

# The Link

AUGUST 2004

## From the office of the Executive Director

### ***Are we building a house or just laying the bricks....***

*I've been challenged by this statement in particular with our work here at ACSC. We are very appreciative of our community partners and are striving for new ways of getting our message out into the community of Simcoe County. I am thrilled to report that we have forged a strong and viable partnership with The NEW VR. Lance Chilton, VR News, is a strong supporter of ACSC and is very instrumental in launching a new TV campaign which will air in late August and early September to pave the way for the AIDS Walk for Life on September the 25th and to inject a fresh look at the movement here in Simcoe County. The campaign slogan; "AIDS...It's not who you think"; depicts a grand mother with her grand daughter in a playful scene shot here in Barrie this past July. We are very excited and appreciate The New VR 's active partnership with us in advancing AIDS Awareness in Simcoe County.*

*A warm welcome to Sarah Keys who is with us for the summer as our H.O.P.E. Troupe facilitator. And welcome to our newest H.O.P.E. Troupe members. Thanks for taking up the challenge.*

*Some of the upcoming events which ACSC is involved with:*

- *August 8 - 15 - Pride Week - H.O.P.E. Theatre Group live performance*
- *August 19 - Chippewa's of Mnjikaning First Nation 19th Annual Health Fair - Women's Health Issues.*
- *September 22 - Greater Barrie Chamber of Commerce - Fall Trade Show*
- *September 25 - The AIDS Walk for Life will have a tent set up in Centennial Park which will offer refreshments and a Silent Auction in support of our client services here at ACSC.*
- *October 13 - 15 - Opening Doors - both Tiff and I sit on this committee and we are very much involved in planning and active during the three day event.*

It's been an exciting six months with many positive changes here at ACSC. Although we may be fewer in our staffing of the agency we are totally committed to furthering our mandate into new fields of opportunity. We have had many speaking engagements from the Barrie Collegiate, Canada Career & Georgian Colleges and in both the Public and Private Schools of Simcoe County. We seek to forge new partnerships with the Rotary Clubs and within the Corporate Sector. Tiff has been extremely busy with our Client Support Services along with many additional tasks that she has voluntarily taken on. Also thanks to all of you who actively keep ACSC in your thoughts.

***Being aware is to care.....***

#### ACSC STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
GERRY CROTEAU

SUPPORT COORDINATOR  
TIFF IDEMS

HOPE THEATRE COORDINATOR  
SARAH KEYS

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

BOARD CHAIR  
SHARON SILK

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE CHAIR  
GWEN CRUMP

## H.O.P.E Theatre Troupe Update

So, as some of you may already know H.O.P.E is in the process of undergoing a lot of changes. After hiring a new coordinator the recruitment began. As of right now, there are still positions in H.O.P.E available to youth who are interested in acting, educating, and exploring fun ways to do some community service! The current members of H.O.P.E are working on performing a few skits throughout Simcoe County Pride Week and they will also be doing outreach at the all ages dances being held at Club C'est La Vie. The H.O.P.E Theatre Troupe Coordinator position has turned out to be as exciting and challenging as I knew it would be. I am doing my best to give the program the energy and enthusiasm it needs. I am super excited to see what the program can do for high schools and other community centres in the fall, things are looking great! Thank you!

Sarah Keys - H.O.P.E theatre troupe coordinator.

# Get ready for the AIDS Walk for Life 2004!

On Saturday, September 25th, 2004  
from 6:30-8:30 pm

ACSC invites all clients, friends, supporters and community members to join us for this year's AIDS Walk for Life and Silent Auction. We will be walking by candlelight along Barrie's beautiful waterfront!

Registration information and sponsorship forms are now available!

We are at 80 Bradford Street, Suite 336, Barrie, ON.

For more information please call Tiff or Gerry at 722-6778

## Support Coordinator's Update

Happy Summer 2004! I have been focusing a great deal of attention on the planning and organizing of a Community Kitchen program for 2004, as well as on other client-based programs and services. We'd like to see the Community Kitchen program up-and-running in the fall. At the same time, there have been many other demands on my time. Since Tracy left ACSC in May, I have been involved in AIDS Walk for Life and silent auction planning, and have taken on the formatting and distribution of The Link.

For those of you who would like to attend this year's Opening Doors conference, the registration forms and conference information will be available soon. The conference dates are confirmed as being Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> (PHA Day), Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. This year, partner's of PHAs will not be permitted to stay at Bayview Wildwood Resort on PHA day or the subsequent night, as this has posed problems in past years.

I did a mail-out to all clients of ACSC in early June outlining the current programs and services that are available at ACSC, and am still looking for input regarding possibilities for other programs and services that you'd like to see. Feel free to contact me at 705-722-6778 with any suggestions that you might have. I am working on getting a vitamin program launched, and would like to see it involve a Good Food Box program (low cost, fresh foods). There is so much potential for ongoing empowering client programming at ACSC. As we address funding issues and constraints, I'm sure that we will see our dreams for more accessible and empowering services and programs realized! There are exciting ideas for an Arts program at ACSC in the works!

