



Annual Report

2015-2016

South Shore Community Service Association



Who we are

In 1973, a group of interested men and women developed a vision to provide opportunities for young people with disabilities to learn the skills needed to lead meaningful and productive lives within their communities. Their vision involved teaching, advocacy, and challenging conventions that led to the incorporation of South Shore Community Service Association and the founding of Bonny Lea Farm.

The South Shore Community Service Association has grown beyond its original goal of creating Bonny Lea Farm as a nurturing environment for people with disabilities to blossom. Also under its umbrella are the South Shore Work Activity Program, founded in 1986, which provides transition to employment and job readiness skills development and training; the Chester Career Resource Centre, which provides job search supports to the residents of the Municipality of the District of Chester; Community Journey program aiding people in building life skills to gain independence; and it has been fertile ground for the Community Wheels program to grow, a necessary service which began in 2007, ensuring people living in the Municipality of Chester have the ability to get where they need to go, when they need to go.

How to reach us:

South Shore Community Service Association
PO Box 560, 5 Collicutt Road
Chester NS B0J 1J0

902-275-5622

www.bonnyleafarm.ca

www.sswap.ca

[Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Front Cover photos

Top left: Blair Hatt, Participant, in the Woodworking Workshop

Top right: Rachel Martin, Board Member and Adam Gummeson, Participant

Bottom left: Laura Llewelyn, SSWAP participant; Alex Kelsie, Starfish; Dwayne Whynot, SSWAP participant; Robert Manuel, Bonny Lea Farm Board Member and Starfish volunteer.

Bottom right: Ronnie Awalt and Laurie Anne Hughes, Participants, working at the lobster supper.

Back Cover photos

Bottom left: Lacosta Holmes, Participant

Bottom right: Woodworking shop at SSWAP

Photo credits: Jane Rafuse, Association Support Coordinator

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Who we are | i |
| Table of Contents | ii |
| Leadership Message | 1 |
| Bonny Lea Farm - Mission and Vision | 2 |
| Day Program | 3 |
| Realizing Goals - Laurie Anne's story | 6 |
| Centre for Independent Living | 7 |
| A Home for Rose | 7 |
| Continuous Learning | 9 |
| Comfort & Safety First | 10 |
| Fundraising & Outreach | 11 |
| South Shore Work Activity Program | 13 |
| Transforming Abilities into Opportunities | 13 |
| Community Journey & Move to Work Programs | 14 |
| Chester Career Resource Centre | 15 |
| Community Wheels | 16 |
| Financial Health | 17 |
| Awards & Distinctions | 18 |
| Farewell Dr. Baker | 19 |
| Boards | 20 |

Leadership Message

As board members and managers we ensure that South Shore Community Service Association has all of the resources needed to meet its obligations during the year. We set a mandate for quality service delivery for the people we support. Everything that we do and every decision we make is considered from the perspective of “how does this benefit the people we serve?” This approach was the one taken by our founders more than 40 years ago.

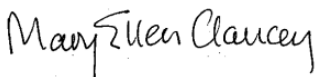
Sadly, this past year we said farewell to our founder, Dr. Alberta Pew Baker. She instilled upon us that every citizen has value and can make a contribution. She recognized that an individualized and sometimes unique approach was needed to support people to reach their potential.

Her legacy of ensuring that we ask “What can we do to help a person succeed?” will live on within all the enterprises at South Shore Community Service Association as staff and board continue to work together to help people served by our organization experience success, acceptance, and personal growth.

The contents of this report provide a sampling of all that we have accomplished over the past year. A dedicated volunteer board, a committed group of managers along with a skilled group of staff, and most importantly a group of families and participants who place their trust in us are vital parts of our success.

We are able to do our work because there is support from donors, customers, community and corporate supporters, public and private grant funding, and the Province of Nova Scotia. This entire package is how we have continued after more than 40 years, to remain committed to the people and the communities we serve. On behalf of all of the men and women who benefit from of our programs, **THANK YOU!**

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Clancey
Chair, Board of Directors



David Outhouse
Managing Director

Bonny Lea Farm

Located on 80 acres in Chester, Nova Scotia, Bonny Lea Farm has been offering specialized programs and services for people with disabilities since 1973. Our participants come from across Nova Scotia and beyond. We can't wait to tell you what we have been doing this year.

