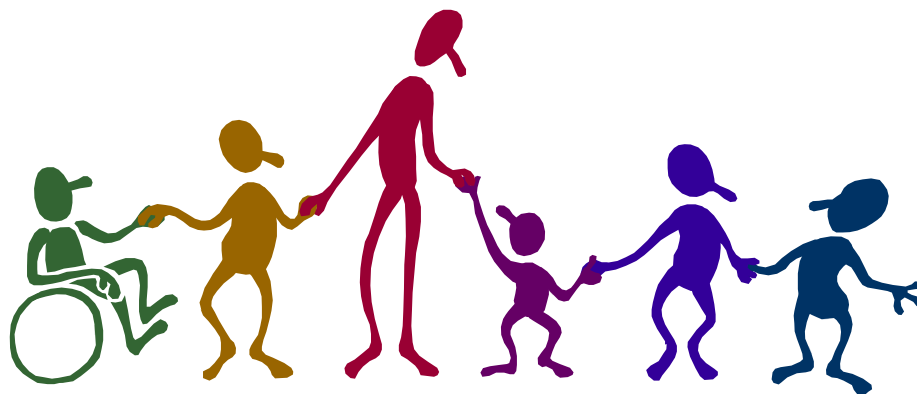


*Inspiring Possibilities*

**Community Living Access Support Services (CLASS)  
Has been Supporting Adults with a Disability since 1991.**



# **Volunteer Information Package**

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Supporting Adults with a Disability since 1991

*Inspiring Possibilities*

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## **Vision**

**To Inspire Possibilities!**

## **Mission**

**To Promote Choice for People with Disabilities**

## **Our Values**

**In all the work we do we strive for excellence**

<b>Accountability</b>	<b>we will be mutually responsible</b>
<b>Integrity</b>	<b>we will be open and honest with each other</b>
<b>Dignity</b>	<b>we will respect each other</b>
<b>Respect</b>	<b>we will be considerate of each other</b>
<b>Creativity</b>	<b>we will be imaginative, inventive and innovative</b>

## About CLASS

Community Living Access Support Services (CLASS) is a non-profit organization that provides supports and services to adults with a developmental disability. Funding to pay for services and supports that are provided, comes from the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services (M.C.S.S.), donations, grants and fundraising.

CLASS provides supports in a person-directed, community focused manner. Regardless of the intensity of support a person may require, each individual is the centre of their own plan, playing the key role in their support decisions. For individuals who require intense supports as identified in their support plans, success is attributed to implementing a consistent approach with ongoing collaboration from family and the services involved in a person's life.

CLASS has been serving the communities of Norfolk and Haldimand since 1991 and is committed to working with other community partners to provide high quality, individualized support.

CLASS is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors that may include parents of individuals who have a developmental disability, self-advocates and other interested and involved community members.

### Services and Supports

Community Living Access Support Services provides support in a variety of ways and residential settings, based on the specific needs of the individual. These include intensive, group, independent living, associate living (with host families) and supports provided under the MCSS Passport, Community Access and Participation funding models. Success is contributed to implementing a consistent approach with ongoing collaboration from family and services involved in a person's life.

CLASS facilitates participation in the community. Many individuals are supported to volunteer and connect with local service clubs and interest groups.

Individuals, who have identified employment as an interest, have been supported to seek community employment services available in our community.

#### *Sources:*

*CLASS Volunteer Handbook, Revised Edition 2013*

*CLASS Information Guide, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition September 2013*

# Volunteer Involvement

## Guiding Principles

- Volunteers have rights as well as responsibilities
- Volunteers are vital to a healthy and democratic society
- Volunteers are vital for strong, inclusive, and resilient communities
- Volunteers build the capacity of organizations
- Volunteering is personal

## Why volunteer?

Volunteers help us

- Achieve our goals
- Enhance our ability to provide personal supports
- Link us with the community

## How can you help?

- Participate / help organize special events and fundraising activities
- Serve on committees or the Board of Directors
- Assist with recreational and / or educational activities to help the people we support achieve their goals

*Please Note: Some volunteer roles have additional requirements;  
Example: specific skillsets, Vulnerable Persons and Criminal Records screening, etc.*

## What are the Rewards for Volunteering?

### For the Volunteer

- Help a cause you believe in
- Help people and your community
- Do something you enjoy
- Meet new people and make new friends
- Enjoy making a difference
- Gain personal satisfaction and growth, and a feeling of accomplishment
- Give something back to your community
- Learn new skills
- Enjoy challenges in new experiences
- Complete your community service hours
- Improve your opportunities for future employment, including provision of references
- Gain valuable skills to enhance future employment opportunities

### For the Person We Support

- Share in community activities
- Improved self-esteem
- Socialization and social connections
- Inclusion (increased interaction opportunities)
- A knowledge of fulfillment

### For the Organization

- Opportunity to share our vision
- Partnerships with community members
- Increase public awareness

**As a volunteer with CLASS, we hope you will find ways to enjoy and value the friendships of others.**

**Friendship: “the state of being friends.”** (Merriam-Webster Dictionary)

Friendship means many things to many people but there is one thing that is the same for everyone ... and that is everyone needs friends. Friends respond to our basic human need for security, a sense of belonging and acceptance. Friends support us, believe in us, trust in us, and sustain us. “

*“Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.”* (Author unknown)

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To find out how you can make a difference, please contact:  
**Volunteer Coordinator at 519-426-0007 ext. 211 or [volunteer\\_class@kwic.com](mailto:volunteer_class@kwic.com)**

**Attachments: CLASS Volunteer Application Form**