



LiveWorkPlay

A Good Life for People with Intellectual Disabilities™

www.liveworkplay.ca

I want help from LiveWorkPlay (or another Developmental Services agency) but I've been told there are no vacancies. Why can't I get what I need? What can I do about this problem?

Service Coordination is the single point of access for services to people with developmental (intellectual) disabilities funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services in Ottawa. Starting in July of 2011, they will become "Developmental Services Ontario Eastern Region" and continue in this role, but will now serve additional communities in Eastern Ontario.

Available Service Coordination statistics (from 2009) indicate that there are approximately 1000 individuals on their registry waiting for help in the areas of support that LiveWorkPlay offers (such as employment, housing, and community participation).

Generally speaking, vacancies get created at agencies like ours (which we then report to Service Coordination so they can be filled) in only a small number of ways: 1) additional funding makes it possible to serve additional people; or 2) someone exits, creating a vacancy; or 3) the needs of one or more persons currently served decline to the extent that we are able to serve additional people.

This means that vacancies are rare because: 1) there have been no recent funding increases (for several years) and we do not know if any are forthcoming; 2) it is rare that people decide to leave or otherwise exit our services since an intellectual disability is a lifelong disability; and 3) while the needs of some might decline, the needs of others we are serving often increase.

This is not an issue limited to the Ottawa area alone. Community Living Ontario is a province-wide advocacy association with more than 115 member agencies (including LiveWorkPlay). In April 2011, they reported that some 23,000 people are waiting for services across Ontario.

The Government of Ontario has financial and political pressures that make decisions about allocating taxpayer resources difficult. You can help by advocating for additional resources for people with intellectual disabilities. We'd like to see additional resources made available directly to individuals (assisted by their family members where applicable) as well as to agencies that are responsible for delivering the vast majority of supports to people with intellectual disabilities in the province.

Please note that LiveWorkPlay is not asking for help to lobby for the funding of our agency. We do believe that the LiveWorkPlay focus on real employment, real housing, real citizenship, and real relationships is the right direction for Developmental Services in Ontario. We hope that in addition to advocating for additional resources, you will also advocate for the types of services that support people with intellectual disabilities to live as fully included members of their community.

Please see the reverse of this notice for suggestions of how to learn more as well as key contacts for communicating your message.

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A SELECTION OF RESOURCES

Service Coordination is the single point of access for MCSS-funded services for individuals who have a developmental (intellectual) disability and/or autism in the Ottawa region.

<http://www.scsottawa.on.ca/>

United Families of Eastern Ontario (UFEO) is a coalition of family groups and individuals committed to improving the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities by ensuring they have the same choices and opportunities as the rest of Ontarians.

<http://ufeo.ca>

Families Matter Co-operative based in Ottawa promotes best practices and provides input into the process of service delivery to people with developmental disabilities.

<http://www.familiesmattercoop.ca>

Walking In My Shoes (WIMS) is a "parents helping parents" support group in Ottawa for parents and guardians of children with developmental disabilities.

<http://www.wimsparents.ca>

People First of Ottawa is by and for people with intellectual disabilities, promoting equality, self-advocacy, rights, and education. The local chapter are members of the provincial chapter, **People First of Ontario**.

<http://peoplefirstottawa.ca>

<http://peoplefirstontario.com>

Individualized Funding Coalition for Ontario is people with disabilities, families, friends, advocates, facilitators, organizations and agencies working together to move individualized funding forward in Ontario.

<http://www.individualizedfunding.ca>

Community Living Ontario is a provincial association advocating for people who have an intellectual disability to be fully included in all aspects of community life. See also Canadian Association for Community Living.

<http://communitylivingontario.ca>

<http://cacl.ca>

CONTACT YOUR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

<p>Dalton McGuinty, MPP (PREMIER OF ONTARIO) Ottawa South 1795 Kilborn Ave Ottawa ON K1H 6N1 Tel : 613-736-9573 Fax : 613-736-7374 dmcguinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</p>	<p>Madeleine Meilleur, MPP (MINISTER OF COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES) Ottawa-Vanier 237 Montreal Rd Vanier ON K1L 6C7 Tel : 613-744-4484 Fax : 613-744-0889 mmeilleur.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</p>	<p>Yasir Naqvi, MPP Ottawa Centre 204 - 411 Roosevelt Ave. Ottawa ON K2A 3X9 Tel : 613-722-6414 Fax : 613-722-6703 ynaqvi.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</p>
<p>Lisa MacLeod, MPP Nepean-Carleton 10 - 3500 Fallowfield Rd Nepean ON K2J 4A7 Tel : 613-823-2116 Fax : 613-823-8284 lisa.macleod@pc.ola.org</p>	<p>Bob Chiarelli, MPP Ottawa West-Nepean 201 - 2249 Carling Ave Ottawa ON K2B 7E9 Tel : 613-721-8075 Fax : 613-721-5756 bchiarelli.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</p>	<p>Phil McNeely, MPP Ottawa-Orleans 6 - 110 Bearbrook Rd Gloucester ON K1B 5R2 Tel : 613-834-8679 Fax : 613-834-7647 pmmcneely.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org</p>

Learn more about Developmental Services

<http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/developmental/index.aspx>