Take care and play safe, Tiff Idems

## Celebrating Diversity: Simcoe County Pride Week

**August 8th-15th, 2004 is Pride Week in Simcoe County. Here's a list of events that will be happening throughout the week!**

- **Sunday, August 8th — T-Dance @ Club C'est La Vie, 23 Collier St., Barrie. 3:00-8:00PM. \$5.00 admission — BBQ available.**
- **Monday, August 9th — Flag Raising @ Barrie City Hall followed by reception @ Club C'est La Vie**
- **Tuesday, August 10th — All Ages Dance @ Club C'est La Vie. 7:00-11:00PM. No Cover. Performance by ACSC's H.O.P.E. Theatre Troupe!**
- **Friday, August 13th — Pride Boat Cruise on the Serendipity Princess. For \$30 advance tickets and information call 705-718-2220, includes late buffet @ Club C'est La Vie.**
- **Saturday, August 14th — Baseball—Call Mickey @ 792-1798 to register a team or individuals. Wind-down dance @ Club C'est La Vie. No Cover.**
- **Sunday, August 15th — Pride Worship Service —1:00PM @ the Simcoe County Metropolitan Community Church located @ 350 Grove St. E. Barrie.**
- **Sunday, August 15th — Pride Potluck Picnic — 2:30PM @ St. Vincent Park. Fun, Food, Games, Craft Tables and more...!**

## **Artists Unite in Support of ACSC**

We are welcoming submissions/ donations of artwork for our silent auction at this year's AIDS Walk for Life event. All proceeds from the silent auction will go toward the client-based programs and services of the AIDS Committee of Simcoe County. We provide support, advocacy, education, referrals, and a variety of other services that include the provision of vitamins/supplements, massage therapy, community kitchen programs, as well as emergency financial aid to people living with HIV/AIDS in Simcoe County.

We encourage original contributions from local artists who work with various mediums and techniques (ie. Watercolour, Oil, Photography, Pottery, Stained Glass, Quilting, etc.).

**Submission Deadline: *Thursday, August 26th, 2004***

**AIDS Walk for Life Art Exhibit/Silent Auction Date: *Saturday, September 25th, 2004***

Submissions will be accepted by mail and on-site at the AIDS Committee of Simcoe County. Please include a brief bio and synopsis of your work(s). **To electronically submit relevant information, please email: [acscsupport@rogers.com](mailto:acscsupport@rogers.com).**

**By regular mail or appointment:  
Tiff Idems, Support Coordinator  
AIDS Committee of Simcoe County  
80 Bradford Street, Suite 336  
Barrie, ON  
L4N 6S7  
Telephone: 705-722-6778**

We reserve the right to refuse any submissions that do not reflect the mission/ values/ goals of ACSC.

Our goal is to build strong partnerships with community members in order to raise awareness surrounding HIV/AIDS in Simcoe County, as well as to provide services that improve the quality of life of our clients. Furthermore, we aim to provide public space for local artists to showcase their work for the benefit of community members who are infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. We need your support!



### **AIDS WALK 2004 : *Mark your Calendars!***



This year many exciting new changes are being planned for our Annual AIDS Walk. The date for this year's AIDS Walk is set for Saturday, September 25. For the first time, we are having a candlelit evening walk along Barrie's beautiful waterfront. Registration Info and Pledge Forms are now available. E-mail or call Gerry or Tiff for information on sponsorship, volunteering, and various other opportunities for participation. We can be reached at ACSC's office, 722-6778, or via e-mail at [acscinfo@rogers.com](mailto:acscinfo@rogers.com).



AIDS Committee of Simcoe County

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:

THE NEW VR

MediaLinx

Big Fish Video

Glaxo Smith Kline

## Liz's Corner

### Warmth

How many kinds of warmth do you know,  
And which one do you like most,  
The warmth of a sunny summer day,  
Or the warmth of fresh toasted toast.

The warmth of a fire on a snowy day,  
The warmth of a child's hug when he comes in from play,  
The warmth of a love that's deep and true,  
Or the warmth of the fragrance of flowers in May.

Of all the warmth in this big world,  
I don't think I would ever trade,  
The warmth of belonging to the ones I love,  
The nicest people that God ever made...

By: Liz Branham

## LGBTT2IQQ Youth Drop-In

**On the third Thursday of each month, we hold a drop-in session between 6 and 8 pm for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Transexual, 2-spirited, Intersexed, Queer and Questioning Youth ages 14-24. Our aim is to provide a safe, supportive space for LGBT youth who are at risk of HIV transmission, abuse, homelessness, poverty and homophobia. If you are interested in this program, or if you know someone who may be interested, feel free to drop-in or contact us at any time.**

**Call Tiff @ 722-6778 for more details.**

***Remember to join us on***

***September 25th***

***for the***

***AIDS Walk for Life 2004***

