

2023 Conference Program



Community Living Ontario Presents:
**INSPIRING POSSIBILITIES
AGM & CONFERENCE 2023**

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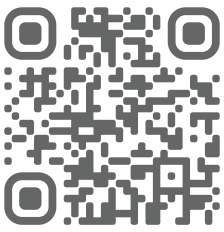
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Message from the President and CEO



While every Community Living Ontario (CLO) conference is highly anticipated, this year's Inspiring Possibilities AGM & Conference holds special significance as we mark a historic milestone — celebrating 70 years of advocacy, action, and education. We're so pleased that you're able to join us.

Indeed, it's with great pride that we address you, our delegates — member organizations, self-advocates, families, speakers, sponsors, staff, and other guests — at this important event. This year, as we celebrate seven decades of proactivity and progress, our conference provides an opportunity to reflect on past achievements, acknowledge the challenges we continue to face, and reaffirm our unwavering dedication to promoting real inclusion, accessibility, and equality.

We have curated a remarkable lineup of speakers and sessions designed to ignite thoughtful discussion and meaningful action. Our goal is to not only celebrate the progress we've made but to challenge ourselves to do more and be better advocates for change.

Of course, we're thrilled that CLO Ambassador, Ali Hassan, is here to provide a keynote presentation and MC our gala evening. And speaking of galas, we're pleased that this year marks the return of the Inspiring Possibilities Awards. On Thursday evening, you'll not only be treated to an unforgettable night of laughs, tributes, conversation, and music, but learn about our 2023 award winners who are championing innovation and inclusion.

Finally, we couldn't write a welcome message without acknowledging the many individuals who are mentors and leaders to us all. People who worked diligently to build the Community Living movement from the ground up. We've incorporated several tributes within the conference to highlight these pioneers.

We encourage all of you to participate actively, share your experiences, and embrace this opportunity to learn from one another. By doing so, we'll fortify our collective influence for a more equitable and compassionate future in our communities across Ontario.

Again, thank you for joining us at this year's Inspiring Possibilities AGM & Conference. We look forward to engaging and insightful discussions over the coming days.

With warm regards,



Michael J

Michael Jacques
President,
Community Living Ontario



C. Beesley

Chris Beesley
Chief Executive Officer,
Community Living Ontario

Message du président et du directeur général



Bien que chaque conférence d'Intégration communautaire Ontario (CLO) soit très attendue, l'AGA et la conférence Inspiring Possibilities de cette année revêtent une importance particulière alors que nous marquons une étape historique - célébrant 70 ans de revendication, d'action et d'éducation. Nous sommes ravis que vous puissiez vous joindre à nous.

En effet, c'est avec une grande fierté que nous nous adressons à vous, nos délégués - organisations membres, auto-représentants, familles, conférenciers, sponsors, personnel et autres invités - lors de cet événement important. Cette année, alors que nous célébrons sept décennies de proactivité et de progrès, notre conférence offre l'occasion de réfléchir sur les réalisations passées, de reconnaître les défis auxquels nous continuons de faire face et de réaffirmer notre engagement inébranlable à promouvoir une véritable inclusion, accessibilité et égalité.

Nous avons organisé une gamme remarquable de conférenciers et de sessions conçues pour déclencher des discussions réfléchies et des actions significatives. Notre objectif est non seulement de célébrer les progrès que nous avons réalisés, mais aussi de nous mettre au défi d'en faire plus et d'être de meilleurs défenseurs du changement.

Nous sommes ravis que l'ambassadeur d'Intégration Communautaire Ontario, Ali Hassan, soit ici pour faire une présentation principale et animer notre soirée de gala. Et en parlant de galas, nous sommes heureux que cette année marque le retour des prix Inspiring Possibilities. Le jeudi soir, vous aurez non seulement droit à une soirée inoubliable de rires, d'hommages, de conversations et de musique, mais vous en apprendrez plus sur nos lauréats 2023 qui sont des champions de l'innovation et l'inclusion.

