

S.O.A.R Citizen

SOAR Expansion-Evening and Weekend Program

Exciting news, the Ministry of Community and Social Services (Foundations Initiative) has approved funding for an additional 12 participants to attend the SOAR Program. As many of you know there is no space available in our current Day Program. SOAR was able to be creative and has opened its doors during the evenings and weekends.

SOAR's programming will remain the same and will be mirrored during the evenings and weekends. SOAR will be offering services on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings from 4 pm to 8 pm and on Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 4:30 pm. Participants will be involved in Nutrition, cooking, health and hygiene, recreation, computer studies, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Vocational training, Community Exploration, Budgeting, literacy and a parent mentoring group.

SOAR is currently providing services to 41 young adults with developmental disabilities.



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PARENT GROUP

SOAR's first Parent Group was held on April 11, 2005. Parents expressed an interest in learning and accessing services for their son or daughter. As a result of this meeting two information sessions have been arranged.

1. On **Tuesday May 24, 2005** at 5:30 pm Tanya Mais, from North Beaches Residence will be speaking about Transitional (Life Skills Training) Group Homes and will explain how to navigate through the Residential Day Waiting List Process.
2. On **Monday June 27, 2005**. Margaret Copeland from ODSP Support Group and Nancy Vanderplaats from Scarborough Community Legal Services will be speaking on ODSP Income Support and how to access more funding.

Shopper's Optimum Points-Nancy Garrett

The Developmental Services Department is proud to announce that they are now part of the Shoppers Optimum Points Donation Program. This means anyone, or everyone can support, Frank Drea House, North

Beaches Residence, and S.O.A.R. by transferring or donating some or all of your Shoppers Optimum Points to Operation Springboard. The donations will be used for purchasing many necessary health and home

supplies that can be found at Shoppers Drug Mart. Donating is easy. Simply go to www.shoppersdrugmart.ca and follow the few easy steps. You will be assisting many clients. Thank you for your continued support.

New Placements

“I can say that I enjoy my time at my placement”- Franco

My New Job- Jon Ross
I work at Burrows Recreation Community Centre. I help keep the Centre clean and I also help look after some of the children that come in. I really like working there. It is right by my house. I start at 1 and finish at about 4. I work with Jackie and Sue. They are nice. I have to sweep and mop a really big room. Sometimes I do it by myself. I also help out with an after school program at the Centre. I get to play games such as Dodge ball and tag with some of the kids that are there.

Working at Livingston Lodge
by Daniel

On Mondays and Thursdays I go to Livingston Lodge for my

volunteer placement. I clean the door knobs and railings. I like working at Livingston Lodge. I meet people there when I am working.

Goodwill- Linda

I am very happy to work at Goodwill on Mondays and Wednesdays. I do different things. I empty bottles and do the letters. I have a different friend at work. They are nice to me all the time. I like Brenda.

Franco's New Placement

The new placement I have is at Beaches Recreation Centre. I help out with the paper work by doing things such as filing and answering the phones. I see my friends on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I miss them and know they

miss me while I am at work. I can say that I enjoy my time at my placement.



Placement Updates

Working at Canadian Breast Cancer Association-

We work at the Canadian Breast Cancer Association in downtown. We start at about 10 and finish at 12:30. Some of the jobs we do there are: cutting the ribbon, pinning the ribbon, putting the cards on the ribbons. We cut, pin and put cards on

many, many ribbons. We work with some nice people. Vanessa helps us out too. We all like our job here for a lot of reasons. Elliott is very happy that he can take the bus from home and go straight to his placement. Michelle is happy she gets to work with so many nice people. Kerry really likes working with her friends. We eat our

lunch after work. We like to help out at the CBCA and we even helped our peers at S.O.A.R make ribbons to give out.

When we see people wearing the pink ribbons, we feel proud that we help make them.

- By Elliott, Michelle, and Kerry

S.O.A.R: What is Happening?

It is a new year and these are some of the things we are looking forward to doing here at S.O.A..R this year:

Jon Ross- Talking to my friends

Melissa- Continuing to work at Kelsey's

Vivian-To find a new job

Stephen- Learning my new bus route

Shauna-Marie- To find a good job

Darren- Getting a paying job

Jason-To make myself proud by finding a job

Linda- To stay on task, focus and pay attention

Kirkland- To keep dancing at BBNC

Steven- Continuing with my paper route

Jana- Going out into the community

Jamie-Going out on trips with my peers

Robert- More parties!

