



Community Matters

Community Counselling & Resource Centre's Voice for Public Education and Advocacy

With A Little Help From Our Friends

We acknowledge with gratitude the organizations that provide resources and support to the delivery of services in County locations:

The [Havelock TEACH Centre](#) host an outreach centre - 5 George St. West in Havelock.

The [Township of North Kawartha](#) host an outreach centre in the municipal office in Apsley at 280 Burleigh St.

The [Township of Galway, Cavendish and Harvey](#) host an outreach centre in the Buckhorn Library, 5 George St. Buckhorn.

The City [Social Services Division](#) provide funding and the support of their [Community Social Plan](#) staff.

[reBOOT Peterborough](#), provides equipment and technical support.

Poverty and Homelessness Look Different In The County

Defining rural homelessness challenges our basic assumptions about the word. In a local context we often resort to images of the older whiskered man sleeping in Jackson's Park, 'squeegee kids' at Parkhill and Water or pan-handlers downtown on George St. While these stereotypes are inaccurate even in an urban setting, they are rarely associated with rural townships or villages. This often leads to a comfortably false assumption that homelessness or the ongoing risk of it is not a major issue in the County of Peterborough. The faces of people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity in rural Ontario are less identifiable because the problem is often hidden,

masked by the temporary refuge of a neighbour's couch, a tent in the woods, an automobile or a seedy motel. Many individuals and families experience chronic bouts of periodic homelessness.

In this issue of our newsletter we focus on CCRC's effort to provide more effective services to the residents of [Peterborough County](#).



Now You Can Interview Your Clients In County Locations from Peterborough!

Like many organizations, [CCRC](#) struggles to provide effective services to County residents because of the barriers of distance, low population density and limited resources. For the same reasons, County clients have difficulty accessing City-based services. Recently with funding from the Social Services division of the City

and County we developed a new approach that utilizes existing infrastructure and innovative internet technology. We are pleased to invite other City based services to utilize the established Outreach resources in **Havelock, Buckhorn and Apsley (for free!)** See below for more information.

Fall Events in Outreach Locations

See a live demonstration of a face-to-face interview between the Outreach Centres and our Peterborough office and learn more about how local residents can obtain services from these locations.

Havelock at the [Teach Centre](#) Sept. 21, at 2:00 p.m.

Buckhorn at the [Main Library](#) Sept. 27, at 2:00 p.m.

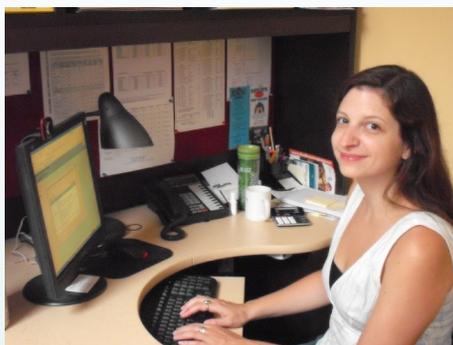
Apsley at the [Municipal Building](#), Oct. 4, at 2:00 p.m.



The Next Best Thing To Being There

Telepresence refers to technology that allows a person to feel as if they were present at a location other than their true location. It is used world-wide to establish a sense of shared presence or space among geographically separated people. 'SKYPE', the technology used in our RRHP Outreach Centres, known as *internet telephony* enables the confidential, live exchange of information between persons remote from one another but linked by telecommunications over a phone line. The County Outreach Centres offer staff assistance to establish an online connection and access face-to-face video communication (by appointment) with Housing Resource Centre staff or with other users of the technology. All that is required in any Peterborough based organization is internet access, free

software and a web cam. There are numerous benefits such as improved access to services for rural clients and cost savings for agencies with a mandate to serve County residents. This same technology would also allow people with computers to be served in their homes.



Christine at her desk ready to meet with a client via Skype

Forced Migration

Recently a story in The Kingston's Whig-Standard discussed rural supports for people at risk of homelessness and quoted a local official who said "you don't have a critical mass of homelessness people in one place ... it's more dispersed and you don't have a shelter and people who need these kind of services have to come into [the City] to get them."

Findings in a 2010 Canadian research report from McGill University – The Paradoxes of Rural Homelessness, highlight that a lack of services causes rural households to choose between living where they want and obtaining the housing and services that they need. The study showed that once uprooted from the natural supports of their home environment, many had ongoing difficulty with employment and housing. Researchers concluded: "In the absence of any means of supporting rural individuals in their home communities, urban centres will continue to inherit the problem of uprooted rural residents at high risk for homelessness". They emphasize that preventing crisis situations in rural areas would reduce the number of both rural and urban homeless persons.

It's Never Just Housing: Life Events Prior To Homelessness

Life Event	% of 250
Job Loss	63
Relationship Ended	49
Eviction	48
Substance Misuse	44
Debt	42
Criminal Offence	35
Robbery	34
Physical Assault	29
Correctional Facility	28
Hospitalized for physical problem	23
Gambling Problem	15
Serious Accident	15
Hospitalized for mental illness	10
Being Sexually Assaulted	6

Social Housing: Investing in The Social Determinants of Health, James R. Dunn, PH.D.

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LOCATIONS

Credit Counselling
 Community Service
 Orders
 Housing Resource
 Centre
 Administration

540 George Street North
 Peterborough, ON, K9H 3S2
 T: 705.743.CCRC (2272)
 F: 705.742.3015 (Main)
 705.742.2895
 (Credit Counselling)

Counselling

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On Line

www.cccr-ptbo.com
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