



We hope you will enjoy reading this brief report on the Foundation's recent activities.

From the Foundation President, Erin O'Brien

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all the donors and volunteers who helped make a real difference in the daily lives of the children and families served by the Batshaw Centres over the past year. Whether you have just recently learned of the Batshaw Foundation through the success of our June fundraising event or have graciously helped us for many years, we hope you find this newsletter interesting for the glimpse it provides of the worthy activities that you have supported in the last year.

Although the economy and markets have been difficult for everyone, we are extremely appreciative of how donors continue to support the important work of the Foundation and its six pillar funds. We thank them wholeheartedly and hope we can count on you in the coming year to continue to sustain our ability to help Batshaw Centres build a child's future!

Foundation Results

In 2008-2009, thanks to the support of the **Foundation** 500 children, youths and families were assisted. The following summarizes how they benefited from the financial help provided. In brackets are the numbers for the previous year.

► Specialized Services Fund:

- **Tutoring** for 40 youths. (40)
Subjects included math, French, English, science, history, social skills, reading, speech and language development, homework assistance.
- **Therapy** for 20 youths and families. (13)
Requests were funded for anger management, speech, play, art, domestic violence, loss and bereavement therapy.

► Scholarships for 36 students. (35)

Following are the institutions and programs where students who were granted scholarships were enrolled:

- Concordia University (Arts, Social Work, Family Life Education);
- McGill University (Arts, Science, Education);
- Université de Montréal (Architecture);
- University of Toronto (Social science);
- Dawson College (Commerce, Social Science);
- Vanier College (Social Science, Psychology, Health Science, Early Childhood Education)
- John Abbott College (Social Science, Police Technology, Creative Arts, Literature and Languages);
- Champlain College (Science);
- Collège de Bois-de-Boulogne (*Arts visuels*);
- Collège Lionel-Groulx (*Sciences de la nature*);
- Vocational training (professional cooking, computer support, cosmetology, safety and security).

► Emergency Family Support Fund for 155 youths and families. (160)

- youths and families received **emergency assistance** for:
 - utilities (electricity) that were or were about to be disconnected
 - rent to avoid eviction;
 - school (fees, uniforms, lunch programs, outings, supplies, trips, graduation);
 - activities (football, hockey, skating, gymnastics, art, dance classes);
 - camps (sailing, winter & summer);
 - others (day care fees, bus passes, furniture and appliances, dental care, food, clothing, moving expenses, travel expenses for youths to visit their family).

- youths and families benefited from special **events** organized for them during the year at the Mountainview School.

► Helping Hand enabling older adolescents to move to independent living

- 29 youths received funds to assist them in their move to **independent living**. (18)

► Camp Weredale welcomed 232 children and teenagers from the residential programs and foster homes of Batshaw Centres. (202)

► Special projects:

- **Youth Employment Skills Program**, a special project of the Foundation, involved 37 youths at Prévost campus in a work-study project. (43)
- **Wilderness camping**, at Northwaters (Langskib) Camp in Northern Ontario, for 6 youths in residential care. (8)

New Greenhouse Project at Prévost Campus

*Dave Brown, Manager,
Lorien Program, Prévost
Campus, DRTSA*



The Greenhouse Project started two years ago. The idea was generated after a staff member was watching a P.B.S. special program on a greenhouse project at a school in Oakland, California. We gathered the information and presented it to the Batshaw Management Committee who, in turn, brought it to the Batshaw Foundation. The Foundation sought outside funding and approved the project.

We purchased the Greenhouse, 60 ft by 30 ft and 15 ft high. With the help of the 16+ youths in the Work Study Program the Greenhouse was erected, and we will be ready to start in the fall.

Our plan is for the 16+ youths to grow flowers and, by next summer, produce most of the fresh vegetables for our kitchen at Prévost Campus. We have enlisted the help of a volunteer horticulturalist from the town of Prévost and dedicated a quarter of the Greenhouse space to the Golden Age Club at Prévost. By doing this we hope to engage the elderly and youth in working, sharing and socializing together.

Many thanks to the **André and Nussia Aisenstadt Foundation** without whose gracious support this project would not have been realized.

75th Anniversary Celebrations at Camp Weredale

Howard G. Martin, Camp Weredale Executive Director

Two events highlighted our 75th celebration this summer.

First on July 16th, the day began with the live broadcast of the CJAD Andrew Carter Morning Show from the dining room at camp.

Before noon, visitors and invited guests began to arrive and were given guided tours by members of the REAL Team.

About 175 campers, staff and visitors enjoyed a sit-down lunch of baked chicken, rice and vegetables then gathered around the newly erected totem pole to meet the artist who carved it on site during the previous four days with excited campers looking on. It depicts various wildlife that can be seen around the camp.

The day concluded with a barbecue for campers and staff, followed by a magic show in the 'Rec Hall' that had all in attendance marvelling at what they were watching.

