

Issue #16 – Summer, 2006

Foundation Activities Ottawa Race Weekend



Runners and walkers from Causeway collected pledges totalling over \$2,000 during the Ottawa Race Weekend on May 27-28th. All funds raised will support the mental health programs at Causeway Work Centre. This year there were more participants than ever, with staff and volunteers running in a variety of race including the full marathon, half-marathon, 10km and 5km races. The weekend was a huge success for the Causeway Team, who could be identified by their specially designed running t-shirts carrying the Foundation logo and message: "changing minds about mental illness... because mental health is a lifelong marathon".

Endowment Fund

The Causeway Foundation Endowment Fund was launched earlier this year and has accumulated more than \$10,000 in revenue to date. The Fund will be used to improve the lives of those suffering from a mental illness and other disabilities. Endowments are financial reservoirs in which the principal is invested and only a portion of the investment income is spent. Because only the interest income is utilized, an endowment gift represents a perpetual legacy.

More information

Contact Amie Taylor 613-725-3494, ext. 28 for information on the Causeway Foundation Endowment Fund and the taxable benefits of endowment giving.

Reader survey

This issue of *Causeway Connection* marks the end of four years of publication for our quarterly newsletter. We really need to know what you think. Do you read the newsletter? Is it interesting? Has our newsletter provided you with an understanding of what Causeway Foundation does and the programs and services offered by Causeway Work Centre? What do you like about *Causeway Connection* and, equally important, what don't you like? Is there information you want to receive that is missing? Please help us by answering the questions in the enclosed Reader Questionnaire, or use the electronic version on our website at www.causewayfoundation.org

Free Senators tickets

As incentive, fill out this reader survey and your name will be entered in a draw to win two tickets to an Ottawa Senators home game next winter.

Foundation Website
www.causewayfoundation.org

Causeway Work Centre Activities

OLT Open House

Hosted by Causeway Work Centre's Office of Learning Technology, an Open House was held on Wednesday, May 31st to showcase their Information Technology (IT) training program - a program specifically developed for individuals suffering from a mental illness. A lack of computer knowledge is a significant barrier to employment or to pursuing a secondary or post-secondary education.



The OLT Open House, May 31

Breaking the Technology

Barrier is a unique program offering Causeway clients a specialized learning curriculum that is sensitive to their particular mental illness. Classes typically consist of 8 to 10 individuals and students remain in the training program until their learning goals are met. OLT courses began in October 2005 and will continue until June 2008, when present funding expires.

Working for brighter futures

Causeway Work Centre's *raison d'être* is to assist the hard to employ find paid employment. Two major work programs are Job Quest and ESP, the Employment Support Program. Job Quest, federally funded by HRSDC, is a rapid placement program for those who are homeless or at risk; its goal is to secure paid employment for clients within three months. The provincially funded ESP program is a longer-term plan aimed at securing paid employment for those who currently receive ODSP disability benefits. Whereas Job Quest clients are considered employment-ready, in that they want to start working immediately and have a viable goal, that does not always apply to all ESP applicants and these individuals may require more preparation prior to entering the workforce. Both programs assist clients in achieving their employment goals.

What is Causeway?

Causeway Work Centre has assisted people with chronic mental illness and other disabilities for more than 25 years. Causeway services include: Pre-employment and skills development; Computer Training; a comprehensive Youth Pre-employment program; various Supported Employment programs; Casual Jobs enterprise, a Wellness program and Community Kitchen; an Outreach serving those with mental illness and/or concurrent disorders; and Krackers Katering, an entrepreneurial business, run by and employing Causeway clients.

Causeway Foundation was established in 1998: "To raise and distribute funds to support Causeway Work Centre programs and services to further the well-being of persons with mental illness and other disabilities." It is managed by an eight-member Board of Directors: Dianne Breton, President; Robert Petrie, Treasurer; Directors Jill Mutzeneek, Leah Eustace, Peter Woollings, Don Palmer, Len Leeks and Bruce Hiney. www.causewayfoundation.org

Who comes looking for work?

