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The Consumer/Survivor Information Resource Centre

Distributed through generous support from CSRU Program (Community Support and Research Unit) of
CAMH (Centre for Addiction & Mental Health)

BULLETIN

*Information for consumer/survivors of the mental health system,
those who serve us, and those who care about us.*

December 15, 2006

Bulletin 337

C/S INFO CENTRE DROP-IN HOURS: 1-4 Monday-Friday. PHONE HOURS: 9-5 Monday-Friday

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Good-Bye...

A year has passed, and I am finishing my Maternity Leave Contract with the C/S Info Centre this week. This will be the last Bulletin that I will be working on. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their generosity in welcoming me and sharing their experiences and resources throughout this year. Special thanks to Helen and the C/S Info Board for their support. I have truly, learnt a lot from you all. When I first began at the Centre, I wasn't sure about being referred to as a consumer survivor. But throughout the year after answering your calls, e-mails and drop in visits, I have learnt to find strength in those words. As a consumer, I know that I have choices. Like any other market driven industries, I have choices and rights related to standards of service, accountability and types of services that meet my needs. As a survivor, I draw strength from my journey to this point. My experiences, both positive and challenging have made me who I am today. What I learn from my experiences teaches me how to live in my future.

Take care,
Carolyn.

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Tale of Two Conferences — Part 2 — Evolution of Making Gains or Revolution of Recovery? By Robert MacKay

Tale of Two Conferences, an article in the December 1st issue of the Bulletin, really got me thinking. I would heartily encourage you to look it over for the great value in the writer's insightful, personal observations contrasting her feelings of disappointment at the Making Gains Conference 2006 with the International Recovery Perspectives conference, "which opened my eyes to some of the work being done in Recovery as well as examples of how it can be practiced".

I did not attend Making Gains but did participate actively and quite joyously in the two-day International Recovery Perspectives and the one-day Recovery Psy'Cozy'Um which rolled out the day prior, both sponsored by The Leadership Project. When I had been in New Brunswick and working away madly to try to make a positive difference in grassroots mental health, I could only dream about what took place during those three days of recovery celebration from November 15th to 17th 2006 in Toronto. I saw and heard everything necessary to have confidence that a firm foundation is in place for future progress towards recovery-based mental health reform in this country, and that in years to come, we will build "The Recovery House".

In this year of the Kirby final report and the Local Health Integration Networks, the November recovery conferences were a university full of "new possibilities for creative service delivery": exactly what the system minders and change advocates need to achieve the stated goals of better, more efficient and effective mental health outcomes for taxpayers, citizens and patients.

Let's review the program guides from Recovery Psy'Cozy'Um 2006, a FREE Conference for Consumer/Survivors; and International RECOVERY Perspectives: Implications – Innovations – Implementations, Critical and creative exploration of groundbreaking approaches in Mental Health Recovery.

The Psy'Cozy'Um introductory words state, "We hope that you will enjoy your time as participant, helper, presenter and fellow conspirator. As the name suggests, we like to have a 'COZY' event that starts to treat everyone equally and tries to put personal differences and agendas secondary to the peer community wants and needs. The emphasis for this Consumer/ Survivor only conference is to be practical in all aspects helping people to recover. In essence we want to share our personal stories to help others to recover and grasp the underlying courage, pride and determination, which provides the hope for a better future. We want to work and develop with the attending consumer/ survivors a [post-conference] report that helps them to do for themselves what previously was done by others for them....Every 'voice' will count and be recognized....This workshop intends to bring about changes to create the next steps in promoting and implementing individual and peer group activities based on a 'Recovery' vision."

The Psy'Cozy'Um's stated goal? "Using the Recovery approach to revitalize a strong and outspoken community." Two of the stated objectives were instructional for me: "To overcome the differences of opinion within our community to establish common goals" and "To encourage and foster the creation and growth of a new vital and outspoken movement of people facing mental health difficulties and challenges".

The International Recovery Perspectives program guide says, "Members of the Leadership Project organized this conference because we see the need for a deeper awareness about what is possible in the way of systemic reform, or the transformation of the mental health system....In fact, we see recovery as the means for the entire mental health system to locate its own humanity."

