EFL - Housing For People with Developmental Disabilities

March 5th 2020
Who we are?

Events for Life (EFL) is a not for profit registered charity that offers a variety of educational, recreational and social day programs geared towards lifelong learning for adults with special needs.
EFL - Our Vision

Events for Life will be recognized as a leading organization supporting individuals with special needs allowing them to live, learn and work in an integrated, inclusive community.
What is our ask?

• That the TBM includes individuals with developmental disabilities as one of the key groups in the Attainable Housing program

• A commitment of 10% of the TBM attainable housing units to be earmarked for individuals with developmental disabilities

• That the town collaborate with EFL and other community organizations to achieve this commitment

• EFL and others would support selection of potential residents, transition planning with families, determining support needs etc.
The Reality

• Many people with developmental disabilities live with aging parents and caregivers

  • As this generation continues to age many adult children will be at risk of being institutionlised or made homeless creating a crisis for families and the community to address

  • Their home is the core of their social network and an essential element of mental health and well being

• See next slide for current EFL cohort
General Principles

• Housing must be affordable, available and accessible to everyone

• Housing must be inclusive of all people in the community

• Different housing opportunities should be integrated within all residential areas of our community
  • e.g. single family dwellings, semi-independent living homes, co-operative housing and apartment complexes
The Benefits of Attainable Housing

• Increases in...
  • Independence
  • Quality of life
  • Employment opportunities
  • Health, positive emotions and self-esteem

• Other benefits...
  • Affordability
  • Partnerships (e.g. support workers, active seniors)
  • Inclusive community
  • Socialization
  • Proactive approach
Research into inclusive housing models...

• Models & Alliances...

  • L’Arche (Richmond Hill and Stratford)
  • Camp Hill (Barrie & Angus)
  • South East Grey Support Services (Flesherton)
  • Community living Collingwood, Meaford, Kincardine, Owen Sound, Elmira

  • Cribwolf (Multi unit Residential Building with active seniors -MURB)
  • Participation House (London)
  • REACH (Owen Sound)
  • REENA (North York)
  • Centre for Independent Living
  • Intentional Community Consortium
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