

MRS. LUCCI'S
RESOURCE CENTRE
ANNUAL REPORT
2014-2015



MISSION STATEMENT

Helping to foster the wellbeing of the community and the people within it.

Board of Directors 2014-15

Linda Rowbottom - Chairperson

Carol Nilsson - Vice Chair

Wendy Fontaine - Member

Christine Bruneau - Treasurer

Dianne Lussier - Vice Chair

Norma Hrysio - Member

Values

To fulfill the organization's mission, and to ensure a safe and trusting environment, Mrs. Lucci's Resource Centre Inc. is guided by a set of seven operating principles or values. These values are essential to our success and are therefore held in the highest regard by our staff, board, and volunteers.

- 1- **Wellbeing** - We encourage and support a balanced healthy lifestyle for our clients and staff to be effective in all that we do.
- 2- **Humor** - Laughter is highly valued in our organization. It builds rapport and trust in our relationships, and it helps maintain wellness and balance at work.
- 3- **Teamwork** - Staff, board, partners and volunteers work together as a family to create new possibilities and to keep the organization running smoothly. We combine our strengths and assist each other to succeed.
- 4- **Learning** - Our strength comes from information, knowledge, and learning. We each have much to learn and to teach.
- 5- **Nonjudgmental** - We are respectful, tolerant and accepting of all people. We treat everyone equally and accept each other as we are.
- 6- **Empathy** - We seek to understand and support our clients and team members by being open minded and caring.
- 7- **Quality Programming** - We conduct programs that are of high quality, and are responsive to the diverse needs of the community. We are proactive in seeking input to assess programming needs on a continual basis. We program to fill gaps in the community and we avoid duplication of services.

RESOURCE CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

- 1- To work in partnership for all ages and with all agencies to enhance the income, social status and social support networks of community members.
- 2- To create and maintain an opportunity for greater communication between service providers and clients, ensuring that programming and services are client focused.
- 3- To work with parents and children maximizing all children's potential for success through healthy early childhood development.
- 4- To create opportunities that will maximize an individual's success within a variety of diverse learning environments.

OTHER INITIATIVES IN ACTION AND/OR DEVELOPMENT:

- a) public relations strategy
- b) store donations to low income families
- c) community meeting space
- d) administrative support and message center for clients
- e) store donations to other charities, ie. Canadian Diabetes Found.
- f) operation of 2 second hand stores
- g) community bulletin board in lobby - resources, pamphlets

BACKGROUND

Mrs. Lucci's Resource Centre is a non-profit organization operating in the community of Lac du Bonnet. Since opening in August 1998, it has been providing residents in the community and surrounding area with a variety of services.

In October 2004, Mrs. Lucci's moved to the new facility at 76 Third Street. In January 2005, Families First and Healthy Baby, two North Eastman Health Association programs, moved into one of the rental offices on the second floor. Office space is also rented out to the area Health Inspector, as well as Child and Family Services.

The primary facility is approx. 4,700 sq. ft. It contains a second hand store, large classroom space, kitchen, a resource space, main floor office, a multipurpose room and a second story with a board room and four offices.

EXCITING NEWS - in June 2015 Mrs. Lucci's was pleased to be able to open our second location, Lucci's TOO!, *Fabulous Finds on Fourth*. This is our new second hand furniture and housewares store that was made possible by our participation in the Adult Supported Living Program. The new store is located at 67 Park Avenue, but we use the side door on Fourth St. The space includes a showroom, storage room, workshop, office space, and staff/client meeting room.

As of July, 2015, Mrs. Lucci's has given over \$200,000.00 back to the community. Community organizations volunteer in the used clothing store for 2 weeks at a time, 27 hours/week, and in return their organization receives a \$500.00 donation.

