

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**EXECUTIVE**

Paul Vandenberg - Chairman 519-647-3665  
Aant Koonstra - Vice-Chairman 519-647-3910  
Frederika (Ricky) Pronk - Secretary 519-751-4470  
Christine Stryker - Treasurer 519-448-3836

Email: peacehaventreas@gmail.com

**GENERAL BOARD MEMBERS**

Sylvia Lobbezoo 519-647-9704  
Peter VanEs 519-448-4340

**DEACON REPRESENTATIVES**

Dundas: Jan Droogendyk 519-449-5665  
Brantford: Gerry DeJong 519-448-1412  
Fenwick: Gary Pennings 289-821-4707  
Hamilton: Aant Koonstra 519-647-3910  
St. George: Ken Pennings 905-628-9407

**PUBLICATIONS**

Joni Bouma 519-448-3205 Email: wjbouma@msn.com



**BE A VOLUNTEER!**

If you have special interests or skills and have a heart for Christian service, we would love to hear from you. Check "Our Services" on this page and consider how you can help. Remember Peace Haven in your prayers.

**VOLUNTEER FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send the completed form to:  
6 Oneida Dr., Brantford, ON N3S 7X8

**OUR ORGANIZATION**

Peace Haven's Board is made up of deacon representatives from Free Reformed churches of Brantford, Dundas, Fenwick, Hamilton and St. George, in addition to interested Free Reformed church members.

**OUR MISSION**

To serve families and individuals with special needs. To work within the Free Reformed Churches to provide services for individuals with developmental disabilities, with the support of the church and local community.

**OUR SERVICES**

- Supervised residential services in an environment similar to the individual's family and church.
- Advise and assist deacons as requested and appropriate.
- Provide information to families for reference to agencies that offer suitable services.
- Respite care to relieve the family, either in-home or outside the home.
- Occasional weekend relief and for special events such as weddings, trips, etc.
- Help provide transportation to appointments.
- Promote and encourage "Care & Share" groups.

**OUR SUPPORT**

We depend on the Lord to provide by way of individual and family memberships, church offerings, donations and fund-raisers.

**DONOR/MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name: (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name/Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTRIBUTION PLAN**

- One-time Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Post-Dated Cheques Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Monthly Automatic Chequing (fill in below) Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
- Annual Membership - Payment of annual membership dues entitles the donor to all voting rights and privileges according to the By-Laws and Policies of Peace Haven.
- Individual: \$15.00 monthly or \$180.00 annually Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Family: \$20.00 monthly or \$240.00 annually Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other (Specify) Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

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**AUTOMATIC CHEQUING**

I hereby authorize Peace Haven, Free Reformed Association, to draw from my account on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of each month for payment until further notice.

In the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ / per month.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose or attach your first cheque marked VOID across its face. With this authorization and from the information recorded on this personal cheque, we will process all future monthly donations automatically. No further cheques are required. This authorization may be cancelled at any time followed by written notice.

Please make all cheques payable to: **PEACE HAVEN**  
Mail to: Christine Stryker, Treasurer, 63 Sunnyside Drive, St. George, ON N0E 1N0  
Tel. 519 448-3836

BN 83890 9521 RR0001

Email: peacehaventreas@gmail.com



**PEACE HAVEN NEWS** Volume 5, No. 2 Fall/Winter 2011

**Free Reformed Association**  
Serving Families and Individuals with Special Needs

*"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:10*

**FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

*"I will praise Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works and that my soul knoweth right well." Psalm 139:14*

This verse, from Psalm 139, makes us think of our Creator, and reflect on what God has created. Every human being is made by God. Each one is unique and fearfully and wonderfully made. As Spurgeon says, "Who could dissect a portion of the human frame without marvelling at its delicacy, and trembling at its frailty?" The Psalmist, although knowing much less detail of the human body than we know today, must stand in awe of this Creator and bow in reverence to Him. We can marvel, and should marvel, at the intricacy and the complexity of the human body, but there is more to be said. The animals, birds and fish are also very intricate and complex creatures. But there is a vast difference between the animals, fish and birds and humankind. How great is the fact that God has put a soul into man, making him the ruler "over all the fish of the sea and over the fowls of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth and over every creeping

thing that creepeth upon the earth" (Genesis 1:26). When man was created, he was made perfect and in the image of God. He was created with a never dying soul. Although sin has caused imperfection and has marred that image, yet we can say with the Psalmist that "I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works and that my soul knoweth right well". The psalmist points out that this gives us good reason to praise God.

