

Coming Soon: Muskoka Family Network



What is a Family Network?

At a World Café at Soul Sistas in 2012 and a Family Retreat at Cleveland House in 2013, families met with each other to bring together ideas and needs in our area. With fundraised dollars, a Community Coordinator has been hired to provide administrative support to the Muskoka Family Network.

The idea is to have families and friends touched by a disability come together to open doors – a need repeatedly identified by families in our community. Our goal is to strengthen and empower families and the community they live in, ensuring every adult/child that is part of this network is happy, healthy and surrounded by a community that supports and cares for them. A *Family Network* for families within Muskoka, will allow families to deepen their relationships and positively impact each other and the broader Muskoka community.

Save the Date:

You are invited to one of the sessions below to “*Launch the Family Network & Meet the Community Coordinator* (Build Supportive Communities for Families)”

(Meeting: 90 minutes; Mix & Mingle: 30 minutes)

Wednesday September 23, 2015	6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Huntsville High School, 58 Brunel Road, Huntsville
Thursday September 24, 2015	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Huntsville Public Library, 7 Minerva Street East, Huntsville
Sunday September 27, 2015	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Huntsville Public School, 16 Caroline Street West, Huntsville

Childcare may be provided.

Please RSVP (for numbers and childcare) to:

Carla O’Neill

Community Coordinator

705-789-4543 x 268

muskokafamilynetwork@gmail.com

Informed and connected families will result in happy, healthy, successful children contributing to a happy, healthy and vibrant community

Did you know:

- Families needing families is an important concept.
- Families provide 75% of the support and only 25% is provided by service providers/agencies.
- Families are the first and last line of protection for vulnerable family members
- Family Engagement should be **top** priority.
- Family members love each other
- Families have strength and knowledge – to survive takes knowledge
- Families are willing to share when given the opportunity
- Families want positive stories to learn from. Families hear (from professionals) about what is broken and what can't happen, and families know that's only a tiny bit of the story.
- Families are often distracted by everyday things
- Many families are not receiving services and are feeling isolated and alone.



Windsor Essex Family Network is a vibrant and active network that has been in existence since 1995.