First and foremost, these are people facing severe financial challenges. They are individuals who are out of work, and in the case of Job Quest applicants, are also homeless or likely to become so. Many have severe mental health issues, either as the result of a mental illness, addiction, or a physical or learning disability that has prevented them from being successful in the past. They are people of all ages, from 16 to 65. They are from the Ottawa area - some were born here, including aboriginal clients; others are new Canadians and they come from all over the world. It's also worth noting that hardship and adversity are not gender-specific. At Causeway we see equal numbers of women and men.

Causeway staff

To assist those seeking employment, Causeway utilizes the services of their Employment Team, consisting of full-time Job Developers, Job Coaches and coordinating supervisors. This is staff that can be characterized as young, energetic, well educated and committed.

Job Developers

The role of the Job Developer is to seek out employment opportunities for Causeway consumers. Every individual who comes to Job Quest and ESP is assigned a Job Developer who provides them with employment assistance. At present, the four Job Developers carry a caseload of between 20 and 25 clients each. Every client is interviewed to determine education and skills, previous work experience and the type of employment preferred. Once the interview process is complete, the Job Developers work in active

Jobs needed now

Here is a shopping list of jobs currently needed by the Work Centre for Causeway clients. These should be considered entry-level positions and are for both full and part-time employment.

Job description	Full-time	Part-time
IT Data Entry	1	4
Phone/Survey/Telemarketing	-	2
Stock/Inventory/Shipping & Receiving	-	4
Cleaning	5	4
Retail/Customer Service	-	2
Clerical/General office work	6	11
Food service (incl. cooking dishwashing)	2	2
General labour	1	1
Social services/Kids/Retirement Homes	-	2

Perhaps you may have a job in mind that you have not found someone for yet...if so, the Job Quest and ESP staff would be available to assist you in 'carving a position' for one of our clients. If you can offer employment in any of these areas, please call Samantha McIntosh, Resource Supervisor/Program Co-ordinator at 613-725-3494 ext. 26.

This is the first in a series of articles dealing with employment facilities at Causeway Work Centre. In future issues we will explore job training and pre-employment facilities and offer profiles of employers, as well as Causeway clients who have succeeded in gaining employment

Job Developers Continued...

partnership with the client to match the client with an appropriate employer, and to secure the appropriate position on behalf of the client.

How are jobs found?

It is time-consuming plain hard work! Job Developers read newspaper classifieds, research on-line job postings, they network, make telephone calls to potential employers and go out making cold calls 'pounding the pavement'.

Job Coaches

A Job Coach is assigned to those individuals enrolled in Job Quest and ESP. Once a position is secured, the goal of a coach is to help the client retain paid employment. The responsibilities of the Coach are for initial job training including on-site instruction; all required follow up and then for periodic checks with employee and employer to ensure work is going smoothly and that both parties are happy. The three Job Quest Job Coaches are presently assisting approximately 35 persons.

Employers

At present, there are more than 40 organizations providing paid employment to Causeway clients either on a full or part-time basis. These include charitable agencies, seniors' residences, shipping companies; retail outlets of all kinds; the food service industry including restaurants, pubs, bakeries and caterers; the accommodation industry, cleaning establishments, construction companies, high-tech corporations and market research firms. We should consider ourselves fortunate to live in the Ottawa area where there are many organizations prepared to offer work to those who are disadvantaged and often harder to employ.



Causeway Employment Team

How You Can Help

1. Help employ Causeway clients by identifying job opportunities. Call 613-725-3494 ext.26
2. Consider Krackers Katering for food service at your next event. Call: 613-792-4954
3. Make secure charitable donations online by visiting www.CanadaHelps.org link.

To Donate

Please forward your cheque (payable to Causeway Foundation) to: Causeway Foundation, 22 O'Meara Street, Ottawa, ON K1Y 4N6. A tax receipt will follow.
Charitable No. 87254 0844 RR0001 (CC#16)

Yes! I want to support Causeway programs with my donation of:

\$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel.: _____ Email: _____

To view our [privacy policy](http://www.causewayfoundation.org) visit www.causewayfoundation.org.

Convenient online donations: Donate online by visiting www.causewayfoundation.org then click the CanadaHelps.org line to make secure charitable donations.