In the 2014-2015 year, Mrs. Lucci's received operating funding from:
Healthy Child Manitoba
Sunrise School Division
CFS - Adult Supported Living Program

CFS (rent) Health Inspector (rent) IERHA (rent)

STAFF

1. Executive Director and ALP Teacher; KAREN KOST
 - wages mainly paid by Sunrise SD - classroom teacher - fulltime
 - some wages paid by HCM and facility revenue

2. ALP Classroom Coordinator; KRISTIN EASTON
 - is a Lucci employee, but wages paid by Sunrise SD (on contract)
 - duties include; high school liaison; assists students with course work; handles all referrals to outside agencies when needed; student support services

3. Facility Accountant; CHRISTINE BRUNEAU
 - monthly financial preparations and record-keeping, payroll

4. Community Outreach Worker; TORRIE FERENS
 - wages paid by Healthy Child Manitoba
 - duties include; supporting individuals/families; school liaison and advocate for parents; working with families involved with CFS
 - maintenance and upkeep of the building

5. Executive Assistant; JANICE ENRIGHT
 - Administrative assistant and clerical support for all programs
 - Lease agreements, HCM reporting, AP and AR

6. Store Supervisor; DEBBIE KETTLES
 - wages paid through revenues from the store, as well as through CFS as a support worker for Adult Supported Living Program
 - duties include; all store operations including coordinating and supervising volunteers

7. Lucci's TOO! Store Manager; KEEGAN SVEINSON

8. Adult Supported Living Day Program;
 - DEBRA SCHWEDER - Program Coordinator
 - Support Workers - KIM TRAPP, CHERYL ZAWISLAK, CRYSTAL BRUNEAU, DEBBIE KETTLES, LORI LYNN KOKE

STORE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

Lac du Bonnet Regional library	LdB Arena Board
Little Buddies Nursery school	LdB Christmas Hamper Committee
LdB Bowling League	Two Rivers Services to Seniors
Centennial School Parent Advisory Council	
Abundant Life Church	LdB Quilters
LdB Food Bank	Horticultural Society
LdB Lions Club	LdB Curling Club
Anglican Church	Health Auxiliary
Catholic Church	Two Rivers Services for Seniors
Lutheran Church	LdB Historical Society
Pioneer Club	Knights of Columbus

Some organizations have volunteered more than once during the fiscal year.

COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING

Every year, Mrs. Lucci's has provided services and/or supports to over 300 individuals in the community. All services, supports and programs are developed based on community needs and exist to fill in gaps in service delivery.

2014-15 HEALTHY CHILD MANITOBA programs -

BABYSITTING COURSE

Mrs. Lucci's pays for all students in grade 6 to receive the babysitting training course. We feel that it is important for all young adults to understand the safety and developmental needs of children who are in their care.

HOME ALONE PROGRAM

To ensure that all children in grade 4 learn the basic home safety rules, in the event that they are ever left home alone for short periods of time

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

A 6-week cooking class is made available for children in grades 1-6. The focus is on cooking safety and nutrition. This program has a fee of \$30. Mrs. Lucci's is able to pay the fee for several children per session who would not otherwise be able to afford to attend. This program is offered to children in 3 age groups (grades 1 & 2, grades 3 & 4, and grades 5 & 6), once each throughout the year.

PARENT/CHILD NETWORKING GROUP -

We continue to offer a parenting group called Parents Helping Parents. This program works to create support for parents of young children. Our program takes place every Tuesday morning for any parents in the community who wish to attend. Guest speakers are invited to come in to address the group at various times throughout the year, to discuss topics that are relevant to their lives and concerns.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES BURSARY-

Mrs. Lucci's supplied Centennial school with the funds necessary to purchase school supplies for those children who are not financially able to pay for them themselves.

SKATING PROGRAM - Mrs. Lucci's also pays for a skating program for all Centennial School students at the LdB Arena, to promote physical activity and fitness.