While "recovery as a model is actually the historical by-product of the psychiatric survivor movement....Recovery concerns all of us. It poses new challenges and there are learnings for all, but while

we collectively contemplate recovery as the best platform for mental health reform consider who is best suited or able to carry this forward. The inescapable conclusion and the proven fact as we shall see is the survivor/ peer support movement. This is not the singular focus of this conference, but everything that we will be discussing is in reference to the survivor movement as the source of energy that is political, critical, innovative, joyous and hopeful. Their role in the overall reform process to date has been immense, and it is our hope that after this conference that their role as change-makers and recovery advocates will be even better understood.”

I try to be an optimist and will suggest to you the following. The political solidarity and the technical expertise to move forward with recovery system-wide implementation, at least in pilot projects at minimum, exists in Toronto, Ontario, and Canada. The hundreds of people attending the recovery conferences in Toronto included representation from the full spectrum of the grassroots consumer/ survivor movement and there was widespread agreement in principle to what was presented. The community is revitalized, it is an outspoken movement, and it is not bickering.

On the day this article was handed in, I participated in a web-based video conference, sponsored by the National Network for Mental Health on the number one priority expressed in a recent survey of its stakeholders/ members—peer support within a recovery framework for mental health. A “political” voice, funded and recognized by the Government of Canada and working in harmony with consumer/ survivors from across the nation, it is evidence of solidarity to make recovery real.

I do not know how much the Making Gains conference cost taxpayers, but it was sponsored by major organizations and umbrella groups representing the mainstream mental health system. How much did these recovery conferences cost taxpayers? Not a dime. From what I understood, all the costs were covered by ticket sales, and they generated a small profit to boot. I believe that we must ask for appropriate resources to move forward with the vital work of these recovery conferences. To expect this to continue on a wing and a prayer is both unreasonable, and unfair.

Lastly, why should society care about these recovery conferences? On what expertise do these ideas rest? I will leave the last word to Mary O’Hagan, one of New Zealand’s three mental health commissioners: “I have no qualifications. I’m a mad person.” The system never stops saying they want to listen to those at the centre of care, the experts “who have been there”. That voice has spoken with an eloquence and clarity never heard before in Canada.

[Robert MacKay is principal of Robert MacKay and Associates, “Catalyst for participatory recovery alternatives”. He welcomes your comments at Robertma@nbnet.nb.ca .]

Websites Worth Watching

www.suitcaseexhibit.org. **The Lives They Left Behind. Suitcases From a State Hospital Attic.** This is a fantastic online exhibit, just what it sounds like – hundreds of patient suitcases were found in the attic of an abandoned building when the Willard Psychiatric Centre in New York State was closed in 1995. Many of the suitcases appeared untouched since their owners packed them decades earlier before entering the institution. The exhibit shows some of the rich histories of the people who often spent decades there. Photos and documents as well contribute to making this a very moving and powerful exhibit.

Income Security Advocacy Centre. The website offers a wide range of information including Fact Sheets on the changes to ODSP. www.incomesecurity.org.

Wish List.

You know by now that we have received a donation of books – see later in the Bulletin for the dates of our book sale, (and my appeal for volunteers to help). What you may not know is that we also have some book shelves to give away. They are dark coloured, about 6 feet tall, 3 feet wide, like IKEA shelves. You have to have a way to take them home because the Info Centre does not have a van or any other vehicle. If you are a consumer/survivor and you are interested in these shelves, please call or email.

If you have something to put in our Wish List, or maybe you would like to make a request for something, contact the centre at 416 595-2882 or email us at csinfo@camh.net.



Free & Low Cost Events

Friday, December 15th

Picture This: The Working Life Exhibition. Free. CAMH, Integrated Rehabilitation Unit (IRU) Photo ID Project 2006 Exhibition of photographs by clients and hospital staff exploring themes related to work in and around the Queen West neighbourhood. Exhibition continues to Dec. 17th. Propeller Gallery for Visual Arts, 984 Queen St. W. Info: 416 504-7142. Wed - Sat, 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm. Sun, 12:00 noon – 5:00 pm.

DJ Skating Night. Free. Skate to the rhythms of house, tribal, breaks and funky techno with local DJ's. Free hot chocolate. Natrel Skating Rink, Harbourfront Centre, 235 Queens Quay W. Info: 416 973-4000 or www.harbourfrontcentre.com. 8:00 – 11:00 pm.

