



We Want to Hear From You!

Have ideas for a community program or questions about services and supports we provide? There are lots of ways to connect.



info@quadcounty.ca



FACEBOOK PAGE:

Quad County
Support Services



WEBSITE:

quadcounty.ca



EVENTS:

quadcounty.ca/events

Enjoying a Summer of In-person Connections

I'm happy to report that the summer of 2022 was a much different summer than last year. With so many community and in-person activities having resumed across Ontario, the individuals we support, staff and families were able to enjoy what they've been missing these past few years.

We were excited to host a summer picnic that brought together our staff and individuals for a fun afternoon. There were lots of happy faces and renewed friendships. Thank you to our board members and staff who volunteered to serve a subway lunch.

As part of Glencoe's Tartan Days, we hosted a successful pancake breakfast serving over 300 people. Tartan Days offers a true sense of community, providing an opportunity for everyone to come together. We are proud that Quad County Support Services is able to be part of this incredible event, giving back the community. Individuals and staff also volunteered to be part of the clean-up crew.

Strategic direction

We're looking forward to releasing our new strategic directions later this fall. These directions were developed following feedback from stakeholders that was shared with the reference group.

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Thanks to everyone who provided input and to Credence & Co for guiding us through this process.

Our new strategic directions are just the beginning of the conversation. I continue to challenge staff to ask themselves “What is your why” as we work on building a culture where everyone is valued and empowered. Part of this culture is my commitment to being open to feedback from the individuals we support, families and our staff. Together, we can create a new path forward.



*Linda Long,
Executive
Director*

Community Corner



A big shout out to the Glencoe Legion for allowing us to hold the Glencoe Tartan Days pancake breakfast on their property. It was very reassuring to have a dry spot in the event of rain.

A special thank you to the volunteers from the legion who provided guidance and helped keep our breakfast running smoothly, while preparing to host their own barbecue lunch. We appreciate your support!

Self-Advocates Corner



This summer we finished the “My Voice, My Choice” series that was hosted by Arch Disability Law. A few individuals are planning to attend the Speaking Out Conference in Port Elgin this October. We’re excited to hear what they learn and how they can share their insights with others.



**Conference
October
14-16**

www.speakingoutconference.com/speaking-out-2022

Spotlight:

Find more pictures on our Facebook page and follow us to be part of the Quad County community!



FACEBOOK PAGE:
Quad County Support Services

*We're regularly posting on Facebook photos!
We encourage you to follow, comment and help
grow our Facebook 'Quad Community'.*



Youth Transition Program



This summer was the sixth year Quad County Support Services has run a program for youth with developmental disabilities. Our facilitator, Darlene Hoover, created a program that was person centered and facilitated meaningful participation in the students' home community. The program also focused on skill development in the areas of employment, volunteer and community participation.

Two staff oversaw the program for seven high school students from our catchment area. The program was successful and assisted the youth to develop

skills, build friendships, work on skill development and make community connections.

The students enjoyed some fun summer activities and worked with

some great local employers who aren't afraid to give people a chance. The students were definitely living their best summer life.

Thank you to Elgin County Community Grant Program, Municipality of Southwest Middlesex, and Canada Summer Jobs for helping fund this important program.

Year-round program

The last several years have shown the need for students to make connections in their home communities on an on-

going basis while providing family support to navigate the system when students transition to adulthood. Youth Transition Program families remain connected to our staff and have also reached out during the school year for guidance and support in understanding their local school system.

Providing this program year-round would help set up students for future success. Supporting these youth and their families to work towards transition, independence and inclusion in their own community is important and needs to happen throughout the year.

While there is a clear need and significant interest in making this a year-round program, we would require additional funding to make it a reality. We are currently exploring ways to secure funding through grants and community donations.

COVID update

As COVID case counts rose during the summer months, we saw some of the highest rates of infections of the pandemic. This included a few cases in one of our locations.

Prior to the summer, we were fortunate to go 2.5 years without any cases. Our success can be credited to the diligence of staff who follow the ipac protocols. We continue to be vigilant with the highly contagious Omicron variants spreading throughout the province.

As the pandemic continues to evolve, we remain committed to following the current health measures and guidance from our ministry. We have learned so much since the pandemic began and are finding ways to live with this new reality.



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