

Promoting Inclusion Across Peterborough

This year Heads Up for Inclusion has been involved with a number of opportunities teaching youth about inclusion and accessibility.

In May, Program Manager, Beth McClelland and Trillium College placement student, Vanessa Mills facilitated a workshop to approximately 40 students in two Grade 10 Careers classes at Crestwood Secondary School. Over the course of one period, students learned about people-first language, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and how to prevent barriers to inclusion in their school and workplace. Negative connotations (can't, unable etc.) in students' definitions of disability decreased by 35% by the end of the workshop. A similar workshop was also delivered to youth staff at Employment Counselling Peterborough.

Staff Updates

In January, Heads Up for Inclusion welcomed a new Program Manager, Beth McClelland.

Beth graduated from the Public Relations Advanced Diploma Program at Humber College. Having been an Amigo at Crestwood Secondary School from 2005-2008, she has been excited to continue growing her passion for Amigos. Beth also brings with her four years of experience as a volunteer youth worker with Kawartha Youth Unlimited. When she's not working for HUI, Beth enjoys playing music with local bands and refereeing soccer.

In the new year, Heads Up for Inclusion also received support from two placement students. Jennifer Wildman from the Community Integration Through Cooperative Education Program at Fleming College and Vanessa Mills from the Community Service Worker Program at Trillium College. Their engaging and enthusiastic personalities were a welcomed fit for the schools and Community Program.



Placement student, Vanessa Mills puts on a silly smile as she participates in Camp Kawartha activities with Kenner Amigos

In addition to workshops, Heads Up for Inclusion visited the Ministry of Natural Resources and Access Awareness Week Opening Ceremonies. HUI was also present at "Mission Possible", an event at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School. The purpose of the event was to promote social services in Peterborough and inspire youth and parents with a performance by Sujeet Desai, an accomplished musician with Down Syndrome. At each event, HUI was present with a display table, where event participants were able to learn about HUI's programs and services.



Program Manager, Beth McClelland represents HUI at "Mission Possible"

Collective Impact

In January, HUI spearheaded a community collective impact initiative. The project brought together agencies, community members and individuals with lived experience to discuss inclusion in Peterborough. HUI looks forward to building on the ideas developed and the relationships formed through the project.



Participants engage in discussion at a strategic planning session