As the Peace Haven organization continues to grow, we begin to see how much there is to learn about the human body and mind. We are meeting and coming in contact with more and more individuals with various special needs. There are quite a number of new families who have a loved one that is being cared for by the Peace Haven board and its staff. We see the impact that we can have in the lives of those who are recipients of this care. This has an impact not only on those who are cared for, but it affects our entire community. We continue to see the love and the support for Peace Haven, the residents of the homes and the individuals who are receiving respite care. Various choirs, (the Mattaniah Male choir, the Magnum Tuam Gloriam, the RCS school choir) have raised awareness and money this past year with fundraising concerts. There was an excellent turnout at the annual Pig Roast and willing hearts supported Peace Haven. We still see many volunteers helping out and getting involved in so many ways. The supporting churches and community continue to give generously. And why are we doing this? Is it because of what we see and read in this Psalm? We must realize that each of these people has a soul and that they too have been fearfully and wonderfully made. God has created each of them and we marvel at His works. Let us pray for the souls of these brothers and sisters, that the love of Christ may be made manifest in their hearts and lives.

It is of God's mercy and grace that we have been able to support many individuals with special needs this year again. May much prayer continue to be lifted up for the Peace Haven staff, the board, the residents and the many others who receive respite care. And may God receive all the praise and honour for his marvellous works.

**Paul Vandenberg**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Peace Haven ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 2011**

D.V. Thursday, November 3, 2011 at 8:00 p.m.

in the **Free Reformed Church of Hamilton**  
**1114 Old Mohawk Rd. Ancaster, Ontario**

**Speaker:**

**Dr. Benjamin Short**  
Retired Pastor, Instructor at Gillespie Academy, Woodstock, Ontario

**For more information contact:**

Paul Vandenberg, Chairman  
519-647-3665 (Home)  
or 519-720-9464 (Work)  
or  
Frederika Pronk, Secretary  
519-751-4470  
Email: pronk2@rogers.com

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

What an exciting and eventful summer we shared at Peace Haven this past summer! God has truly blessed and protected us as we went on numerous outings and events. All the persons supported have been healthy and blessed with rich and meaningful relationships, fun times and jobs.

## Respite Services

Respite services have increased substantially over the past several months. At the recommendation of the deacons and approval by the Board, trained staff is made available to support the family that has a child with a disability. This takes place either at the Peace Haven homes or by taking the child out for several hours. A Play Group meets regularly in the downstairs of #6 home, where the residents aid the staff. This "time out" is a great benefit not only to the parents, but also for the child(ren) and to Peace Haven. The residents and staff love having fun times and the extra children certainly provide a stimulating environment.

Peace Haven provided respite services to 10 children with a total of approximately 92 hours per week of staff supports throughout the summer months (not including sleepovers and a 3-day respite stay for Maria Versteeg who came to visit us in late August). In the fall we anticipate that approximately 51 hrs/wk of respite services (not including sleepovers) with supports will be required (see explanation for increase in respite care elsewhere in this Newsletter).

Some of this is funded through community services but most of it is through Peace Haven funding. Your support is very much appreciated for the daily operation of the two residential homes and for all the respite services Peace Haven provides on a daily/weekly/monthly basis for families. Thank you!

## Summer Activities

The highlights for this summer were camps/camping/cottage trip and the weekly trips to the beach. Some of the children for whom Peace Haven provides respite care also came along with their support 'buddy'/staff.

Weekly trips to the fitness centre and to local parks and beaches kept us 'getting into shape' and having fun! We were invited to Sarah's home to celebrate her birthday and the ladies enjoyed the pool too!

## A Resident Loses Her Mother

A sad loss for Connie was the passing away of her mom this summer. Connie had been prepared and supported by staff during her mother's illness and she lost weight, seeming to identify with her mom's inability to eat due to ALS. Connie still has tears, but her weight has increased and she is spending more time with her dad. The funeral took place in the Brantford Free Reformed Church, with a good number of the members of her former congregation, the Toronto FRC, in attendance. Connie was so pleased and excited to see them all. She continues to work at the Dunn Centre and participates in 'PH events and outings,' and even flew out west with a staff member.