Our Mission

Bonny Lea Farm is committed to empowering special needs individuals, providing opportunities to experience faith, self-respect, love one for another, dignity, integrity, productivity, and responsible community living.

Our Vision

Each person who comes to Bonny Lea Farm has the chance to learn, grow and succeed.



Day Program

The Day Program at Bonny Lea Farm offers opportunities for participants to develop new skills and experiences, while working in one of our onsite social enterprises, volunteering or on work placement in the community.

This past year the Day Program team developed Mission and Vision statements, describing Day Program's role within the organization to help guide it towards providing the most person-centered program possible.

Day Program Mission

"To support Day Program clients in their interests around work, learning, recreation and creative opportunities."

Day Program Vision

"A respectful and honest team delivering exceptional, professional and creative services for Day Program clients."

Highlights from the last year include:

- Assessing our programs by completing a thorough review of organizational and individual participant goals and recommendations, as well as the allocation of staff resources.
- Realigning staff to provide the programs requested by participants.
- Using additional staff resources to adjust programs to benefit participants, expanding the Alternate program and allowing for two additional participant work placements in the community.
- Committing half a day each week to finding appropriate work for participants, resulting in two new work contracts with more to come and partnerships with 35 businesses in the area.
- Starting the new kindling project, benefitting participants, the organization and the community.
- Improving working together as a team by asking ourselves, "What do we want to see happen?"
- Reviewing our use of space and moving staff, providing more privacy for participants receiving assistance with physiotherapy exercises.



A few members of the Kindlin' crew

Left to Right::

Jeffrey Wamboldt;
Wade Davis,
Vocational Instructor;
Hansi Voegelé;
Larry Tanner; and
Sue Collins.

New Product Offers New Skills & Partnerships

An idea to keep the Bark Barn crew busy during the cold winter months, turned into a new project and product line, building new skills for participants and community partnerships.

The Kuttin' Kindlin' crew has quickly become one of the teams participants want to try. With its electric splitter and bundling jig, the crew turn out a high quality product that is being sold at Chester's Castle Building Supplies and Gow's Home Hardware in Bridgewater. Plans are underway to create campfire bundles.

The Many Benefits of Music

The therapeutic benefits of music are well known. At Bonny Lea not only is music used for enjoyment and to create a calming environment but also as an opportunity to develop communications skills.

At Music Group, which meets weekly, members take turns presenting a favourite artist and song. All group members participate in asking and answering questions using pictures, speech generating devices (Sequencer, iPad) and facilitative techniques. Group members practice turn taking, attention to listener's needs, expressing points of view and other social communication skills. Everyone's voice has a chance to be heard.

Many participants also enjoy going to music jams and coffee and conversation groups in the community which offer opportunities to engage with others.



Members of the Music Group include:

Seated: Rose Deveau, Elizabeth Schwartz and Toby Plummer

Standing: Adam Gummesson, Amanda Robar and Ben Porter.

Missing from the photo Sue Collins.

Day Program (continued)

"The Alternate program, for those who prefer a quieter more structured environment, was expanded to four days a week. Mary Ellen joined the group. It is a place that she enjoys and wants to be."
- Joanne Jellett, Vocational Instructor



"We had a contract to prepare 400 take-out cutlery packages every week from June until October. Elizabeth and Sonya sealed, counted and packed these orders each week. We gained some new clients for our confidential shredding service. And, we also prepared two direct mail campaigns. It was a productive year!"
- Judy Melvin, Vocational Instructor

"Trying something new is not always easy, especially a new exercise. With grants from the Lunenburg County Community Health Board and Chester Recreation, participants had an opportunity to try yoga. Karen, who is 5', agreed to try yoga after watching the others. After the final 'om' was chanted the instructor asked Karen, "How do you feel?" Karen replied, "I feel good. I feel taller.""
- Evelyn Friedrich, Vocational Instructor



"Celebrating participants' accomplishments with them is rewarding. Lacosta, who has autism, feels good about the progress she has made at work and at home, demonstrating what can be achieved when teams work together with a participant to offer the individualized, consistent and predictable program they need to feel safe and secure."
Lacosta says, "I look great and feel really good too."
- Kathy Pace, Behavioural Consultant

Realizing Goals

Staff at Bonny Lea Farm work with each participant to identify their unique goals and needs. These Individual Program Plans are reviewed and revised on an annual basis. Accomplishments are celebrated and new goals are set.