Et, enfin, nous ne pourrions pas écrire un message de bienvenue sans remercier les nombreuses personnes qui sont des mentors et des leaders pour nous tous. Des gens qui ont travaillé avec diligence pour bâtir le mouvement d'intégration communautaire à partir de zéro. Nous avons incorporé plusieurs hommages au sein de la conférence pour mettre en valeur ces pionniers.

Nous vous encourageons tous à participer activement, à partager vos expériences et à saisir cette occasion d'apprendre les uns des autres. Ce faisant, nous renforcerons notre influence collective pour un avenir plus équitable et plus compatissant dans nos communautés partout en Ontario.

Encore une fois, merci de vous joindre à nous à l'AGA et à la conférence Inspiring Possibilities de cette année. Nous attendons avec impatience des discussions engageantes et perspicaces au cours des prochains jours.

En vous remerciant chaleureusement,



Michael J

Michael Jacques
Président,
Intégration communautaire Ontario



C. Beesley

Chris Beesley
Chef de la Direction,
Intégration communautaire Ontario

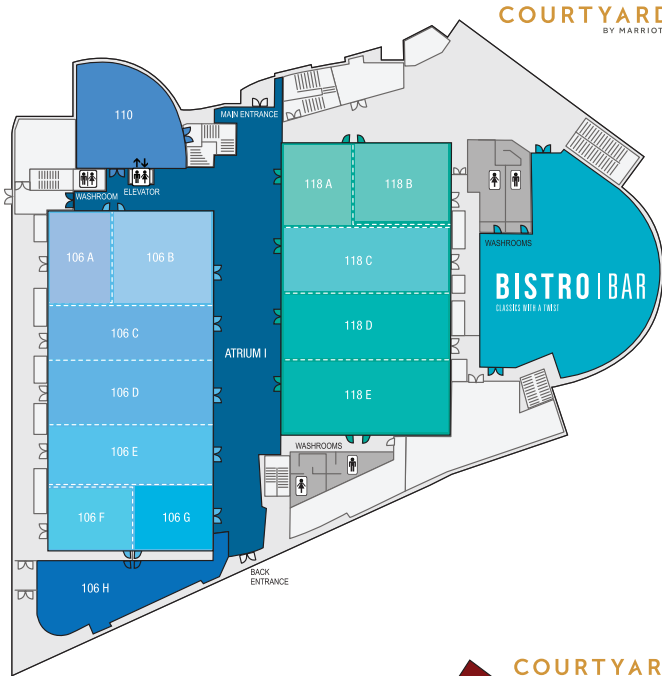
Venue Floor Plan



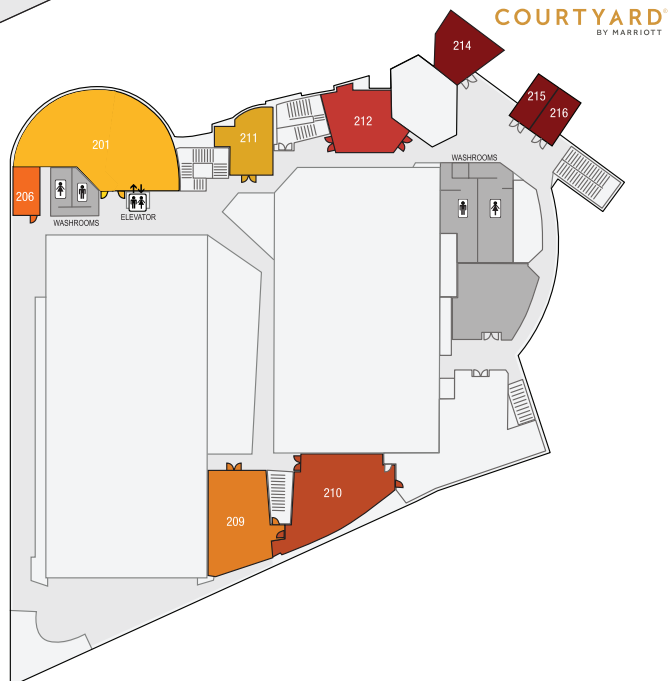
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Welcome



