

MRS. LUCCI'S RESOURCE CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Board of Directors 2020-2021

Linda Rowbottom - Chairperson

Norma Hrysio - Member

Teri Usackis - Vice Chair

Gail Nesbitt - Member

Penny Osis - 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 Interlake Eastern Regional 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.

LUCCI'S TOO! - Fabulous Finds on Fourth - 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.

LUCCI'S 3 - CLUBHOUSE

In May of 2018 Mrs. Lucci's purchased a commercial property across the street from our main location on Third St, and it has since been named Lucci's 3. It was purchased to give a "home" to the Adult Services day program activities. There is a small rental unit (suitable as a small office space) at the front of the building.

TRUCK

In the summer of 2017 Mrs. Lucci's was awarded a grant from Manitoba Community Services Council in the amount of \$15,000. With these funds we were very excited to purchase a used truck for our second hand furniture store. We are now able to pick up and deliver furniture items for our store when customers are unable to do so themselves. The Adult Services participants are encouraged to help out with the furniture moving as part of their day program activities.

As of July, 2021, Mrs. Lucci's has given over \$240,000.00+ 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 2020-2021 year, Mrs. Lucci's received operating funding from:
Healthy Child Manitoba
Prov of Manitoba - Family Services - Adult Supported Living Program

CFS (rent)
Health Inspector (rent)
IERHA (rent)
Sunrise School Division (rent)

STAFF

1. Executive Director and ALP Teacher; KAREN KOST
2. ALP Classroom Coordinator; KRISTIN EASTON
3. Facility Accountant; CHRISTINE BRUNEAU
4. Community Outreach Worker; TORRIE FERENS
5. Executive Assistant/ HCM Program Coordinator; JANICE ENRIGHT

STORE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

Lac du Bonnet Regional library

LdB Christmas Hamper Committee 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 volunteer 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.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced Mrs. Lucci's to put many of our regular programs on hold for the past 18+ months. We have not been able to hold any programs on an in-person basis, so we have changed our program delivery to incorporate other methods, which include; telephone contacts, social media communications, off site and outdoor meetings, zoom meetings, etc. Our main funders require that participants in many of our programs must be fully vaccinated in order to attend. Mrs. Lucci's will once again return to regular programming once the pandemic has subsided and all Public Health requirements can be safely met.

2020-2021 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 1-4. 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 2 age groups (grades 1 & 2, and grades 3 & 4), 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.

SUMMER CAMPS - Mrs. Lucci's is sponsoring 12+ children (who otherwise would not be able to afford to go) each year 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.

WIGGLE GIGGLE MUNCH - This is a program for preschool age children and their parents that takes place once/week for 10 weeks, twice per year - once in the fall and again in the winter. Parents and kids enjoy organized music and movement

activities that are designed to promote personal wellness and physical activity. The participants then come together in a circle, play games, sing songs, and enjoy a healthy snack.

Mrs. Lucci's/Centennial School/HCM Partnership -

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.

***Cultivating Mindful School Communities -**

All Centennial School teachers and students will participate in a week long program (on a rotating basis throughout the school). Facilitated by Stephanie Lagare of Mindful Schools. This program focuses on self-regulation and self-understanding, body awareness, and improved mental health.

*** Grade 5/6 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.

* Boys Club - Similar format to Girls Club.

* Centennial School Lunch Program - Mrs. Lucci's and ALP staff, along with ALP clients, prepares and delivers healthy lunch items on a regular basis to Centennial School. Teachers help to identify those students who have come to school with no food, and they then have the opportunity to provide them with a healthy lunch. Make ahead and prepared items, such as muffins, soups, yogurt, fruits and veggies, etc, will be delivered to the school on an as-needed basis. The school informs Mrs. Lucci's when their supplies are getting low, and we then restock their canteen as soon as possible.

*Life Skills Program

A teacher at Cent School has identified a group of young children who are regularly left at home alone after school. She is teaching them about "kitchen survival" when they are alone, ie how to feed themselves safely when there is not an adult present. Also about safe practices in and around the home when young children are left alone.

*Experience Club and Summer Camps

These programs provide students with opportunities to build their cultural capital, by ensuring an awareness of basic life language that they will need to succeed in our society. The goal is to grow their vocabulary through positive life experiences.

We provide designated families who may require financial assistance with the opportunity to send their children to summer day camps and swimming lessons that are provided by the WRRD.

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. For students from Lac du Bonnet and Whitemouth Senior Schools.

**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.

IERHA programs that are located in Mrs. Lucci's facility:
Families First and Healthy Baby
MB Govt Health Inspector