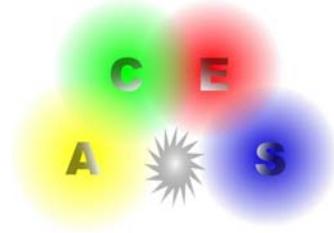


ACES MEETING

Open to self-advocates, families and friends of adults with ASD



DATE: Sunday, April 2, 2-4 pm
PLACE: CMHA Boardroom at Ignatius/Orchard Park
5420 Hwy 6 North, R.R. 5
Guelph, ON N1H 6J2
Map and directions are attached.

RSVP: by March 27 to Nancy Cherry at 519-884-3309 or nancy.cherry@rogers.com

PURPOSE: Discussion of priorities for adults with ASD, to inform a Colloquium being hosted by GSA a bit later in April 2006, for representatives of parent support groups and agencies that do or might support adults with ASD in Waterloo Region and Guelph-Wellington

AGENDA:

1. Some background questions and ideas, to think about before we meet:
 - Do we support and advocate for total service for a few, or some level of support for many or most adults with autism?
 - Should our efforts be focused on the most vulnerable adults with complex needs, or should they be diffused all over the spectrum?
 - Do we recognize only funded and staffed models of service, or do we plan supports for the continuing involvement by family and friends in the lives of many adults with autism, including some with severe challenges?
 - Is it possible to choose only one model of “best practice”, or do we recognize the wide range of combinations of abilities and challenges in our adults with autism?
 - If we can't achieve everything for everybody, what can we do that will improve the quality of life for the greatest number?
 - How can autism advocacy organizations like Autism Society Ontario help? What can GSA and WWAS do?
 - How does our advocacy for adults with autism fit with the general trends in advocacy for others with social, communication and developmental challenges?
 - How helpful is it to plan within the context of person-centred planning and self-determination, individualized funding, and collaborative efforts between informal supports (family, friends and community) and formal funded agencies.
2. Outline of services and supports now available for ADULTS WITH ASD, from two points of view:
 - What agencies may offer or be able to provide (we have charts and lists for Waterloo Region, and for Guelph-Wellington)
 - Person-centred approach, with supports designed for and with the person
3. If we can't do everything all at once, what specific innovations could start to improve quality of life for adults with ASD?
 - We suggest that these two innovations would be cost-effective, to start with:
 - Brokerage/co-ordination of supports for IF
 - Autism support centre
 - Discussion of how these innovations could help with situations (based on real people) that we sketch at this link: <http://www.ont-autism.uoguelph.ca/colloq-stories.pdf>
4. Bright ideas towards an action plan to introduce these innovations in our region

Orchard Park Office Centre

5420 Hwy 6 North, R.R. 5
Guelph, ON N1H 6J2

Location: ½km north of Guelph on Highway 6, situated on the grounds of Ignatius Jesuit Centre (formerly Ignatius College). See blue dot on map below.

Enter the grounds at the sign for Orchard Park. Follow the driveway to the first parking lot on your left. Enter the building via the northeast entrance (with stairs). We are in the CMHA Boardroom, which is up another flight of stairs and immediately to your right.

