

Resource Counselling Newsletter

Welcome To Our First Newsletter!

In our quest to keep our clients up to date on changes to programs and services at the Centre and in the wider community, we have created this communication tool. We hope you enjoy it and find it helpful!

Please talk to our Resource Counsellor's for clarification on any of the information provided. RC team

Please join us for a BBQ at Neighbour to Neighbour Centre (N2N) October 7, 2008 and save Up To \$200 Per Year!!

Union Gas is offering a community energy saving program to help families in financial need. The program includes the free installation of a number of energy saving devices:

- Massage Showerhead
- Water Saving Bathroom Aerator
- Water Saving Swivel Kitchen Aerator
- Foam Pipe Insulation
- Programmable Furnace Thermostat

Event starts at 10:30am, light refreshments will be provided. At 11am there will be an Energy Conservation Workshop to explain the program followed by a BBQ at 11:45am. All are welcome!



1 866 354-5098



For more information talk to a Resource Counsellor or call Union Gas.

N2N Partners With Interval House

We are extremely excited about our newest partnership with Interval House! In order to help our clients facing violence against women issues, please come and see Cyndy, Interval House outreach worker on these dates:

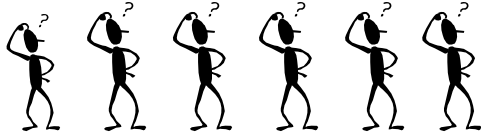
- Wednesday, August 6, 1-3.30
- Thursday, August 14, 1-3.30
- Monday, August 18, 9.30-12.30
- Tuesday, August 26, 9.30-12.30
- Friday, September 5, 9.30-12.30
- Tuesday, September 16, 1-3.30
- Friday September 26, 9.30-12.30
- Every Friday After That

For more information please talk to an R C

Take a trip, 6 people, \$8!!!



Passport to Hamilton: Take the \$8 HSR family day pass and add offers for more than 60 family-friendly destinations, such as pools, museums, boat and trolley tours and ice cream. Through collaborative effort of the HSR and Environment Hamilton, a group of six (including up to two adults, children under 5, free) can go anywhere they want in the city with a break on admissions and eats. \$8 Passport to Hamilton makes a day out in Hamilton possible for people who can least afford full price.



What Is The Ontario Child Benefit (OCB)?

The OCB is a provincial program that helps low-income families provide for their children. This program starts in July 2008 and Ontario residents with children under 18 may qualify.

You don't have to apply for the OCB. You will automatically be considered as long as you and your partner have filed your annual income tax returns. The reported incomes will be used to calculate the amount you will receive. You will also need to register for the federal Canada Child Tax Benefit.

How Do I Know If I May Be Eligible ?

- You have a child under 18
- You are a resident of Ontario
- You and your partner have filed tax returns
- You are registered for the Canada Child Tax Benefit



Did You Know ???

The City of Hamilton offers many support programs to its low-income citizens.

The **Special Supports Program**, provides funding for assistive devices (baths aids, grab bars, toilet aids) prosthetics, diabetic supplies, hearing aids, custom foot orthotics, hospital beds, mobility aids, wheelchair repairs, dental services and a host of other services and special items.

These supports are available to those registered with Ontario Works as well as low-income families. The eligibility requirements vary with the assistance requested. Approval must be obtained before any purchases are made.

For more information talk to a Resource Counsellor or contact the City of Hamilton, Special Supports Program @ 905 546 2590.

Changes To Ontario Works

The National Child Benefit Supplement (NCSB) will no longer be deducted from your social assistance.

The Basic Needs amount for your children will be removed from social assistance. This means you will receive a little less on your Ontario Works cheque.

- You will no longer receive the Back-to-School Allowance and the Winter Clothing Allowance.
- You will continue to receive other help for your children through OW, such as shelter allowances and health benefits. You can also claim your child care costs if you are working.

Please talk to a Resource Counsellor or your case manager if you have further questions.



New This September: Parenting & Family Literacy Centres

We know that children do better in school and in life when parents get involved with their learning. The Literacy Centres are places where parents / caregivers and children come to play and learn together. Centres are open to babies and children up to 6 years of age and their parents / caregivers.

These centres will operate in local schools and run from September to June. Children and parents will do play-based learning activities that include music, story times, reading and counting.

For more information contact:

HW District School Board
905 527 5092 Ext 2311

HW Catholic District School Board
905 525 2930 Ext 2846