This year's conference offers a variety of exciting and diverse sessions related to inspiring possibilities within our communities. Community Living Ontario wishes to acknowledge and thank our Title Sponsor, **CSBT**, our Co-Presenting Sponsor, **The Health Depot**, and all other sponsors that enable us to provide a more robust conference program and experience.

Be sure to pick up an exhibitor passport from the registration desk and visit each exhibit booth to have yours signed. Passports that are filled out in their entirety and returned to the registration desk **by Friday at 10:15 AM** will be entered into a draw for a \$200 grocery gift card at the closing ceremonies.

REGISTRATION DESK

WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 27
1:00 PM TO 6:30 PM

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 28
7:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 29
7:00 AM TO 11:00 AM

HOTEL & VENUE PARKING

Daily parking is FREE

LOST AND FOUND

All found items can be brought to the registration desk located in the atrium.

FRAGRANCE WARNING

Please be aware that some people are sensitive to chemicals including those found in scents, perfumes and aftershaves. Refraining from using scented products is greatly appreciated.

COMMUNITY LIVING ONTARIO'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBIT

Learn about Community Living Ontario's current, past and future initiatives and meet some of the people who work for and with Community Living Ontario.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Enjoy a cocktail while mixing and mingling with colleagues after your busy day. The Welcome Reception is sponsored by **NucleusLabs**.

CONFERENCE APP

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AGM and Conference Agenda



Please Note: Session descriptions can be found on the CLO Conference website at bit.ly/CLOConference2023 and/or via the Acelevents conference app. If you haven't already, you can download the app by scanning this QR code.



Day 1 – September 27, 2023

7:00 AM to 8:30 AM	Conference Breakfast with PEDG Members	Atrium
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	CLO Council Meeting	Room 106 H
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	CLO Board Meeting	Room 210
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	PEDG Meeting	Room 106 E, F, G & D
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM	Lunch with PEDG Members	Atrium
5:00 PM to 6:30 PM	AGM Dinner with PEDG Members	Atrium
5:30 PM to 6:30 PM	AGM Registration Opens	Atrium
6:30 PM to 9:30 PM	AGM	Room 106 A, B, C, D
9:30 PM to 11:00 PM	Cocktail Reception	Atrium

Day 2 – September 28, 2023

7:00 AM to 8:30 AM	Conference Breakfast with Exhibitors	Room 118 A, B, C, & D
7:30 AM to 8:30 AM	CLO Meeting, including Directors	Room 209
8:45 AM to 10:00 AM	Keynote Speaker Session featuring Ali Hassan	Main Ballroom
10:00 AM to 10:30 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors	Room 118 A, B, C, & D
10:30 AM to 11:30 AM	A private invite-only session with strategic partners in the Economical Networking Lounge. Paul Fleming and Janeen Halliwell from People Minded Business will host	Room 118 A & B
10:30 AM to 11:45 AM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	
>>>	Session 1: An Innovative Model of Living Arrangements for Adults with Developmental Disabilities: The Good Neighbour Approach to Intentional Communities Speaker: Dr. Laura Mullins	Room 106 H
>>>	Session 2: Introducing Resources in the Deaf-Blind Community and How You Can Advocate Speakers: Theresa Somerton & Yvonne Spicer	Room 210

