



AN ALBERTA SOCIETY
FOR CITIZENS WITH
DISABILITIES

www.chrysalis.ab.ca



From the *Wings*

Spring 2008

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April 03, 2008

Calgary Annual
Achievement Awards
October 9, 2008

Edmonton Annual
Achievement Awards
October 26, 2008



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Western Mardi Gras

Kicking off Chrysalis' 40th year of service to Albertans

Over 500 friends and community supporters of Chrysalis attended the 12th annual Western Mardi Gras in Edmonton on January 26, 2008.

"The Chrysalis Western Mardi Gras was a great success thanks to our volunteers, sponsors and wonderful supporters," says President and CEO of Chrysalis Lynn Groves Hautmann.

The event raised over \$80,000, a significant increase from last year. New this year was a special raffle draw; congratulations to Amanda Tween, winner of a seven-day Caribbean cruise for two. Another special surprise of the evening was when Edmonton's Fire and Rescue Services and EMS teams offered a second Ride Along live auction package after seeing their first package was sold for an unprecedented amount.

Proceeds from this event will go towards renovations and purchasing new equipment to improve onsite day-programming areas.



Guests laugh and enjoy casual conversation while browsing through 150+ silent auction items



Chrysalis staff volunteers play with Mardi Gras masks

Special thanks to the following supporters:

Platinum Badge Sponsors: Event Emcee:

Technichrome Industries Ltd. Fred Keating

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Alberta Building Trades Council Charitable Foundation Marc Bergevin, Adesa Edmonton

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Guests sit and enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Northlands catering staff

Thank you...

Chrysalis would like to thank all sponsors and donors; your support truly makes a difference to the lives of our clients.

- 715938 Alberta Ltd
- Canada Helps.org
- Shannon & Claude Leduc

- Elisabeth Gammie
- Martin Schweiger
- Fred Keating

Donations received in memory of Ernest Edward Reid:

- The McGeachie Family
- Angus Reid

Casino Events

Chrysalis volunteers help run local casinos in Edmonton and Calgary

Chrysalis recently took part in two casino events. The Calgary casino was held October 24-25, 2008 at the Deerfoot Casino, and the Edmonton casino was held January 1-2, 2008 at the Yellowhead Casino.

A total of 28 volunteers filled roles of cashier, general manager, banker, chip runner and counter at each casino.

The money raised goes into a pot that is divided up quarterly and distributed to each non-profit who worked a casino in their city that quarter. In Calgary, the amount distributed to Chrysalis is \$103,540. Edmonton is still waiting for the final amount received.

Thanks to those volunteers who took the time to work these casino events.

Provincial Election 2008

Chrysalis' Advocacy Strategy

A provincial election was called for March 3, 2008. Chrysalis used this opportunity to address the staffing issues in the disabilities sector. An excerpt from the Stelmach government's Throne Speech on February 4, 2008 states:

"Further investments will help contracted agencies attract and retain qualified workers to support adults with developmental disabilities, as well as children and families."

The investment will need to be significant in order for agencies to recruit and retain workers. The Alberta Coalition of Disability Services (ACDS) held a press conference on February 8, 2008 about the recent work undertaken by the

HayGroup for Edmonton/Calgary's Work Force Council. After conducting intensive labour market research on similar positions, the HayGroup concluded that an investment of \$182 million (or roughly 1.5% of the government budget) is needed. Without this further investment, contracted agencies cannot adequately assist the Government of Alberta meet its responsibility to Albertans with developmental disabilities.

If you would like to send a letter to your new MLA, or for more information as to how your efforts continue to make a difference, please visit www.chrysalis.ab.ca and click on "Get Involved".

Program Profile

An in-depth look at All About Me Journals

Chrysalis takes pride in all of our quality programs and services offered to individuals. One such program is a journal program where individuals can express their wishes



AES staff, Sonia (left) helps Jill (right) with her Me Journal.

and emotions through words and images. This program has proven to be an invaluable tool for communicating between staff and individuals accessing services.

"I've known some of these individuals for many years now but never knew certain things about them until they started keeping these journals," says AES Program Manager Bern Ayotte, "I was amazed to learn some of the things I did."

This program is made possible through donations of magazines and craft supplies.

Nicki's Story

Nickolas, or Nicki, began accessing Chrysalis services in May 2007.

In the beginning, Nicki required constant physical support as he was prone to constant epileptic seizures. For the most part, Nicki sat in a wheelchair all day long with few exceptions when he wore a supportive safety belt to help him stand.

In September 2007, Nicki was paired with Patrick, a new direct service worker (DSW). Together, he and Patrick focused on Nicki's strengths and abilities.

"When I first met Nikki, his seizures were frequent and daily," says DSW Patrick Iroegbu, "but I noticed that he was strong both physically and in personality."

In addition to Nicki's volunteer and daily programming activities, Patrick placed special emphasis on physical activities such as bowling, swimming, dance class, and most importantly, daily walks to ensure that Nicki received proper circulation and breaks from sitting in his wheelchair. The result was a drastic reduction of seizures and almost 100% independence from any type of physical support.

The continual praise and support from Nicki's peers and Chrysalis staff has brought about positive change in Nicki and has continued to earn him popularity among his program peers. One of his peers, Steve, has since developed a way of noting Nicki's progress with encouraging comments.

"No more wheelchair!" says Steve, "Good Nicki!"

Nicki continues to engage in activities of his interest, choice and preference and these empowering changes help him realize new and exciting possibilities everyday.



