



EPILEPSY YORK REGION

JANUARY 2011 UPDATE

All the Staff and Volunteers at Epilepsy York Region would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. 2010 was a great year for Epilepsy York Region and we look forward to an even better 2011.

We have been blessed this past year with a tremendous team of volunteers. I don't know how we could have achieved so much without their continued help. On behalf of Epilepsy York Region we extend our heartiest thanks to each and everyone of you for all you do to help make a difference in the lives of people with epilepsy and their families.

Gift Wrap:

Epilepsy York Region held our usual Gift Wrap this past December at Hillcrest Mall. In addition we initiated another Gift Wrap at Walmart in Keswick for the ten days before Christmas.

Both initiatives were very successful. Hillcrest netted \$11000 and Walmart \$2500, but without the 200 volunteers and our supervisors it would not have been possible.

Special thanks go out to Sheila, Cherill, our supervisors at Hillcrest, and Alan Becker (A EYR Board member) who filled in when needed. Walmart was suggested as a new venue by Jessica, one of our volunteers, and was organized, coordinated, and supervised by her. Thanks Jessica and also thanks to your family members who did a lot of wrapping.

New Horizons Seniors Project:

This is a new project initiated by Epilepsy York Region which will directly address senior's social wellbeing and active living by promoting safe, positive, active and independent living for older adults coping with epilepsy.

The first orientation meeting for the members of the New Horizons Seniors Project was held this week. Our staff person Monique will be in charge of the program but it will be run by a committee of seniors volunteers. Seniors will be recruited and trained as speakers, plus peer support volunteers. Seniors will be involved in the development of all marketing and messaging material for the project.

New Volunteer:

We are pleased to welcome Kelsey to our office. Kelsey is a Seneca College student studying Social Service Work. She will be working on the Kids on the Block program, a new initiative utilizing puppets to explain about epilepsy. More info next month as the puppet program develops, but if you are interested in knowing more about the program please email Kelsey at kob@epilepsyork.org

March Awareness:

As you know March is Epilepsy Awareness month.

We are fortunate this year to have a very talented volunteer heading our March Awareness Campaign. Brittany will be contacting schools, libraries, daycares, municipalities and businesses to make them aware of epilepsy and ask them to wear purple during the month. Also we will be doing presentations to any group that requests them. We have an activities package for Daycares which includes a colouring page, name badges and other crafts

If your school, daycare or business would like a presentation or would like some literature please contact Brittany at marchawareness@epilepsyork.org.



E-mail Addresses:

If you wish to contact one of our staff or volunteers at the office the following are the email addresses:

Paul (Executive Director) praymond@epilepsyork.org

David (Volunteer Manager) dharper@epilepsyork.org

Cindy (Membership) info@epilepsyork.org

Karen (Information and Referral) program@epilepsyork.org

Brittany (March Awareness) marchawareness@epilepsyork.org

Kelsey (Kids on the Block) kob@epilepsyork.org

Have a great month.