AGM and Conference Agenda



	<p>>>> Session 3: MyJobMatch - Building Connections for an Inclusive Future Speakers: Sarah MacDonald, Angela Bradley, Paulette Cross & Justin Scarsella</p>	Theatre Hall 110
	<p>>>> Session 4: Intentional About Community (Poverty and Housing) Speakers: Speakers: Niko Pupella, Judy Noonan, Stella Curtis, & Hudson Yarrow</p>	Theatre Hall 201
	<p>>>> Session 5: Journey to Belonging: How People & Families Can Prepare for a Sector in Transition Speaker: Brendon Pooran</p>	Room 118 E
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM	Lunch with Exhibitors	Room 118 A, B, C, & D
1:30 PM to 2:45 PM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	
	<p>>>> Session 6: Telling Our Stories, Championing Our Inclusive Values: WHY (It) Matters! Speakers: Keenan Wellar, Grace Hudson, Joshua Gray & Julie Kingstone</p>	Room 106 H
	<p>>>> Session 7: Best Practices for Working with Youth – as Written by Youth! Speakers: Megan Den Dekker, Grace Albano, Jack Hicks, & Nicole Canzoneri</p>	Room 210
	<p>>>> Session 8: Enhancing Choices: Relationships, Citizenship and Community Inclusion with Individualized Funding: Guess What? 'IF' Has Been Here All Along Speakers: Kory Earle, Betty Daley, Colleen Mitchell, & Melodie Cook</p>	Theatre Hall 110
	<p>>>> Session 9: Community of Practice Live - Let's Talk Choice & Belonging! Speakers: Janeen D Halliwell, Paul Fleming, & Ryan Stanga</p>	Theatre Hall 201
	<p>>>> Session 10: Person-Centred Culture - THRIVING Along the Journey to Belonging Speaker: Barb Swartz-Biscaro</p>	Room 118 E
2:45 PM to 3:15 PM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors	Room 118 A, B, C, & D

AGM and Conference Agenda



3:30 PM to 4:45 PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
>>>	Session 11: Beyond Accommodation: Advancing Accessibility and Inclusion for Individuals with Disabilities in the Digital Age: A Universal Design Approach. Speakers: Aakriti Mahajan, Aayush Khazanchi, & Maahil Arshad	Room 106 H
>>>	Session 12: Lived Experience: Autism Perspective Speakers: Judy Hanson & Hannah Warner	Room 210
>>>	Session 13: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: An Intersectional Look at the Experiences of People with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities Speakers: Nicole Flynn & Alison Mclean	Theatre Hall 110
>>>	Session 14: Microboards: Stories of Family Planning and Succession Speakers: Karen Bell, Kathleen Gifford, Wendy Newbery & Alice Mainland	Theatre Hall 201
>>>	Session 15: The Role of Siblings in Advancing the Inclusion and Wellbeing of People with Disabilities Speakers: Helen Ries, Becky Rossi, & Liv Mendelsohn	Room 118 E
5:30 PM to 6:30 PM	Cocktail Reception	Atrium
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM	Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony	Main Ballroom
8:30 PM to 12:00 AM	Entertainment & DJ	Main Ballroom
Day 3 – September 29, 2023		
7:00 AM to 8:30 AM	Conference Breakfast with Exhibitors	Room 118 A, B, C, & D
8:30 AM to 8:45AM	Announcements & Introduction of Plenary Speakers	Main Ballroom 106
8:45 AM to 9:30 AM	Plenary Session - Journey to Belonging: A Conversation with MCCSS. Speakers: Laura Summers & Karen Glass	Main Ballroom 106
9:30 AM to 9:45 AM	Thank you to Speakers and Sponsors	Main Ballroom 106
9:45 AM to 10:15 AM	Coffee Break with Exhibitors	Room 118 A, B, C, & D
10:15 AM to 11:30 AM	Council Election	Main Ballroom 106
10:15 AM to 11:30 AM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	