Nicki enjoys a nice day outside of Chrysalis

Chris' Story



My name is Chris. I started at Chrysalis in April of 2004. Before I came to Chrysalis my life was heading downhill. I had neither any support nor a job. When I started at Chrysalis I was very nervous. After the first few days I started to make friends and became more comfortable with my peers. I started in a program called Life Skills where I learned skills such as resume writing, job searching and business skills. Shortly after that, I started working part time with a dry wall company. Since then, I have gained lots of experience and knowledge.

This year I volunteered at the Client Winter Party. I helped to set up, decorate, serve dinner, moved props around for the talent show and clean up afterwards. I recently completed the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS), and the Fire Safety training program to help further my skills for the workforce. With the help of Chrysalis staff, I have gained self-confidence, made new friends and improved my life.

I have many goals for the future. With the help of my support worker I know I will succeed. The best part of Chrysalis is that I am more involved in the community and have built relationships with my peers and workers; they have helped me achieve my goals.

Written by Chris Migotti with Outcome Support Worker's assistance

Celebrating 40 Years!

Can you believe it? Chrysalis is celebrating its 40th birthday this year!

On July 15, 1968, Chrysalis—originally known as the Industrial Research and Training Centre—officially opened its doors at 13325 St. Albert Trail in Edmonton, Alberta for serving individuals with developmental disabilities. In 1988, Chrysalis opened a second office in Calgary.

So what are some significant changes that have taken place in over the years?

| THEN | NOW |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facility-based work skill training | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community-based goal focused outcomes' |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus on dependence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting independence |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group oriented, teamwork focused | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unique qualities of each individual |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18-20 clients per DSW | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-10 clients per DSW |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clients all worked in-house through contract packaging and print jobs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individuals are spread out in-house and in community working with businesses |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clients earned "incentive fees" of 50 cents per day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individuals earn minimum wage or better |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woods and Plastics business divisions operated by clients and training supervisors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woods and Plastics business divisions operated by production workers |

CEO's Address

It is hard to believe that spring is just around the corner and our staff are busy planning for our summer garden and outdoor activities.

In addition to the many community activities available to the individuals served by Chrysalis including employment, volunteerism at other non-profit organizations, and many recreational opportunities, we are all enjoying our evolving nutritional health and cooking program, and our wonderfully inspirational art program.

Our new resident artist, Gonzalo Canales has been working with individuals in our Alternative to Employment Services to produce murals and individual pieces that have been laminated or framed to create wall galleries displaying these beautiful creations throughout the building. The theme of the work is "Change, Growth and Opportunity" – the Chrysalis motto. An art show is being planned for the near future with art on sale with all proceeds going to support the continuation of this program. In the meantime, please take the time to stop in and observe all of our new programs in action, and talk with our staff about the ongoing activities within Chrysalis. Enjoy the coming spring, longer days and sunshine.

Sincerely,

*Lynn Groves
Hautmann*



Left to right: Penny (Program Team Leader), Nadia (from the AES program) and Lynn

Your Business is Appreciated

The Woods and Plastics divisions would like to thank the following businesses for continuing to make Chrysalis their supplier of choice:

Cameron Canada
FortisAlberta
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SJ Whitaker
Esteam Manufacturing



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City, Province, and Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

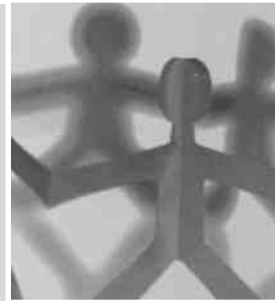
Method of Payment: Cash Cheque Visa MasterCard Amex

Name on Credit Card: _____ Card Number: _____

Expiry Date: _____ Your Signature: _____

Donations can be dropped off at any Chrysalis office, or mailed to:

Chrysalis Charitable Foundation
13325 St. Albert Trail
Edmonton, AB T5L 4R3
Charitable Registration: #14084 7781 RR0001



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From the Wings

This publication is distributed to friends and stakeholders of Chrysalis. It is an opportunity to share success stories and organizational change that has occurred over the past months.

For more information or if you would like to contribute to an upcoming issue, please contact Chrysalis:

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Annual Achievement Awards

The Chrysalis Annual Achievement Award ceremonies recognize the impact that individuals are making in the community through Chrysalis. Awards are given to individuals as well as community partners who show outstanding dedication towards achieving community inclusion and building a society in which all people are recognized for their abilities to contribute.

Edmonton and Calgary each host their own awards ceremony. Edmonton's 18th Annual Achievement Awards will take place on October 26, 2008 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on 10111 Bellamy Hill, and Calgary's 13th Annual Achievement Awards on October 9, 2008 is held at Sheraton Cavalier Hotel on 2620 32nd Avenue NE. These events are by invitation. For more information, please visit www.chrysalis.ab.ca.

Spring Inspiration in Calgary

The Chrysalis Charitable Foundation, in cooperation with the Highwood at SAIT and Element Integrated Workplace Solutions Ltd., hosted the 8th annual Spring Inspiration April 03, 2008 in Calgary. Over 80 guests joined us for this fabulous evening which included a five-course gourmet feast and entertainment provided by the Calgary Youth Singers' SHINE ensemble.

Would you prefer to receive our From the Wings newsletter by email? If so, please send us a message at Info@Chrysalis.ab.ca and write "FTW by email" in the subject line. Write your full name and email address in the body of the email.

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