A live band performance on the balcony of the dining hall concluded a very successful event day.

Then on August 22nd, over 100 'Old Boys' and their families gathered to meet old friends and reminisce together.



OLIVE KERN - ON

Manny Batshaw joined the celebration and took time to listen to many of the participants describe their experiences at camp – a place that is still very special to them.

The weather cooperated for a second time and the day was a huge success. The visitors appreciated the hats, T-shirts and mugs and enjoyed the barbecue!

A brief ceremony at the new totem pole included one



Margaret Douek, Executive Director, Batshaw Centres
Judy Martin, President, Batshaw Centres Board
Howard G. Martin, Executive Director, Camp Weredale

participant asking how many present were at camp the night the dining room caught fire (in 1965). Amazingly about 10 to 12 people put up their hands and began talking about their involvement with the 'bucket brigade' over 40 years ago.

Camp Weredale has been and continues to be a valuable resource to the many children and youth who come as campers and sometimes return as staff. Through events such as these we get to see just how important it is to them. Camp Weredale appreciates the continued support of Batshaw Centres and the Batshaw Foundation.

Batshaw Foundation Fundraising Event generates more than \$40,000 for Post-Secondary and Job Training Scholarship Programs

Mark Lowe, member of the Foundation Board



Barbara Molson and Karma Hallward,
Event Co-Chairs

Building on a recent tradition, the Batshaw Foundation held its fourth fundraising event on June 3, 2009. Entitled *Youth Moving Forward*, the event was held at Parisian Laundry and featured performances by young dancers and acrobatic performers, including Batshaw's own 'Social Circus'. About 300 guests crowded into the commercial exhibition and project space that champions emerging local, national and international artists.

Through ticket sales, donations and a raffle of prizes, the event generated more than \$40,000, specifically dedicated to post-secondary and job training scholarship programs.

"Funds generated at our event will go directly towards scholarship programs for young people currently, or formerly, receiving Batshaw services," said Erin O'Brien, President, The Batshaw Foundation. "Given the importance of post-secondary education and job training in advancing opportunity for young people, we believe that these funds will be extremely well spent."

The Batshaw Foundation wishes to thank its generous sponsors, donors, and supporters for making this event possible: Anzie Jewelry, Batshaw Social Circus, Carla de Livry, Centaur Theatre Company, Chandelier, Decca77, DNA Restaurant, Gildan Activewear, Groupe Dynamite Inc., Hôtel Le Crystal, Hôtel Nelligan, Just Desserts by Suzanne Moore & Celia Bryson, MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier Inc., Rob Martier from CJAD, McGill Chamber Orchestra, Mod's Hair, Molson, Monette Barakett, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Nespresso, Parisian Laundry, Queue de Cheval, Throwing Gnomes and Toile sur Rendez-Vous.

What is Social Circus?

Michael Udy, Executive Director of the Foundation

For the second time at a Batshaw fundraising event, youth from Batshaw Centres' "Social Circus" were on hand to show what they can do. The Social Circus is a visually exciting, high energy display of drumming, acrobatics and juggling. However there is more to it than this.

Many youth admitted to Batshaw Centres' residential treatment programs have lived through significant, sometimes severe trauma, be it physical, sexual, emotional. It may have occurred at an early age; it may have endured over an extended period of time. We read about troops returning from combat situations suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome. Youth exposed to trauma can have similar features. They can experience serious disruption in their emotional life, sensory perceptions, thinking and judgement, all of which can have a profoundly negative effect on their social relationships and self image. In reaction when feeling vulnerable or at risk, many youth function in a somewhat limited and primitive survival mode, which they feel is essential. The activities of the Social Circus, the captivating rhythmic drumming, the use of the whole body in acrobatic manoeuvres, and the intense concentration required by juggling have been found to be both attractive and soothing for traumatized youth. The opportunity to be recognized for what they can do, not rejected for failures (missed moves or juggles), and to engage in the necessary team work can help them acquire a different and more positive sense of themselves and of others. The Social Circus has been one of the most popular youth activities since it was introduced at Batshaw Centres about three years ago.

Corbeil Appliances help Youth Centre families

Corbeil Appliances, in partnership with Québec youth centres, have launched a program to help disadvantaged families and youth by providing them with second-hand stoves, refrigerators, washers and dryers. Corbeil Appliances will deliver the appliances directly to recipient families.



The long-standing problem of finding appliances in good working order and arranging to have them moved for families and young people in need has been a challenging one for Batshaw workers and the Batshaw Foundation. Corbeil Appliances has generously offered to help solve the problem. They will pick up used appliances from the general public, check them and deliver them free of charge to the homes of young people and families in need. Batshaw Centres has created an internal process so that workers can connect clients to this service.

If you would like to donate your used appliances please call 1-877-660-7521.

Thank you Corbeil Appliances for making a difference!