## Resident Activities

Varick attended quite a few weeks of camp in the Brantford area and is going back to school in September. He was a real trooper at our cottage trip, being the only young guy with 8 ladies! It was wonderful to have the use of this roomy cottage, owned by a FRC member and accessible for Varick.

Jessica spent a week out west with her family for her brother's wedding and a week at Camp Shalom with her friends. She also had her friend, Jodi, spend several days with her while her housemates were gone on vacation. Jessica and Brenda also continued volunteering at the ReUse store in Brantford twice a week when available. Brenda shared family time at their camping trip and also volunteered for a week at CampFire as a counsellor. She is looking forward to volunteering at Rehoboth Christian School this fall and enjoys her work as Childcare Assistant in our Peace Haven Play Group held on Friday afternoons.

Sandra and Connie (with Lucy--staff) went to British Columbia for a vacation. Sandra also attended Anchor Camp, which was really nice for her because could visit with her 'old friends' from Anchor Homes, where she lived for a while. Lindsay continued her horseback riding lessons, work at the Dunn Centre and had a great time at our cottage trip at Sauble Beach in early August

Spending extra time over the long weekends with families was also a highlight for all the persons supported at Peace Haven!

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# TREASURER'S REPORT

Peace Haven is now approaching the end of another fiscal year. Again we have experienced God's goodness in providing for all our daily needs. The respite care services that Peace Haven provides has really expanded this year but despite the extra expense this has created, we can see that God has provided so that all of our financial obligations were met. Below you will find the financial report for the eleven months ending August 31, 2011. A complete financial statement and budget will be distributed prior to our annual membership meeting on November 3, 2011, D.V.

Please remember Peace Haven in your prayers and financial donations as we continue to provide these much needed services to those individuals and families in our midst with special needs.

**Christine Stryker - Treasurer**

## Peace Haven Financial Report: October 1, 2010 till August 31, 2011

| Revenue                                     | Year to Date Actual | Annual Budget    | Variance        |
|---|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Membership Fees                             | \$20,435            | \$20,000         | \$435           |
| Donations (members)                         | \$15,465            | \$30,000         | -\$14,535       |
| Donations (non-members FRC)                 | \$6,050             | \$10,000         | -\$3,950        |
| Donations (non-FRC)                         | \$7,898             | \$2,000          | \$5,898         |
| Church Collections                          | \$88,758            | \$90,000         | -\$1,242        |
| Fundraisers                                 | \$54,203            | \$30,000         | \$24,203        |
| Corporate Donations (FRC)                   | \$4,325             | \$12,000         | -\$7,675        |
| Corporate Donations (non-FRC)               | \$6,000             | \$0              | \$6,000         |
| Resident Fees                               | \$44,412            | \$40,000         | \$4,412         |
| Respite Care Fees                           | \$3,790             | \$0              | \$3,790         |
| Miscellaneous                               | \$748               | \$1,000          | -\$252          |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>                        | <b>\$252,084</b>    | <b>\$235,000</b> | <b>\$17,084</b> |
| Expenditures                                |                     |                  |                 |
| Payroll Expenses                            | \$146,423           | \$135,000        | \$11,423        |
| Respite Care Expenses                       | \$1,434             | \$0              | \$1,434         |
| Resident Expense (groceries & household)    | \$12,646            | \$17,000         | -\$4,354        |
| Mileage Expense                             | \$7,965             | \$0              | \$7,965         |
| Utilities                                   | \$6,604             | \$9,000          | -\$2,396        |
| Property Maintenance                        | \$2,269             | \$3,000          | -\$731          |
| Property Renovations                        | \$1,241             | \$2,200          | -\$959          |
| Administration & Promotional Expenses       | \$5,438             | \$4,500          | \$938           |
| Legal & Professional Fees                   | \$30                | \$1,000          | -\$970          |
| Insurance                                   | \$5,904             | \$6,300          | -\$396          |
| Misc. Expense                               | \$1,485             | \$3,000          | \$1,515         |
| Mortgage Payment (Interest & Principal)     | \$9,748.00          | \$10,000.00      | -\$251.60       |
| Lump Sum Mortgage Payment                   | \$40,000.00         | \$30,000.00      | \$10,000.00     |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>                   | <b>\$253,187</b>    | <b>\$235,000</b> | <b>\$18,187</b> |
| Net Income                                  | -\$1,103            |                  |                 |
| Opening Balance October 1, 2010             | \$26,715            |                  |                 |
| <b>Bank Balance August 30, 2011</b>         | <b>\$24,392</b>     |                  |                 |
| (Expected GST/PST Refund for Jan-June 2011) | \$692               |                  |                 |
| <b>Mortgage Balance (August 2011)</b>       | <b>\$272,105</b>    |                  |                 |