FAMILY THERAPIST - Mrs. Lucci's partnered with a family therapist to offer 6 weeks (once/week) of family therapy sessions to interested families in April and May. If there is enough interest in this project, the therapist would consider

continuing to offer his services in our area in the fall so that more families could make use of his guidance and expertise.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN BOOST - In cooperation with Little Day Buddies Nursery School, Mrs. Lucci's was able to offer the families of all 4 year old students the opportunity to attend nursery school one additional day/week for the months of May and June at no extra cost. This program was implemented to give the pre-K kids additional time to increase their school readiness skills right before the summer break, so that they may be more prepared for the demands of Kindergarten in September.

SUMMER CAMPS - Mrs. Lucci's is sponsoring 16 children (who otherwise would not be able to afford to go) to attend various summer camps that are being offered by the WRRD over July and August.

PANTRY TO PLATE - In partnership with the IERHA dietician, Mrs. Lucci's sponsored a program one Monday per month throughout the year, during the hours that the local food bank was open. Any interested individuals could come into the Lucci's café kitchen and learn how to prepare nutritious and affordable meals with some of the food products that they might receive from the food bank. Budgeting and shopping for sale prices was also discussed.

LUNCH AND LEARN - On 7 Fridays, from March to June (and one in November 2014) clients were invited to join us for lunch in the café. The lunches were prepared by some of the ALP staff and students (as a component of the Life Skills curriculum), and were based on a different ethnic cuisine each week. The parents could choose the topic of discussion that interested them the most - we were fortunate to get guest speakers from a variety of domains, including EIA, stress management and meditation, elementary school staff, Public Health, etc.

Mrs. Lucci's/Centennial School - Healthy Child Proposal -

Mrs. Lucci's made funds available to Centennial school to support the following activities which included/could include children in the early years category;

*Grade 3 & 4 Homework Club -

This program ran twice/week from Oct to June. During this period, students were invited and/or recommended by their teachers to receive individualized help

completing their homework. The students who complete their homework early will have a chance to play a variety of board and /or learning games with the program leader. Snacks are provided.

**Reading to Children -*

Mrs. Lucci's funds this program, which provides students with an opportunity to read aloud to an adult, on a regular basis, in order to complete their Book Bag/agenda requirements.

** After School Friendship Programs/Grade 6 Girls Club -*

Once/week from October to May, a group of elementary students attend an after school program at Centennial School that helps support and develop social skills. The students first get together and enjoy a nutritious snack, and then they go on to participate in activities and games that encourage cooperative play. For example, concern was identified regarding the need to provide grade 6 girls with the necessary skills to enter high school. Focus groups with the girls were held to give them an opportunity to identify their needs and concerns. As a result an after school program was developed to meet their needs.

ADULT PROGRAMS:

ADULT SUPPORTED LIVING PROGRAM (for adults with cognitive disabilities) -

Day Services include a range of supports and training to help individuals to participate in the community through a variety of community based activities. In many cases the daily plan will include supported employment and follow-up services (support individuals in paid jobs in community settings), as well as vocationally focused services (help develop, maintain and enhance vocational and social skills). These services will be provided at various locations throughout our community. Personal development services will also be emphasized, in order to develop, maintain and enhance an individual's personal care and social skills, emotional growth, physical development, and community skills.

SUNRISE SCHOOL DIVISION program -

ALP CLASSROOM

In partnership with Sunrise School Division, a transitional classroom was developed with Mrs. Lucci's. The focus of this classroom is to provide opportunities and supports for students who are not achieving success in the regular high school program

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATION

INFORMATION/ADVOCACY/SUPPORT

Mrs. Lucci's provides advocacy support to individuals who request assistance in writing letters to, and/or attending meetings with agencies such as the school, daycare, Social Assistance, CFS, EI and landlords. Many community members drop by the Centre requesting information on a variety of issues. Lucci's staff works with the individuals to best answer their questions and to make the appropriate referrals when necessary. Time is always given to community members as all programs have originated from an expressed need.

Membership on different community/provincial organizations;

LAC DU BONNET PRESCHOOL NETWORK

LAC DU BONNET AREA FOOD BANK

IERHA programs that are located in Mrs. Lucci's facility;

Families First and Healthy Baby

Health Inspector