AGM and Conference Agenda



>>>	Session 17: The Dilemma of Addressing EDI in HR, Program Delivery & Organizational Culture in the Developmental Services Sector Part I – A Discussion. Part II - A Case Study Speakers: Alison Mclean, Dwayne Milley, Lara Macdonald, Allan Mills, Mansoor Qazi & Dr. Claudine Cousins	Room 106 H
>>>	Session 18: D.I.Y. Creating Value-Based Possibilities on Sound Business Practices Speaker: Paul Fleming	Room 210
>>>	Session 19: The Forgotten Ones - Valuing Psychotherapy for People with Developmental Disability Speakers: Susan Somogyi Wells, Vicki Hartman, & Meghan Josling	Theatre Hall 110
>>>	Session 20: Self-Advocacy at Three Different Levels Speakers: Jasmine Duckworth, Patricia Morgan, & Ray Ellis	Theatre Hall 201
>>>	Session 21: Life Beyond Services - How Can We Use Research to Help Advocate for a Balance of Natural and Formal Support for People with Disabilities and their Families? Speakers: Heather Aldersey & Donna Thomson	Room 118 E
11:30 AM to 11:45 AM 15 Minute Break		
11:45 AM to 12: 45 PM BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
>>>	Session 17 Continuation: The Dilemma of Addressing EDI in HR, Program Delivery & Organizational Culture in the Developmental Services Sector Part II - A Case Study Speakers: Alison Mclean, Dwayne Milley, Lara Macdonald, Allan Mills & Dr. Claudine Cousins	Room 106 H
>>>	Session 22: Growing Facilitation and Planning in a Virtual World Speakers: Anna Bruno, Andrea Johnston, Carla O'Neill, & Peggy Brown	Room 118 E
>>>	Session 22: What it Means to be a Self-Advocate Speakers: Nicole Flynn, Robert Smith, Amber Taylor & Farrah Sattaur	Room 210
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Lunch with Exhibitors Room 118 A, B, C, & D		
>>>	Closing Remarks in Main Ballroom	

Strategic Partnership Program



Community Living Ontario recognizes and welcomes like-minded strategic partners with similar visions and values to provide additional opportunities and services to Community Living Ontario's membership. Strategic Partners are able to offer comprehensive and exclusive benefits to our membership.

The Strategic Partnership Program provides your company with direct access to Community Living Ontario's membership along with numerous promotional opportunities. To see the full package of benefits and fee information, contact Eon Sinclair at esinclair@communitylivingontario.ca to find out how you can become a partner.

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 - **People Minded Business**
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 - **Quest Automotive Leasing Ltd.**
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Family Engagement
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Appointed Director-at-Large
- **Theresa Somerton**
Council-Appointed
Director-at-Large

Council Members 2022/2023:

- **Nicole Flynn**
Council President
- **Niko Pupella**
Council Vice President
- **Robert Smith**
Council Treasurer
- **Judy Noonan**
Council Secretary
- **Amber Taylor**
Council Member
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- **Dzidra Halar**
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- **Keith Dee**
Council Advisor
- **Badar Paracha**
Council and Family
Engagement Coordinator

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- **Doug Cooper**
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- **Barbara Dunkel**
- **Michael Gillies**
- **Payal Khazanchi**
- **Dana LaBrash**
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- **Niko Pupella**
- **Robert Smith**
- **Theresa Somerton**
- **Yvonne Spicer**
- **Lisa Tabachnick**
- **Anand Waindeshkar**

Introduction to Keynote Speaker Ali Hassan



Ali Hassan is a stand-up comic, actor, and radio & television host who has performed on stages across Canada and the world. He is the host of CBC's Canada Reads, as well as Laugh Out Loud on CBC Radio and SiriusXM. He is also a guest-host of Q, CBC's premiere national arts and entertainment show.

He has performed at the Just For Laughs Festival in Montreal and Toronto, and toured across the country with Rick Mercer, as part of the Comedy Night in Canada tour. His solo show, Muslim, Interrupted, was performed at the world's largest comedy festival, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He is currently touring his latest show Does This Taste Funny? across Canada.

Ali is also starring in two television shows – Run The Burbs (CBC, CW), and the Peabody-Award winning Sort Of (CBC Gem, HBO Max).

