



Apropos...

Batshaw Youth and Family Centres

News from Michael Udy, Executive Director

WORLD AIDS DAY

(Contributed by Véronique Sosa, Resource person on HIV prevention, Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents.)

To recognize World Aids Day, the Staff Development sub-committee of the Task Group on Youth Sexuality has organized a lunch time presentation for staff, entitled *AIDS in the Workplace*. It will be given by ACCM (Aids Community Care Montreal) on November 28th from 12:00 to 13:30 at 5 Weredale on the 6th floor. It is a "brown bag lunch" event, with complimentary desserts and coffee provided by the committee.

YOUTH CENTRE REPORT CARD COMING

September newspapers carried the "report cards" produced for all of Québec's hospitals. It will be the Youth Centre's turn in early December, and Batshaw will be included. The report cards are based on questionnaires sent to recent former clients from our various programs. Youth and parents respond concerning their level of satisfaction on seven topics: accessibility of services, the quality of information given, the respectfulness of the staff, the quality of the services given, the continuity of the services, the treatment of complaints and an overall satisfaction rating. The Ministry gave Batshaw a budget to hire callers, who recently completed their work. Director of Professional Services, Claude Laurendeau, monitored the project closely to assure respect of confidentiality and validity of the sample. Out of over 400 former clients who were chosen for the sample, close to half accepted to receive the questionnaire. Once completed, they will return it directly to a company engaged by the Ministry to analyze and produce the results.

FOUNDATION FUND-RAISING INTENSIFIES

This month, you will hear promotional announcements concerning some of the projects that the Batshaw Foundation supports. These can be heard on the following stations: Mix 96, CHOM and CJAD, at different times throughout the day. These announcements are a courtesy of donated air time from Standard Broadcasting Incorporated. The fund-raising period is continuing. If you would like to donate either by cheque or payroll deduction, please contact Ghislaine Corbeil at 989-1885.

NEWS FROM PROJECT 10

(Contributed by Virginia Kerr, President, Project 10, Board of Directors, and Child Care Worker at Addington group home, Division of Residential Treatment Services for Adolescents.)

We have been very busy since the spring with new staff, new programs and a renewed commitment. Last April, Project 10 celebrated its tenth anniversary with a party and press conference. I had the opportunity at that time to review the history of Project 10 and publicly thank Batshaw for its support from our humble beginnings to the present. We also continue to pay tribute to Bill Ryan who founded Project 10 and who continues to work hard for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgendered youth.

In June, we said goodbye to Pierrette La Roche after 8 years of work at Project 10. Pierrette can move on knowing that she touched the lives of many youth through her spirit of caring and compassion. We wish her all the best with her career as a music therapist. As co-coordinators, Pierrette and Daniel Lanouette have been the heart and soul of Project 10 and we were very proud that in recognition of their hard work, they were nominated for the prestigious Arc En Ciel award as part of Diver/Cite during Gay Pride Week. Bravo!!

We welcome Marlo Ritchie as the new co-coordinator of Project 10. Marlo and Daniel have a very full plate as the fall programs swing into action. Drop-ins, discussion groups, guest speakers and activities are just some of what will be happening. A reminder to all, Project 10 is available to answer questions or visit units to present or animate discussion groups. Contact Marlo or Daniel at 989-4585.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

There have been many changes at the Board level since the summer. First, we expressed our good wishes and thanks to Bill Rowe, President since 2000. Bill recently accepted the post of Director of the School of Social Work at the University of Southern Florida at Tampa. At the September meeting the Board named James Grant as the fourth Board President. Mr. Grant was also the first president in 1992. Other important decisions taken at the September meeting included: approval of Batshaw's participation in the regional agreement between Youth Centres, CLSCs and Day Care Centres; a revision of the Complaints policy to adapt it to changes in the legislation; approval of a policy on exclusivity of office of senior managers; approval of a policy on conflict of interest applicable to senior and middle managers, staff, volunteers and trainees.

The October meeting was the last one for outgoing Board members, whom we thank for their commitment and guidance. The meeting was combined with the Annual Public Information Meeting where I presented a summary of the annual report. Following this, since the occasion marked the 10th anniversary of the creation of the Batshaw Board, I reviewed the important decisions taken by the Board over the last decade that guide the organization. Then we were treated to the highlight of the evening. We are fortunate enough not only to be named in honour of Manny Batshaw, but we continue to benefit from his perspective and advice. Manny reviewed some of the changes that have occurred in our field over the last three decades since he chaired the Batshaw Committee. We were able to see how much progress has been made. Manny ended with a compelling call to us all that we strive constantly to keep young people and their families at the centre of our considerations, and that we invest much more in research so that we can truly know what works.

Board members elected or designated since October 16th are: Ruth Essing (Council for Clients and Community), Joy Lepage (Multidisciplinary Council), James Grant (Owning Corporations), Allan Aitken (Foundations), Ermina Codjoe, Karen Potter-Bienvenu and Judy Martin (Population election). Congratulations to all. More news in December.

HOLIDAY PARTY TIME!

This year's Batshaw Youth and Family Centres Staff Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2002, at the Montreal Badminton and Squash Club. The organizing committee promises a good time for all. To register for the party, contact France Lespérance at 989-1885, extension 204.

BATSHAW EVENTS CALENDAR

- November** Batshaw Foundation Fundraising Campaign
Information and donations contact:
Ghislaine Corbeil at 989-1885.
- November** Centraide fundraising campaign at Batshaw
- November 19th** World Day for the Prevention of Child Abuse
- November 20th** International Children's Rights Day
- December 9th** Board Meeting
6 Weredale Park
Information contact: Thérèse Gauthier at 989-1885.
- December 14th** Staff Holiday Party
Information contact: France Lespérance at 989-1885.