

Community Education Network and Associates



Annual Report



2012-2013

Message from the Executive Director

On behalf of CEN, it is my pleasure to present to you our 2012-2013 Annual Report. This report will highlight for you many of our organizations accomplishments over the past year and I will mention some of them below.

Overall, we have had a successful year as an organization. But no year would be complete if there were not issues and challenges to overcome. This was the first year in a ten year period that we could not offer a "Communities in Schools" Program. While we were disappointed to have to inform schools and other community partners that CIS would not be offered, we went through a CYN restructure that would build on the best practices of CIS and expand the engagement of youth in the region. While change is always difficult it is proving to be successful and we look forward to future growth of programs to engage youth.

In March of this year, we learned that seven Employment Assistance Offices in the Western Region would close at the end of June. It was government's decision to take this funding internally and administer through AES local offices. This community-based service will affect long-term staff and lay offs will be a result. We thank these staff for all of their efforts over a ten-year period and wish them all success in their future endeavours. CEN will still be involved with the delivery of Employment Services through the Power Up! Program and Skills Link.

One of the highlights of the year has been CEN's involvement with the local Housing Stability Initiative and the Community Café. I would like to thank all the volunteers, organizations and community partners that have assisted with this wonderful initiative. Also, the work of our Housing Support Worker and ongoing housing research has been rewarding at both an organization and community level.

The partnership with Western Health to coordinate the Youth Outreach Worker has allowed us to be partners in the delivery of Mental Health and Addictions services for youth.

Ongoing success of Family Resource Centres, Healthy Baby Clubs, Preschools and early years services for children and families is always cause for celebration.

The organization is still involved in literacy programs through the delivery of ABE Level I in Stephenville and through E-learning on the Northern Peninsula.

I would like to say a special thank you to our Board of Directors and our dedicated staff. These individuals are a sincere and dedicated group that help CEN achieve so much and reach so many. You are all to be commended for your dedication and commitment to this organization and those we serve.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers that have helped our organization and the many community partners we collaborate with on a daily basis. Without your help, we could not assist those that need our support to help them become the people they want to be and to contribute to the development of healthy, safe communities.

Thanks for your continued support and we look forward to working with you in the coming months and years ahead.



CEN Mission and Values

VALUES STATEMENT

Community Education Network (CEN) and its Associates-Community Action Committee (CAC) and Community Youth Network (CYN) operate as a collaborative- an entity where people work together collaboratively, through inspired action and learning, to create and realize bold visions for their common future.

PHILOSOPHY

The collaborative is guided by community education principles- self-determination; self-help; maximum use of resources; leadership development; inclusiveness; life-long learning; community involvement in schools; integrated service delivery and localization as adopted by CEN in 1991.

GOVERNANCE

The governance approach of the collaborative is relational, one in which partners maintain internal accountabilities and function through agreements or memoranda of understanding on roles and responsibilities.

The collaborative structure which organizationally reflects the values statement includes:

- Three associated bodies (CEN, CAC, and CYN) which function as boards with reciprocal involvement on each others' boards
- A Networking Group of agencies which acts in an advisory capacity
- A Leadership Group of senior/supervisory staff who collaborate on program and process activities
- Community roundtables which provide input from the community at large

The collaborative structure allows for joint administrative functions and activities such as:

- Collective promotion of values and philosophy
- Common policies and procedures
- Mutual programs and processes
- Collective financial management
- Shared administrative infrastructure
- Shared leadership and accountability
- Joint roundtables
- Common training
- Common newsletter
- Collaborative web community



Program Spotlight

Housing Stability Initiative

The Housing Support Worker (HSW) position was created in the spring of 2011. Since this time, John Finn has been working in conjunction with the Housing Stability Initiative to create awareness around homelessness and housing instability throughout the Bay St. George Region. The role involves assisting individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, are at risk of homelessness or are experiencing housing instability secure safe and affordable housing.

For the fiscal year from March 2012 to April 2013, a total of 67 clients have met with the Housing Support Worker. This equates to a little over 5 individuals a month who require some form of assistance with a housing issue. The HSW works closely with Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation and partners with local landlords to secure house and apartment rentals for clients. A total of 43 individuals, or close to 4 individuals a month have secured housing as a result of assistance from the HSW during the last fiscal year. For more information, please contact Housing Support Worker, John Finn, at 649-2533.



Youth Outreach Worker (YOW)

The implementation of the YOW service was delivered through a community capacity building model based on partnerships between Western Health and community agencies. As Youth Outreach Worker for Stephenville and area, the partnership with the Community Education Network has been a huge success. Having this partnership with CEN addresses the stigma associated with Mental Health & Addictions. The YOW is able to provide support service to youth and their families decreasing barriers to accessing services.

The combination of resource sharing, networking and support between Western Health and CEN clearly shows how a unique opportunity for collaboration between both organizations creates another level of service for communities.

We look forward to continuing this partnership as we approach 2014.

Power Up Program

On paper, Power Up! is a subsidized career development program offering social assistance recipients, aged 25 years and upward, a structured training opportunity to engage in skill building and work force attachment. A partnership between Community Education Network and the Department of Advanced Education and Skills, Power Up! offers a sound return on social investment.

However, for the 37 adults who have successfully gone through the program since 2008, it means so much more than that. To them, it means empowerment and self-confidence. It means self-reflection and acceptance. It means grasping the unknown and having the courage to go forward. Power Up! means not only building skills, but building a life one can be proud of and, as Shannon Nolan, Power Up! 2011 participant emotionally put it, "the cost of that is Priceless!"



