

GIVE FROM THE HEART

Dear friends,

During our recent mandate process, it was clearly identified that we deeply desire to have a greater impact in our neighborhood and our city. We are striving to become more visible advocates for the rights of people with intellectual disabilities and actively seeking opportunities to share our gifts.

There is a very real need for opportunities to develop leadership, offer supported employment, and create spaces for social participation, all with an emphasis on ability, friendship, laughter, joy, and celebration.

With our new Outreach Initiative Draw the Circle Wide, our end goal is to create and sustain a highly visible and accessible place where members of the L'Arche Halifax community

can share more widely, the core values of L'Arche, through sharing a space of welcome, belonging and changed hearts outside of our home environment

We are dreaming of a multi-purpose space that could encompass a wide variety of potential uses. The following are just a few of the possibilities:

It could enable L'Arche Halifax and its members to be more visible in the community, broadening our reach and increasing the awareness of our presence in the city. We could have our own space, one that is large enough to welcome friends and neighbors, new and old, to join us for weekly events we already have, such as music nights, drumming circles, games nights and community nights.

It could make our currently inaccessible office space accessible to all community members.

It could offer supported Employment or Social Enterprise, particularly for 3 of our members who do not currently have employment and have been unsuccessful in finding anything suitable in the HRM. We could start hosting Drop in coffee houses, Open Mic nights, the sky is the limit!

We are being called to create places for people with and without intellectual disabilities to grow friendships and support networks, to share their gifts, to develop new abilities and YOU CAN HELP!

On November 29th, Giving Tuesday, please support L'Arche Halifax to Draw The Circle Wide!

Sincerely,

Brian Hebert, Board Chair, and
Kelly Geddes, Community Leader



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

We love to welcome visitors and have been having students from NSCC come to spend some time with us for a few years now. We also accept students for their work term experiences and have even hired a few as assistants. Our core members feel strongly that they want to help shape the new generation of support workers through these visits & work terms.

Friends who were travelling to Manchester, England proposed a great idea to do a sort of exchange with the L'Arche community there. We packed a box of cards, photos, L'Arche Halifax swag and a game that we really love and our friends delivered it to L'Arche Manchester. L'Arche Manchester also gave them a box to bring back to us including flags, photos and goodies. It is a great feeling to make a L'Arche connection and we are thankful for the opportunity.

We have been happy to have members from the Go Project, a summer out-reach camp engaging youth with community service in Halifax, coming to help out since 2011 and this past summer they helped with yard work and stayed for games and a BBQ.



GOLF TOURNAMENT

This past September we hosted our 8th Annual Golf Tournament. We are so thankful for all who helped make this day fun and successful.

After much reflection and discussion, we have decided to revitalize our Golf Tournament, which is our major fundraiser of the year. We are in the process of speaking with potential partners, looking at local Golf Clubs for hosting and are reaching out to involve new people and organizations.

There are many ways that YOU CAN HELP: tell your friends and colleagues about our Golf Tournament, ask them to consider putting in a team, sponsoring a team, sponsoring a hole, donating a team prize or item for the auction and simply by spreading the word. Details to follow on our website and Facebook!



ATLANTIC REGIONAL GATHERING



Our L'Arche Atlantic Regional Gathering was held at the Atlantica Hotel in Halifax. There were school presentations, an Open Mic night at JustUs, a bubble flash mob on the waterfront, pop up market with artists with disabilities, Films with Friends, live music, art projects, a beautiful church service at Trinity Anglican Church and oh, so much more!



SUMMER



This summer we spent time at Mersey River Cottages, touring Cape Breton, exploring Sudbury, Ontario and enjoying our wonderful city!



Every year, L'Arche from the Atlantic Region, which includes L'Arche Saint John, L'Arche Homefires in Wolfville, L'Arche Antigonish and L'Arche Cape Breton gather at Victoria Park in Truro for a giant Regional Picnic. This is a highlight of the year with a day filled with friendship, food and fun.

In August, family and friends joined us for a HUGE Birthday bash in the back yard to celebrate Ainsley's 30th, Tricia's 40th and Deb's 50th. It was a wonderful day celebrating wonderful women!



In September, we were chosen as one of three organizations to present to the 100 Women Who Care Halifax. Tricia spoke about our dream of building a Snoezelen sensory room that would benefit not only our members but family and friends of our community. We were thrilled when our project was chosen! We have had a visit with representatives of 100 Women Who Care Halifax and will invite them back once the room is complete.

ART SHOW & SALE

Our Annual Art Show and Sale was held April 15th-17th. This event provides an opportunity for local artists to sell their work and a portion of all sales is donated to L'Arche Halifax. It is also a great time to talk with the wider community about L'Arche.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM took place in June where we thanked board members who had completed their terms and welcomed new board members, Wayne Dipersio and Joy Fraser.

Stay connected with L'Arche Halifax online for more upcoming events, information, photos, and life in our community!



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www.larchehalifax.org



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DONATE TO L'ARCHE HALIFAX

You may donate financially to L'Arche Halifax by:

Cheque: mail to L'Arche Halifax at 5512 Sullivan Street, Halifax, NS B3K 1X7

Credit Card: Phone (902) 407-5512 and provide the following information: type of card, card number, expiry date, name on card and amount of donation. Or complete the following form and return it to the address above.

Type of Card: _____ Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Security Number: _____ Postal Code: _____

Amount of Donation: _____ Phone Number: _____

Website: Visit www.larchehalifax.org and click on the "Donate" button.

United Way: Pledge through United Way and request it be allocated to L'Arche Halifax.

Monthly Giving: Call the office at (902) 407-5512

Leave a Legacy: Call the office at (902) 407-5512