



APPROPOS

BATSHAW YOUTH AND FAMILY CENTRES



Youth Centres Week

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICES

On the occasion of Youth Centres Week, I applaud the unwavering commitment of all the staff, and their remarkable efforts to assist youths with perseverance and love, as well as the outstanding support they provide to families so that they may assume adequately their responsibilities toward their children.

As a result of the interventions of staff working in protection services, youths experiencing problems within their family have a better chance to develop to their full potential and contribute to their community.

There is no doubt in my mind that with their expertise and skills, youth centres staff help restore hope and trust for the children they work with.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for this much-needed presence which you provide to Québec's troubled youth!

Dominique Vien

THE RUTH AND MANNY BATSHAW AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2010

Claire Roy, Manager, Communications and Public Relations

The Ruth and Manny Batshaw Awards of Excellence were revamped this year to recognize the contribution of all. Three new categories were developed. This year the presentation of the awards took place during the Youth Centres Week, on November 17th.

The Selection Committee was composed of Mrs. Karen Peters a Batshaw Centres Board member, of Mrs. Karma Hallward, President of the Batshaw Centres Foundation, and of Mr. Fo Niemi, Executive Director of the Center for Research-Action on Race Relations (CRARR), familiar with our mandates and functioning.

The recipients of the Ruth and Manny Batshaw Awards of Excellence 2010 are:

The following texts are drawn from the words of those who nominated the recipients.

Clinical Excellence – Psychosocial

Marlene Baumel, Nurse, Prévost/Dorval Campuses, DPS

As Prévost campus was picked to pilot the Substance Abuse Service Path and Access Mechanism and the 2nd level Mental Health table, Marlene has taken a leading role in screening and evaluating high risk clients as well as leading inter-disciplinary discussions. While working on these projects, Marlene always made sure to offer and maintain high quality services. She inspires everyone around her with her dedication, caring and respect of clients independent of the differences in their histories, language, and cultural backgrounds. She is extremely skilled in establishing therapeutic relationships with clients. Her availability and her professionalism are greatly appreciated by colleagues and external partners. Her strength in responsiveness to clients' and staffs' expressed needs is very effective for meeting these needs.

Clinical Excellence – Residential

Rodney Selman, Educator, Bourbonnière Group Home, DRTSA

Rodney personifies the essence of balancing the caring but firm guidance essential in working with our clients. He has repeatedly demonstrated a keen sense of understanding the risks presented by the clients, and on one occasion, intervened in a suicide attempt by a client which resulted in the client's life being saved. This example highlights crucial element which is having the courage to act. Rodney is truly a committed worker. He is always the first to volunteer to visit a client on his day off or organize a work crew to clean up the outside property of the group home. Rodney conducts himself as a role model to the clients of Bourbonnière Group Home, and as a man of deep faith, he understands the importance of inner strength as the foundation to face life's many challenges.

Administrative and Support Excellence

Rhêa Neveu, Cook-Housekeeper, Colton Home, DCFS

Rhêa could be described as the "glue" that holds the unit together, or the "mom" of the household. She has developed a fabulous relationship with the kids and their families. Rhêa will take the time out of her busy schedule to help kids with homework, to hem pants for them and sew. When it is their birthday or time for them to move on from Colton, Rhêa will ask for their choice of food and cake and will prepare them a special supper, to which are invited family members. To be certain all the preparations are ready, she will frequently prepare and bake goodies at home and bring them in. Rhêa prided herself in having Colton Home look as much like a home as possible, evidenced by her personal decorative touch here and there, all over the house, and her stern respect of cleanliness and hygiene.

The recipients of the Certificates of Meritorious Achievement are:

Clinical Excellence – Psychosocial

Daniel Natanblut, Human Relations Agent, DCFS

In June 2007, Danny was approached to be a trainer for the EO/AM Joint Training Team. Since that time Danny has created and developed 12 modules, including such topics as, Attachment, Foster Care, Permanency Planning, Intervention Planning. In a recent survey that was filled out anonymously by trainees many highlighted that the content of the training modules was excellent but more importantly it was Danny's teaching style and mentoring that contributed to their learning.

Clinical Excellence – Residential

Hans Bongers, Educator, Prévost Campus, DRTSA

In the past 5 years Hans developed a Therapeutic Activity that has inspired well over 100 youths. Many studies have been done about the great benefits of Social Circus. Hans is an innovator, visionary, but most of all an educator who believes in our youth and wants to help them achieve their true potential. Hans continues to get calls from former youths. They believe their success started with social circus and someone who believed in them.

Administrative and Support Excellence

Sue Plaisance, Administrative Agent – Class 1, Dorval Campus, DRTSA

Sue has, over the past 5 summers, set up a planting/watering job for youth. She would post the position in the units, ask youth to apply, and conduct a very supportive interview. She then, assisted and supervised the youth to purchase flowers, plant them, and tend them all season long. Those who took on the job got a positive job experience. Her commitment and ability to respond in a creative and efficient way makes her stand out and has earned her the gratitude of colleagues, staff, youth and families.

The 12 other nominees are:

Clinical Excellence – Psychosocial: **Rosie D'Andrea**, Social Worker, AM, DCFS; **Carlos Eduardo De Castro**, Human Relations Agent, AM, DCFS; **Lynn Dion**, Human Relation Agent, Clinical Support Services, DPS; **Gary Grace**, Human Relations Agent, ACCESS, DYP.

Clinical Excellence – Residential: **Grace Effenberger**, Program Manager, DeMaisonneuve Group Home, DRTSA; **Johanne Kralka**, Program Manager, Rudel/Transition Division, DRTSA; **Terry Peters**, Program Manager for Residential Night Supervisors, Prévost Campus, DRTSA.

Administrative and Support Excellence

Adele Amoroso, Administrative Agent – Class 1, YOS, DYP; **Mervat Atta-Segal**, Administrative Agent – Class 4, Prévost campus, DRTSA; **Melina De Cubellis**, Administrative Agent – Class 3, Reception, 6 Weredale Park, DRTSA; **Marisa Di Meglio**, Human Resources Agent, HR Development, DHR; **Jacques Petelle**, Intervention Agent, Transport, DFAS.