Saturday, December 16th

Customer Appreciation Day. Free. Library celebrates everyone who uses their services with hot chocolate and cookies. Jones Library, 118 Jones Ave. Info: 416 393-7715. 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Skate with Santa and his Elves Event. Free. Holiday Celebration and skate for everyone with crafts, ice sculptures, and other activities. Shuttle bus from York Quay to the Music Garden. Celebration continues to Dec. 17th. Harbourfront Centre, 235 Queens Quay W. Info: 416 973-4000 or www.harbourfrontcentre.com. 10:00 am – 8:00 pm.

The Leslie St. Spit Walk. Free. Toronto Field Naturalists Walk explores the birds in the area with leader, Doug Paton. Bring lunch and binoculars. Dress warmly. Meet at the park entrance at Unwin Ave. and Leslie St. Info: 416 593-2656 or www.torontofieldnaturalists.org. 10:00 am.

Christmas in Roncesvalles Village. Free. Santa Claus and Swiety Makolaj are escorted to this annual community holiday celebration by the crew of the Lansdowne Fire Station. Performances and carolling. 220 Roncesvalles Ave. Info: 416 392-7288 or www.roncesvallesvillage.ca. Performance begins, 11:00 am. Arrival, 12:00 noon.

Festive Sightings Event. Free. Classic film, the Christmas Story (1983), followed by Holiday Traditions from Around the World featuring folk performances from Mexico. Yonge-Dundas Square, Yonge Street and Dundas St. E. Info: 416 979-9960 or www.ydsquare.ca. Film, 12:00 noon. Performance, 2:00 pm.

Calvalcade of Lights Saturday Night. Free. Musical concert with the jazz, soul and funk sounds of Stabilo followed by fireworks and skating to DJ music. Nathan Phillips Square, 100 Queen Street West. Info: 416 338-0338 or www.toronto.ca/special_events. 7:00 pm.

Sunday, December 17th

Festive Sights Event. Free. Classic film, Holiday Inn (1942), followed by Holiday Traditions from Around the World featuring folk performances by Ecuador. Yonge-Dundas Square, Yonge St. and Dundas St. E. Info: 416 979-9960 or www.ydsquare.ca. Film, 12:00 noon. Performance, 2:00 pm.

Solstice Event and Walk. Free. Lost Rivers Walk explores the Taddle and historic University of Toronto buildings and points of interest. Meet in front of Hart House, 7 Hart House Circle. Info: 416 593-2656 or www.torontofieldnaturalists.org. 2:00 pm.

Monday, December 18th

Chanukah Celebration Event. Free. Celebration includes lighting of the menorah, music, entertainment and more. Queens Park. Info: 905 731-7000. 5:00 pm.

Tuesday, December 19th

Chamber Music Performance. Free. Ben Bowman and Mayumi Seiler present Schnittke: Salutes Mozart and Shostakovich, a unique program involving two rarely heard violin duos by the Russian master, Alfred Schnittke. Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre, Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen St. W. Info: 416 363-6671 or www.coc.ca. 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 20th

The Red Shoes Movie (1948). Free. Musical with Leslie Caron, based on the Hans Christian Andersen story. Beaches Library, 2161 Queen Street East. Info: 416 393-7703. 2:00 pm.

Fisherville Creek Walk. Free. The Great Rivers of North York presents this nature and historical walk with Alexander Cappell. Meet on the west side of New Westminster Dr. at the railroad tracks, a short walk north of Steeles Ave. W. Afternoon only. Info: 416 593-2656 or www.torontofieldnaturalists.org. 2:00 pm.

Seasonal Concert. Free. The Scarborough Sweet Adelines choir, specializing in the art of four-part a cappella harmony, sings Christmas and seasonal songs. Atrium, 2nd Floor, North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St. Info: 416 395-5535. 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Thursday, December 21st

ABC's of Ballet. Free. The National Ballet of Canada, presents a lecture demonstration exploring the language and movements of ballet with Peter Ottmann, Senior Ballet Master. Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre, Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen St. W. Info: 416 363-6671 or www.coc.ca. 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm.

Winter Solstice Celebration. Free. Event celebrating Winter Solstice. WonderWorks, 79A Harbord St. Info: 416 323-3131 or www.wonderworks.com. 7:00 pm.