## Cottage Trip Memories

By Brenda, Jessica, Sandra, Lindsay, Connie and Varick

On our August 9-11, 2011 trip to a cottage at Oliphant Beach, we said goodbye to rain in Brantford and hello to a sunny but blustery day in the Sauble Beach area. It was too cold to go swimming so we checked out some of the local beaches, had an ice cream treat at DQ and then went back to Sauble Beach to look at the Antique Car show.

The fun all started with Jessica going into the woods, looking for firewood (besides the cottage) and yelling, "Snake, snake! I found a snake!" Connie eagerly went to look and found a 'snake twig,' much to her disappointment. After a nice stroll at the beach and watching the sun set, we came back to the cottage for a fun evening outside at the campfire and inside singing hymns and fun songs. We played a little trick on Lucy and Margaret who were sharing a bedroom beside us, by putting a fake mouse and bug under their pillows, but to our dismay, there wasn't even a "scream" from them!

We spent a good part of the second day at Sauble Falls, which was very beautiful! We hiked along the river and discovered some neat rock formations. We took lots of pictures and then spent a bit of time after lunch at Sauble Beach doing some window shopping. Later in the afternoon, while Varick, Connie, Sandra, and Lindsay husked the corn and prepared dinner, Melody, Jessica and Brenda went fishing. They didn't have any success with fishing, but they certainly tried! We ended up the night with another campfire, singing with the guitar, devotional time and cooking smores – YUM!!

The third day was a sunny day so we could enjoy the water and waves at Sauble Beach before heading back home. After feeding the seagulls, relaxing on the beach, and taking many more photos and swimming, we headed back home. On our way back we stopped for dinner at King's Buffet in Cambridge for a delicious buffet. It was a wonderful trip with great memories. We were able to bond together and really enjoyed the laughter in the group!

We would like to thank our staff/drivers, Lucy and Margaret, for taking us on this vacation. Also to Melody-Rose who accompanied us on this trip and helped to make it a really fun time!



## DIRECTOR'S REPORT, cont.

### *A New Fence*

We are very grateful to Andy K. and others who helped to put up the new fence along the property lines of #8 and #6 homes so that we now have a big enclosed backyard. Thanks Andy!!

### *Staff Changes*

The residents were excited to attend several weddings of staff members and others this summer. They love seeing 'old staff' come for visits! Several of the staff have graduated from various levels of schools and have taken on additional jobs in their chosen careers. We wish all the staff who are starting college/university or new jobs all the best and the Lord's blessings!

There have been two added staff positions over the past several months. Pete Hamstra was hired as Family Support Worker and Lucy VanHarten, one of our senior staff, has accepted the role of House Manager. Together with the rest of the staff team, we have been able to effectively provide all the necessary supports to the persons living in the homes as well as providing respite care for families.

**A big thank you to our staff team, volunteers, Board of Directors, supporting members and families for all their Christian care-giving, support and enthusiasm to make Peace Haven truly a Christian HOME.**

Margaret Heemsker

## ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAYS

Volunteers are invited to join us on either Friday, October 21st or Saturday October 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for interior and exterior clean up of Peace Haven homes before the winter hits. Some projects will include: planting perennials along the fence line, preparing gardens for the winter, garage clean up, household cleaning – cupboards, utility room, playgroup area, windows, etc. Please bring along your own tools, cleaning pail and sponges and we'll supply the lunch and coffee!

Students can use these hours as part of their "Community Service Hours" required at high school.