Ali's memoir, *Is There Bacon in Heaven?* – described by Rick Mercer as “perhaps the funniest and most heartfelt Canadian memoir yet” – is out now with Simon & Schuster.

He lives in Toronto, Ontario, with his family.

www.standupali.com

2023 Anne Stafford *Light Up The Future* Bursary



2023 Anne Stafford *Light Up the Future* Bursary Description & Recipients

Vision

Community Living Ontario's Anne Stafford *Light Up the Future* Bursary intends to assist people who have an intellectual disability in the most individualized and positive way for them and their families to lead the way in advancing inclusion in their own lives, their neighbourhoods, and communities.



The Bursary is open to all residents of Ontario aged 18 years and older who identify as having an intellectual disability. The Bursary awards an amount of up to \$1,000 per person to help people pursue an educational program or personal interest course or activity consistent with the above vision, to help achieve their goal.

About Anne Stafford

An advocate, former employee, and former Manager of Community Living Ontario, Anne carried out her duties with love, compassion and leadership that none could rival. For close to 30 years, one of her greatest passions was helping people who live with an intellectual disability and their families to live their best lives. Anne travelled the province and had an extraordinary impact on families, their children, and many other people throughout Ontario and Canada.

Anne Stafford *Light Up the Future* Bursary Recipients 2023

- Claire Adams
- Iglal Al-Aizari
- Franklin Carwardine
- Cynthia Cortese
- Nikolas Craggs
- Irene Diamantorous
- David Ethier
- Crystal Fluker
- Thomas Fraboni
- Adam Frandsen
- Sara Grant
- Tyler Guibao
- Brooke-Lyn Hogel
- Brenda Kiss
- Justin Lam
- Joseph MacLeod
- Natasha Martin
- Tyler Meyer
- Damien Miotto
- Davide Morando
- Lillian Murphy
- Abigail Obukuru
- Kayla Oliver
- Ava Parent
- Parisa Pezeshki
- Liam Pickells
- Dimitri Schaaf
- Darrio Schauer
- Steven Smith
- Rebecca Strickland
- Patrick Szamra
- Corbin Szymczak
- Joshua Thompson
- Maude Turner
- Janice Wu
- Brianna Yates
- Sela Yazejian