Festival of Lights Celebration. Free. Winter Solstice celebration with parade of lights and music, followed by a celebration of fire in Bellevue Park. Bring candle, lantern or glow stick, a noisemaker and dress warmly. Kensington Market, south of College St., west of Spadina Ave. 6:00 – 10:00 pm.

Friday, December 22nd

CBC Museum and Graham Spry Theatre. Free. Museum showcases the history and stories of the 70 years of the CBC. View classic episodes from the archives. CBC Museum and Graham Spry Theatre, Canadian Broadcasting Centre, 250 Front St. W. Info: 416 205-5574. Mon – Fri, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Saturday, December 23rd

Hastings Creek Walk. Free. History/nature walk with leader, Ian Wheal. Meet at Donlands Subway Station entrance. 1:30 pm.

Festive Sights Event. Free. Classic film, White Christmas (1954), followed by Family Concert with Sho, Mo & the Monkey Bunch. Yonge-Dundas Square, Yonge St. and Dundas St. E. Info: 416 979-9960 or www.ydsquare.ca. Film, 12:00 noon. Performance, 2:00 pm.

Sunday, December 24th

Festive Sights Event. Free. Classic film, It's a Wonderful Life (1946). Yonge-Dundas Square, Yonge St. and Dundas St. E. Info: 416 979-9960 or www.ydsquare.ca. Film, 12:00 noon.

Monday, December 25th

Gerstein Centre Christmas Day Open House. Free. Annual Open house. Food provided. Everyone welcomed. Gerstein Crisis Centre, 100 Charles St. E. Info: 416 929-0149. 1:00 – 4:00 pm.

Scott Mission Christmas Dinner. Free. Christmas meal. Two sittings. Scott Mission, 502 Spadina Ave. Info: 416 923-8872. 10:30 am. 11:30 am.

Tuesday, December 26th

Toronto Zoo Annual Christmas Treats Walk. Free. 31st Annual Event where Siberian tigers, reindeer and other animals receive their seasonal goodies. Strolling carollers perform and free hot chocolate, served following the walk. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the food bank. Dress warmly. Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave. Info: 416 392-5900 or www.torontozoo.com/specialevents. 10:00 am.

Wednesday, December 27th

A Case of Considerable Interest: Treasures from the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection Exhibition. Free. Exhibition celebrates the 35th anniversary of the Arthur Conan Doyle Collection. This exhibition showcases rare and unusual books, film posters, manuscripts and memorabilia. TD Gallery, Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St. Info: 416 393-7158. Mon - Thurs, 10:00 am – 8:00 pm. Fri - Sat, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Sun, 1:30 - 5:00 pm.

Thursday, December 28th

Colonel Samuel Smith Park Walk. Free. Toronto Field Naturalists explores the birds in the area, with leader Doug Paton. Bring lunch and binoculars. Meet at the south west corner of Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Kipling Ave. Info: 416 593-2656 or www.torontofieldnaturalists.org. 10:00 am.

Dance Performance. Free. Internationally acclaimed dancer-choreographer Rina Singha presents, The Ancient Art of Kathak Explained. Kathak, the classical dance of the ancient temple storytellers of Northern India, explores stories about Indian life, traditions and biblical tales. Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre, Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, 145 Queen St. W. Info: 416 363-6671 or www.coc.ca. 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm.

Friday, December 29th

A Collected View: Ten Years of Photography Acquisitions, 1995 – 2005 Exhibition. Free. Exhibition of photographs featuring collected works from renowned photographers over the last decade. Show extended until Jan. 17th. City of Toronto Archives, 255 Spadina Rd. Info: 416 397-0778 or www.toronto.ca/archives. Mon - Fri, 9:00 - 4:30 pm.

