beginning in September. Many thanks to Clarence Maheral and Stephen Dulude for hand delivering their cheque to Youville Centre.



Clarence Maheral, Judith Sarginson, Stephen Dulude

Did you know that...

Donations of a substantial amount can be made directly to Youville Centre or to the Youville Centre Foundation managed by the Community Foundation of Ottawa, which results in annual returns to Youville Centre in perpetuity. Contact our Accounting Office at extension 112 for details.

Excellence in Literacy Foundation for \$2,000 in funding to support literacy initiatives in our M.F. McHugh English class.

Talbots Bayshore for their continual support. Through their frequent donations of professional clothing, Talbots is setting our young moms up for success as they interview for Co-op positions, enter the world of work, and go on to post-secondary education.

Zellers Bayshore for donating a shredder to our Youville Centre office.

Arnold Hodgins and the **Britannia Woods Food Pantry** for much needed diapers and baby food for our little ones.

Conservation Co-operative Homes for sharing fresh vegetables from their community gardens.

Morris Rothman for donating a variety of items for our young moms and their children.

Peer Friends of Youville Centre

A group of hard-working students from Saint Patrick High School put together a successful proposal resulting in a \$5,000 grant to Youville Centre. Their proposal was a winner at both local and provincial levels. Thanks to the Toskan Casale Foundation, teacher Deborah Alsen and students, Alexandre Awad, Christian Hajjar, Brandon McRae and Bryan Paquette. The students are applauded for their commitment and maturity. The funding will support our two Reach Ahead courses in July – peer support for our students!

Upcoming Events

**September 30, 2010
(Note: New Date)**

Annual General Meeting

150 Mann Avenue
5:30pm Refreshments
6:00pm Meeting



Planet Youville

Through the **Community Foundations of Canada** Youville Centre was the successful recipient of a youth-led grant from the **Nuclear Waste Management Organization** to enhance the Centre's recycling program and build organic gardens through the Canadian Organic grower's "Growing Up Organic" program. Both Youville's young mothers and children participated in the creation of the gardens. Many thanks to the Nuclear Waste Management Organization.

Farewell to a Friend

Lynne Nicolson has served as volunteer editor of our newsletter since 2003. During that time she has written, edited and re-written articles in order to make our newsletter attractive and informative. She always took the time to make sure that she understood the stories, the people behind the stories and our readership. We will miss her pleasant, calm manner and her effective literacy skills. Most of all we will miss her commitment and dedication to Youville Centre's work with young families. Thanks Lynne, for years of volunteerism and for being a true friend of Youville.



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Newsletter Design by Volunteer Claudia Siefer



Youville Centre

An innovative centre that motivates, educates & nurtures young parents and their children.



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Charitable Registration
#11884 8456 RR 0001
Hours: Monday - Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm

Yes, I/We wish to support The Youville Centre, an innovative centre that motivates, educates and nurtures young parents and their children.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

I/We wish to contribute \$ _____ per month,
commencing _____.

I/We wish to contribute \$ _____ at this time.

Payment to be made by: ___ Cheque ___ Visa ___ MC ___ Amex

Card# _____ Expiry _____

Signature _____

We also accept donations online at www.youvillecentre.org