2023 Anne Stafford *Light Up The Future* Bursary Committee

Committee Members

- Donna Marcaccio
- Stephanie Hoy
- Alison Ouellette
- Rick Tutt

CLO staff representatives

- Jo-Anne Demick
- Terri Meshwork
- Eon Sinclair



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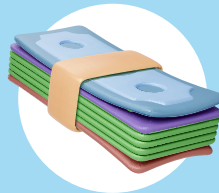
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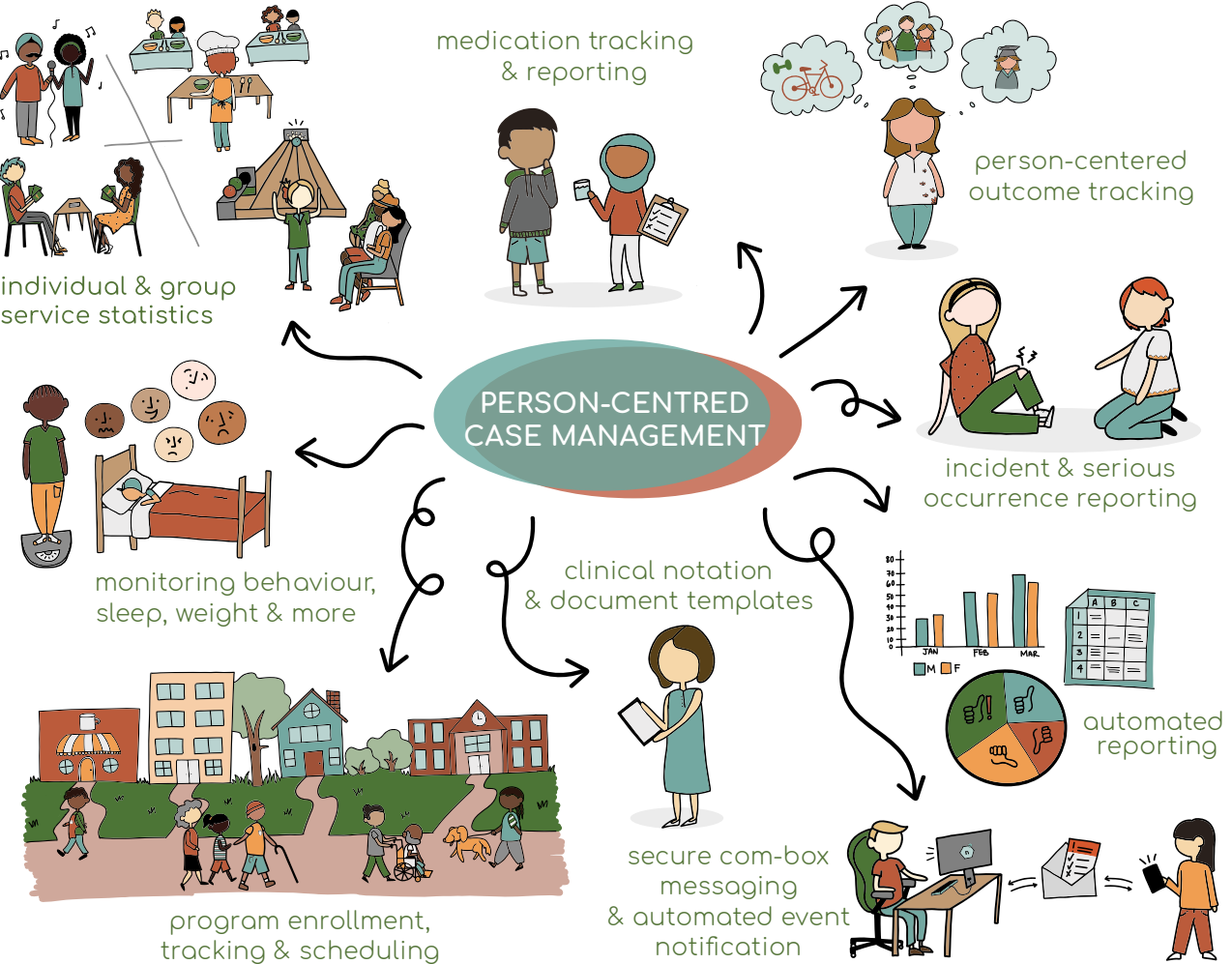
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The 2023 Inspiring Possibilities Awards



In celebration of the people and organizations making a positive impact on the 100,000+ people with intellectual disabilities and their families across the province, Community Living Ontario is proud to reintroduce the *Inspiring Possibilities Awards* in 2023. All award recipients will receive a beautiful print from Grace Smith, a photographer and former Student Links participant based out of the North Bay region. This year's award categories are:

THE CHANGEMAKER AWARD

This award celebrates an individual or group who has made an impact on the people of Ontario and is seen as a torchbearer, significantly impacting the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. The recipient of this award has shown exceptional leadership, creativity, and determination in advancing the rights of people with intellectual disabilities, promoting their inclusion in society, and inspiring others to follow in their footsteps.

THE INCLUSIVE MEDIA AWARD

This award honours an individual or organization who has made an impact on the people of Ontario by creatively and passionately utilizing social media, television, radio, film, or print media to raise awareness, promote inclusion, and positively impact the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. This award recognizes a person or group that has leveraged the power of media to challenge stereotypes, break down barriers, and create opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities to have their voices heard.