CYN Highlights

The Community Youth Network (CYN) is a youth development organization dedicated to connecting youth with caring adults, creative peers and appropriate programming. Our goal is to enhance communities through youth engagement and effective community partnerships. Following a mission *to enrich partnerships between youth and their Southwestern Newfoundland communities to ensure our region is a nurturing, healthy environment in which to learn and grow.*

The past year has been one of re-focus and re-organization for CYN, with the loss of Communities in Schools (CIS). Even with these challenges, CYN was able to still provide school & community based-programming for children, youth and young adults. CYN has continued to facilitate and support many programs and community events such as Lifelong Connections Day; Respect Day; Violence Prevention Initiatives i.e. Stand-up Days; JA Economics for Success and Our Business World; Kids Eat Smart; You Go Girl; Youth Voices - Healthy Choices; Walk so Kids Can Talk; Kids Help Phone Fundraiser; Girls United and Ready to Lead (GURL); Peer Mentoring; Community Cafes; Relay for Life; Families' & Schools Together (FAST). We continue to support students as they look for volunteer opportunities to meet academic and graduation requirements. CYN also continues to provide employment for a number of youth with the Student Work and Service Program

and Canada Summer Jobs. Employment skills were enhanced for the youth while working alongside CYN Staff or with the Bookworms summer program.

We are proud to say that after 12 years CYN is still "Pulling for the Janeway". Our partnership with schools, homes and community businesses to collect pull tabs continues. The total number of tabs collected this year was 1287. In the past 13 years throughout Southwestern NL over 21,000,000 tabs have been pulled for the Janeway raising approximately \$8,500.

As in the past, CYN has provided youth recognition by awarding Junior and Senior Merit awards to CYN Youth Group members and CYN Achievement Awards to Pathfinder Learning Centre graduates. However, one of the biggest highlights over the past year would have to be when 13 CYN members got to share what CYN means to them at last years AGM. The response was amazing. Nothing but positive feedback gave insight to the impact that CYN has had over the past years and gave inspiration to move forward.

On January 1, 2013, CYN's moved to the Office of Public Engagement – Youth Engagement, this too, will bring changes to our local CYN but change can be positive and we look forward to the opportunity to expand services to youth.



Community Action Committee for Southwestern Newfoundland

A Special Place for Families and Children

The Community Action Committee for Southwestern Newfoundland coordinates a wide range of programs and services to help meet the health, social and development needs of young children and their families. If you are an expectant mother or a parent/caregiver of a young child from birth to six years be sure to check out your local Family Resource Program or Healthy Baby Club. School and community-based Family Resource Centres are located throughout southwestern Newfoundland and offer a variety of programs to support young children and their families.

The Healthy Baby Club Prenatal Support Program provides home visits from an experienced resource mother; food vouchers to help with the extra nutritional needs during pregnancy; prenatal classes with your local public health nurse; cooking and nutrition sessions; breastfeeding support and postnatal follow-up. Programs for young children and their parents/caregivers include Drop-in Play with Story Time and Art Activities; Fitness Fun; Little Chefs; Preschool and special occasion activities such as

Halloween Parties, National Child Day celebrations, Christmas socials, National Literacy Day activities, Family Fun Day, etc. We also offer information sessions and workshops for parents on such topics as Child Care and First Aid; Car Seat Safety; Ages and Stages of Child Development; The Importance of Play; Guiding Children's Behaviour; and Parental Self-Care to name just a few.

Highlights of the past year include the piloting of the MOMS Group, a supportive postnatal program for new mothers and their infants focusing on mother's mental health and well-being and building the mother/infant bond during the important postnatal period. This program was piloted at the Stephenville Healthy Baby Club during the fall and winter months. In addition, the Level Best Bulk Buying and Cooking Club was offered during the spring to assist parents in providing nutritious low-cost meals for their families.

Programs are made possible through funding provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the provincial Department of Child Youth and Family Services as well as the ongoing support and contributions from our many community partners.



Annual Financial Summary

Community Education Network

Budget	Year 2012-2013
Salaries, merc/benefits	\$169,553.90
Travel	\$9,800.72
Materials/Supplies	\$5,077.32
Telephone/Fax/Internet	\$7,029.29
Space Rental	\$1,580.72
Meeting Expense	\$1,386.74
Insurance	\$1,500
Professional Development	\$150.00
Software	\$1,444.99
Professional fees	\$582.50
Total Expenses	\$198,106.18
SOURCE FUNDS	
Department of Advanced Education & Skills	\$60,000.00
Administration from projects	\$48,507.51
Contributions Various Projects (OI Funds)	\$89,598.67
Total Contribution	\$198,106.18

PROJECT FUNDING (Fiscal Year 2012-2013)

Housing Support Worker (HSW)	\$61,235.00
Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS)	\$26,433.00
PowerUP	\$107,919.00
Skills Link	\$114,817.00
ABE Expansion	\$62,700.00
ABE Stephenville	\$49,000.00
ABE E-Learning	\$45,000.00
CIRC Port aux Basques	\$271,624.00
CERC St. Anthony	\$369,820.00
CERC Stephenville	\$305,481.00
CERC Rocky Harbour	\$356,691.00
TOTAL	\$1,770,720.00



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