Saturday, December 30th

Building Blocks: Queen Street West 1847 – 1890 Exhibition. Free. Exhibition explores the history of Queen St. W. during a time of growth through photographs, maps, plans and drawings from tender calls. Exhibition continues to Feb. 25, 2006. The Market Gallery, South St. Lawrence Market, 95 Front St. E. Info: 416 392-7120 or www.stlawrencemarket.com. 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Sunday, December 31st

Toronto Zoo's 4th Annual New Year's Eve Family Countdown. \$9.50 (Adults) - \$5.50 (Children 4-12). Family New Year's Event with entertainment including the gang from the Comfy Couch and Little Bear, buskers and more. Toronto Zoo, 361A Old Finch Ave. Info: www.torontozoo.com/specialevents or

416 392-5900. 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

City TV's Traditional New Year's Eve Bash. Free. Alcohol-free New Year's celebration featuring music and events. Broadcast live on City TV. Nathan Phillips Square, 100 Queen St. W. Info: 416 591-5757 or www.toronto.ca/special_events. Starting at 10:30 pm.

Announcements

The C/S Info Centre is holding our first ever Book Sale

Monday December 18 at CAMH 1001 Queen Street 11:00 am – 2:00 pm &

Tuesday December 19 at CAMH 250 College Street 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

We will be selling books for a very worthwhile cause:

To Send the Bulletin to Consumer/Survivors!

Please come out and support our book sale. There will be hundreds of books of all types. We will accept cash or postage stamps as payment for the books. A lot of these books are from the estate of a psychiatrist and were donated to us to help with our work. We need money to pay for postage for the Bulletin to go out to Consumer/Survivors who do not have access to a computer or email.

Reasonable prices and lots of variety.

**I need a few people to come out and help with the sale either Mon or Tuesday.
Call me – Helen - 416 595-2882 or csinfo@camh.net.**

In our last issue we asked Agency Subscribers who receive the C/S Info Bulletin by mail to convert their subscription to e-mail, if possible. Thank you to all those who switched over their subscriptions. We still have a number of Agency and Service Providers who receive the Bulletin by post. Please convert your subscription from mail to e-mail so that we can continue to mail the Bulletin to people who need to receive it by mail. To convert your subscription contact us at 416 595-2882 or csinfo@camh.net.

CRCT Holiday Happenings 2006 Edition



Once again this year, Community Resource Connections of Toronto (CRCT) has produced its popular Holiday Happenings publication, which lists many free and inexpensive things for consumer/survivors (and everyone else!) to do in Toronto during the month of December and on New Year's Day.

This new edition of Holiday Happenings has been posted to the web site, www.crct.org in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format. Visit the home page of CRCT's web site where you will find a link to the online version of Holiday Happenings.

Feel free to download the publication and make as many copies of it as you wish.

CORRECTION – CRCT HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS DECEMBER 2006 EDITION City of Toronto Special Events has advised us that the Canadian Brass Annual Christmas Concert scheduled for December 23 at Roy Thomson Hall and listed on page 10 of Holiday Happenings, is in fact not free. Ticket prices are actually \$29.50 - \$59.50. The City is revising the information on their web site, and CRCT has revised accordingly the pdf file of Holiday Happenings which is available for viewing/downloading from our home page www.crct.org. The download file was revised around 1:30 pm on November 30, 2006, so downloads done after that date will have the correct information.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

Obsessive Compulsives Anonymous

Asked us to pass along this message:

We trust all is well and wish everyone a happy upcoming holiday season. We can't use our venue for three consecutive Tuesday evenings over the holidays. We meet on Tuesday, December 12th and 19th, 2006 from 6 pm. - 7:30 pm. at our meeting location: Romero House 1558 Bloor Street West near Dundas Street West (close to Dundas West TTC subway station). We will not meet on December 26th, 2006 (holiday closure) or January 2nd, 2007 (holiday closure) or January 9th 2007 (holiday closure). Our meeting will resume at our meeting location and regular time (see above) on Tuesday January 16th, 2007.

F.A.M.E.

Family Association for Mental Health Everywhere
Presents

MEDICATIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH

An update on current medications used for various mental health concerns.
Presentation will include new medications, side effects and how to manage them.

Guest Speaker: Wende Wood, R.Ph., B.A., B.S.P., B.C.P.P.
Drug Use Evaluation Pharmacist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Wednesday, January 3, 2006 at 7:00 - 8:30 pm. At Royal Canadian Legion, 110 Jutland Rd., Etobicoke, West Side of Islington, South of Bloor. For more info and to register please call Mary at 416 207-5032 x 29

Breakaway Survivors

Self –Esteem and How to Beat the Winter Blues. A group for Consumer/Survivors will be held on Tuesday afternoons starting January 16th. The group will be held in the Spadina and Bloor Street area and will be held in the afternoons starting at 1:00. For more information, and to register for the group, please call 416 923-6040.