THE INNOVATION IN ACCESSIBILITY AWARD

This award celebrates an individual or organization that has made an impact on the people of Ontario by developing innovative solutions to make the world more accessible and/or inclusive for people with intellectual disabilities, such as assistive technologies, communication tools, and accessible design.

THE JASON RAE AWARD

This award is in memory of Jason Rae who passed away on September 15, 2016. Jason was a contributing member of the Trent Hills community.

Jason was actively involved with Advocates for Community Education (ACE) and he Community Living Campbellford/Brighton Board of Directors and sat on various leadership boards and committees focusing on the common goal of inclusion including being a member of the Board of Directors for Community Living Ontario.

“Pride”, “integrity”, “disciplined”, “gifted”, and “nothing left undone” are just a few of the terms that defined Jason. He was an exemplary, civic-minded role model to his community and to those with whom he was close. Jason was a service-minded role model who did not let his disability get in the way of his passion for life. This award comes with a \$1,000 prize.



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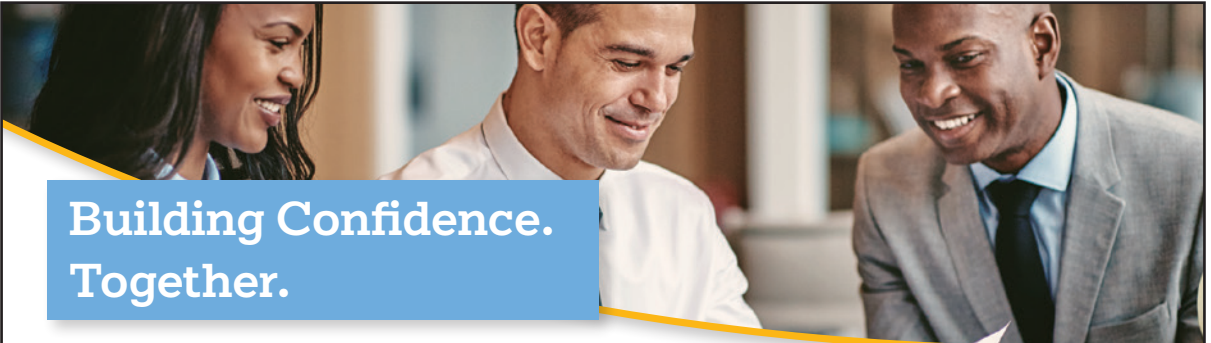
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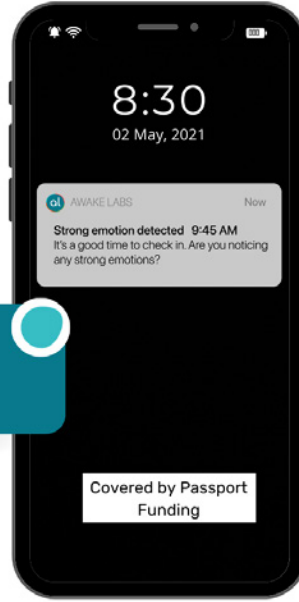
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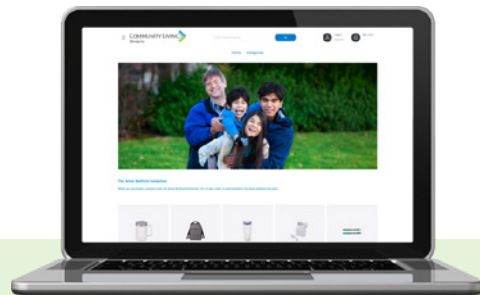
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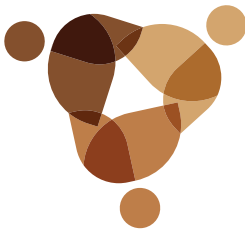
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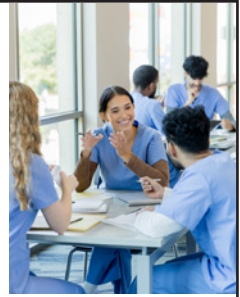
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