Daniel- To go to BBNC to cook

Kerry- To go to YMCA and play basketball

Vanessa-To keep working at the GAP

Franco- To achieve my goals

Junior- Making more friends



A new year and new goals

What have we been up to here at S.O.A.R.?

New Duke Skills– by Jamie
On Wednesdays we work on our Duke of Edinburgh skills. Some of the skills we are learning are: cooking, paint by numbers, drawing, photography, typing and writing. I like practicing my skill.

Community Outings for the Year– Franco



We stayed back one Thursday and we planned out the trips for the year. The S.O.A.R group has agreed on the following trips for the year: movies, bowling, different Malls and pool for the entertainment type of outings. Visiting restaurants and music productions for the employment trips. We will continue to do the pins, Food Bank and clean the local park for the volunteering trips. We want to go to the Science Centre and Museum for the educational trips. I am hoping that everyone will enjoy these trips that we have voted

on for the year.

Our Lunch at East Side Mario's– by Kirkland and Sherry

On Thursday April 21st, 2005, we went to East Side Mario's for lunch. I have been wanting to go to a restaurant with my peers for a long time. East Side Mario's had good food. I ordered the New Yorker pizza. It was big but I finished it all. I had salad and bread too. We went there by bus. I had a good time and by the end I had eaten lots. We sat at the table, talked and had ice cream after our lunch. I am thinking of the next restaurant I want everyone to go to.

World Events by Stephen and Vivian

On December 26th, 2004, there was an undersea earthquake in the Indian Ocean that became a tsunami.

This tsunami caused many deaths and millions of dollars in damage.

Some of the countries that were hit by the tsunami are Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Thai-

land and the South of India. The tsunami even reached as far as the shores of Africa.

Tsunami is Japanese for "great harbor wave". Tsunamis start after an earthquake and make big waves that roll across the ocean. These big waves move very fast and can crush anything

that come in it's path.

Many people lost their homes and families. Donations are still coming in to help those who need to start rebuilding.

We were very sad to learn so many people died during this time.

Tsunami is Japanese for great harbor wave

Entertainment

Oscar Winners– Jason

The Oscars were awarded on Sunday February 27th, 2005. Here are some of the winners:

Best Actor: Jamie Foxx, *Ray*
Best Actress: Hilary Swank, *Million Dollar Baby*

Best Picture: *Million Dollar Baby*

Best Animated Film: *The Incredibles*

Best Supporting Actress:

Cate Blanchett, *The Aviator*
Best Supporting Actor: Morgan Freeman, *Million Dollar Baby*

I have seen *The Incredibles* and I would recommend it to everyone. It was a really funny movie. I want to see *The Aviator* because I like how he learns to fly planes.



Catch a movie this spring!

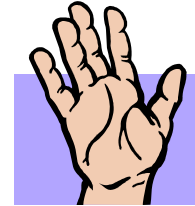
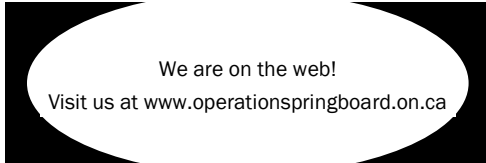
Operationspringboard (SOAR)

1118 Victoria Park Ave
Toronto, Ontario
M4B 2K3

Phone: (416) 913-1301
Fax: (416) 913-1304
E-mail: sgautam@operationspringboard.on.ca

In our next issue:

- Read about our new placements!
- Get updated on our community outings and other news about our programming
- Summer movie reviews



**Operation
Springboard- S.O.A.R
Program**

Darren is one of 3 new assistant editors at the S.O.A.R Citizen. He helps edit the Vocational section of the Citizen,

Meet another Assistant Editor

I am very happy to be the assistant editor of the Vocational section. I like hearing about the different placements where my peers work.

I am also very happy to introduce the readers to a new participant here at S.O.A.R named Shauna-Marie. She lives with her mother, father, brother and sister. Shauna-Marie likes S.O.A.R and all the people here. She

stuffs envelopes there. She really likes comedy movies. She really likes to go on the computer and talk to her friends. Some of the other things that Shauna-Marie likes doing is shopping, doing crossword

puzzles, and spending time with her friends. She cheers for the Toronto Blue Jays. Some of her favorite TV shows are *Pas-sions*, *Fresh Prince of Bel Air* and *7th Heaven*.

I am glad that Shauna-Marie is here at S.O.A.R and I hope she gets a really good work placement.

- Darren