## HOSTING, ANYONE?

Would you like to host a resident once in a while on a Sunday and take her to your church? The residents often spend time with their families on Sundays, but there are times they do not have a ride. They also like to visit. If you would like to open your home on a Sunday (or another time), please call 519-757-1554 and leave your name.

## ARE YOU A PEACE HAVEN MEMBER?

By taking out a membership you will provide Peace Haven with a regular income that we can count on, and it gives you a voice in its operation.

**An Annual Membership is \$15 per month or \$180.00 annually**

**A Family Membership is \$20 per month or \$240 annually**

All you have to do is fill out the Donor/Membership Form on the back of this Newsletter and send it to the treasurer. Notice that there are several options on how you can pay. The Automatic Chequing plan is very convenient.

If you are a member already and are on the Automatic Chequing plan, your membership continues automatically. If you paid by cheque or are not sure if you are paid up, your renewal can be made by using this form as well. If you have any questions, the treasurer (see back of Newsletter), will be happy to answer them.



Jessica Boeder  
October 4, 1982

Brenda Pennings  
February 1, 1979

Lindsay Schuurman  
May 11, 1988

Varick DeJong  
November 11, 1994

Sandra  
Spyksma-VanHarten  
December 1, 1981

Connie  
VandeLoosdrecht  
December 4, 1962

**NEEDS/WISH LIST:**

- Home-canned fruit/vegetables
- Meat/Chicken orders
- Children's educational toys, puzzles, CDs and books
- Train posters and other child-orientated ones for Play group area
- Light weight snow shovel (for the ladies to use)
- Perennials for us to plant along the new fence

**WHAT IS RESPITE CARE?**

The Peace Haven Board is thankful for being able to support individuals in its residential homes as well as offering respite care. Respite care usually consists of giving a family with young children who have special needs a "break" for a few hours per week, a sleepover, or for several days at a time.

The Peace Haven Board works with the local deacons and Margaret, the Director of Services, to find services that fit the family and the child. Sometimes such services are organized and delegated through the local deacons by way of volunteers in the representative congregations. At other times a trained staff member will take the child out of the home for a short period of time to provide some respite care. A "Play Group" also meets on a regular basis at one of the Peace Haven Homes with staff in charge. It is heartwarming to see how the residents take a delight in assisting the staff with childcare.

The process for respite care is that the local deacons, by way of representation on the Peace Haven Board, make referrals which are processed by the Board for approval. Some of the costs of this care are covered by "outside" sources, which the parents can tap into and even Children's Aid has paid for some respite services made available by Peace Haven.

Margaret, our Director, is an expert in finding resources because of her involvement with Rygiel Supports for Community Living, for which she has worked for many years. This is a publicly funded organization with 43 group homes in the Hamilton area and is set up similarly to Peace Haven.

An increase in families dealing with very difficult cases have required extra staff time, especially for our Director (who is part-time as is all staff) in organizing, overseeing, and finding resources for care. This has resulted in the Board's decision to implement the position of a House Manager and to acquire the services of a trained Family Service Worker, Pete Hamstra, who is specialized in certain areas of care.

Due to savings in other areas, we hope we will still be within budget for this year. Whether this can be maintained, is something we leave with the Lord and your generous support. Our goal is "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Gal.6:2).

**For the Board - Frederika Pronk**

**3RD ANNUAL PIG ROAST**



This annual event, held at Rehoboth Christian School, Copetown, Ontario, on Saturday, July 9th was again a great success. It was a beautiful summer day and many came out to enjoy the weather, the good food and fellowship, and donated generously. The proceeds of \$24,000 will all be used for Peace Haven's operating expenses, since the costs were donated as well. We thank the Lord for all who donated, as well as all those who helped make it a great day.



**Free Reformed Association**  
*Supporting Families & Individuals  
with Special Needs*

Charitable Donation Number:  
83890 9521 RR0001



**OPERATING HOMES AT**

6 and 8 Oneida Drive,  
Brantford, ON N3S 7X8

**OFFICE**

6 Oneida Drive,  
Brantford, ON N3S 7X8  
Tel. 519-757-1554

**DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

**Margaret Heemskerk**

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Mount Hope, ON LOR 1W0  
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