Public Appointment Opportunities

The City is asking residents of Toronto to step forward and take advantage of opportunities to make a difference. Civic-minded volunteers are being asked to serve on challenging and interesting quasi-judicial bodies and City boards of directors that deliver key City services.

Application deadline is: 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2007

For more information and to download application forms,
please visit: <http://www.toronto.ca/citizen-appointments/index.htm>

The Mood Disorders Association Ontario (MDAO) is starting a new program,

Drumming to Your Own Beat !

Instructions by Zephie of the Amazing Parkdale Drummers

- No experience necessary • Limit of 12 students • Drums, maracas and cowbells provided

The group will meet on Tuesday Nights from January 9 – March 13, 2007
(there will be no class on March 6, 2006)

For more information contact Donna at 416 486-8046 or donna@mooddisorders.on.ca
Toronto Central
Local Health Integration Network

Directors - part-time

The Government of Ontario seeks candidates to be Directors for the Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). LHINs are a key component of Ontario's plan to make the health care system more patient-centred and responsive to local health care needs. The Ontario government's vision is that LHINs will respond to local population needs by planning, coordinating, integrating and funding the delivery of health services in each of the 14 LHIN geographic regions.

As a member of the Board of Directors, each Director is responsible for directing the affairs of the LHIN in accordance with applicable legislation, constituting documents, approved strategic and business plans and government policies established and communicated by the Minister of Health and Long Term Care.

Directors are appointed by Order-in-Council for a term of up to three years, subject to a one-year renewal.

An application form, quoting **file number PAS 0629**, must be received by **January 5, 2007**.

All application forms must be addressed to:

Public Appointments Secretariat
Whitney Block, Room 2440
Toronto Ontario M7A 1A1

Downloadable application forms are available at www.pas.gov.on.ca. Alternatively, you can apply online.

Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

Wellness and Recovery Newsletter – Our fourth issue of the quarterly publication that CRCT - Community Resource Connections of Toronto – and the C/S Info Centre cooperate on will be sent out later this month. It's free to receive by mail or email, but you have to subscribe. If you haven't already, call us at 416 595-2882 or email us at csinfo@camh.net to be put on the subscribers' list.

Job Postings

Raging Spoon Catering
Driver/Delivery Person

Hours: Part Time/Casual/Flexible hours. **Salary:** \$9.50/ hour (to start)

Qualifications: must be a consumer/survivor; class G Licence (with no restrictions).

To apply: fill out an application at the Raging Spoon Catering, 761 Queen Street West (west of Bathurst Street) For more information contact: Michael at 416 504-6128



Houselink Community Homes

Houselink Community Homes, a non-profit organization providing housing and support to people who live with serious mental illness, is seeking to fill this position.

Lead Accounting Staff Full-Time, Permanent

This position requires an advanced understanding and working knowledge of accounting principles and ACCPAC ERP.

Responsibilities

Key account reconciliations, preliminary reports, maintaining internal controls, banking and integration of accounting functions.

Skills, Knowledge and Experience Required

- advanced understanding & working knowledge of accounting principles as applied to the non-profit sector
- understanding and knowledge of multi-departmental reporting in the non profit sector and specifically mental health and housing would be an asset
- ability to communicate accounting practices and procedures to other staff and members
- ability to understand what other staff and members want from the accounting department
- good communication skills and ability to work with staff and members from diverse backgrounds
- ability to learn & implement procedures and guidelines
- ability to evaluate systems and suggest improvements
- strong attention to detail
- ability to work as a member of a team
- knowledge of and ability to work with ACCPAC for Windows
- knowledge and experience with spread sheet, word processing and data base programs

**For more information about this position, see the complete job description at:
www.houselink.on.ca**

Starting Salary is \$42,425 plus benefits

Apply in writing by December 27, 2006, Quoting File # LAS222 to:

Hiring Committee, Lead Accounting Staff
Houselink Community Homes
805 Bloor Street West
Toronto, ON M6G 1L8

No phone calls please. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
Applications are encouraged from psychiatric survivors, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, people of colour, women, gays and lesbians.