



Plainfield Community Homes

A Non-Profit, Charitable Organization

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY HOMES RECEIVES COMMUNITY INCLUSION FUNDING

BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO, August 27, 2002 – Plainfield Community Homes has been awarded funding in the amount of \$45,300 over three years through Ontario's *It Takes A Village ... Where All People Belong*", part of a national Community Inclusion project funded through Human Resources Development Canada. This funding will enable Plainfield Community Homes to engage a number of potential partner agencies, families, Youth Involvement Ontario, and self-advocates in promoting the development of greater understanding and awareness about citizen rights by people with intellectual disabilities, their families and the community. Over the three-year term of this project, Plainfield Community Homes will establish a Rights Commission that will monitor rights issues and provide an avenue for due process. The final year of the project will culminate in the promotion, building and nurturing of greater capacity for the inclusion of all people as full citizens with opportunities for community involvement, expression and participation.

"Many people with intellectual disabilities continue to be vulnerable to abuse, rights violations and restrictions," says John Klassen, Executive Director of Plainfield Community Homes. "Until recently, very little attention has been paid to this serious issue and despite a growing awareness of basic human rights afforded to citizens of Canada through the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, many people with intellectual disabilities and their families are not aware of the many fundamental violations and therefore they do not exercise due process and seek the necessary support to redress these rights violations." Mr. Klassen added, "This project will bring more public awareness and capacity to this community regarding the rights of people with intellectual disabilities and their full inclusion as valued citizens."

In partnership with the Canadian Association for Community Living, the Ontario Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services and Community Living Ontario, Human Resources Development Canada has funded a number of Community Inclusion projects across Canada in the past four (4) years that have promoted and nurtured inclusive thinking practices, environments and communities.

Plainfield Community Homes is a non-profit, charitable organization founded in 1951 as the "Babies Convalescent Home". It has since grown into a multi-service organization that now provides a range of supports to over 80 children and adults with complex physical and developmental disabilities. Plainfield Community Homes employs about 200 people and is funded by the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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