Laurie Anne Hughes has lots of fun at Bonny Lea Farm. Entering karaoke shows singing songs from Frozen is just one of her favourite activities. However, Laurie Anne has other more important things that she wants to do.

When she decided to move from her family home in the Valley, Laurie Anne wanted her own friends, experiences and jobs that would challenge her to learn new skills. After exploring what programs were available, Laurie Anne chose to move to Bonny Lea Farm in 2014.



“Our goal was simply that Laurie Anne would be happy and living a life that was meaningful to her. A life that included joy, enrichment, friends, and meaningful work. Laurie Anne has found that at Bonny Lea Farm.” - Mark Hughes (Laurie Anne’s father)

Laurie Anne is very goal oriented and open to trying new things. She has held many different jobs here at Bonny Lea Farm and has mastered each one. By this year she was ready for a vocational training opportunity in the community.

“Seeing Laurie Anne working at Shoreham Village folding face cloths and towels was a “stand-out” moment for me this year. She loves her placement and is very proud of the work she does.” - Pat Bates, Broadening Options Instructor

The work is demanding but Laurie Anne is enjoying it.

“They treat me like I belong here.” - Laurie Anne

Shoreham Village has always been very supportive of working with our participants and playing a large part in their success.

“This is a win-win situation. We really need the extra help and Laurie Anne gets to feel the sense of helping others. She is doing so well that we have increased her time with us.”

- Gaye Ernst, Shoreham Village, Director of Support Services

Centre for Independent Living

Forty people call Bonny Lea Farm home. Our Centre for Independent Living provides a caring and supportive home-life where participants practice their life-skills, as well as all of the extras that help to enhance their quality of life.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Participating in swimming, golf, bowling and curling events at the Special Olympics.
- Attending the first annual "IGNITE" conference at Mount Saint Vincent University.
- Ensuring participants who love music are regulars at local "music jams" and karaoke nights at the local legion, as well as concerts at larger venues.
- Holding regular participant-led Participant Council meetings to discuss issues ranging from current news events to anything that influences the daily lives of participants.
- Hosting two dances for participants at Bonny Lea Farm and other local organizations, building new friendships and renewing acquaintances.

A Home for Rose - by Rose Deveau

My name is Rose Deveau. I am a fifty year old visually impaired woman. For the last two years I have been attending a writers group sponsored by Second Storey Women's Center. I've been asked use the skills I've learned by contributing to the residential portion of the Annual Report.

I moved to Bonny Lea Farm in 1982. Prior to this, I lived in several foster homes throughout Nova Scotia. My early life was not great. I moved into Church House group home in 1982, and have been there ever since.

In my earlier days I was presented with challenges and was challenging myself. The counsellors who supported me earned their pay. I've helped train dozens of counsellors, five managing directors and several fire marshals.

Bonny Lea has offered me a safe and stable environment. I share my home with five housemates. I've developed daily living skills and appreciate all of them. There have been some minor issues along the way, just as occur in any home, but with the help of staff they usually get settled.

I have developed many life skills that help me be as independent as possible. It is important to me to be in control of decisions that affect my life. With the assistance of staff, I am able to manage my daily affairs, such as banking, shopping, laundry, and other household chores. Maintaining my room has been a twenty year project but this year the fire marshal gave me a gold star.

I enjoy going to Chester to shop and do my banking. Each week, I volunteer at Shoreham Village where I visit with two residents. I am well received and have gotten to know the people in the community. I have friends outside of Bonny Lea and this makes my social life more well-rounded.

At Bonny Lea I've learned many skills including how to use a computer. For the last number of years I have used a program called "Jaws" that assists the visually impaired in using the internet. This is a tool that helps me connect with the outside world.

I love animals. Over the years, I have had guinea pigs as pets. I enjoy this a lot. They are good company. I've learned proper pet care and I take this responsibility seriously. Once a month, I volunteer at the Chester Bay Dog Chalet. And, last fall I organized a trip to Shubenacadie Wildlife Park for over a dozen participants.

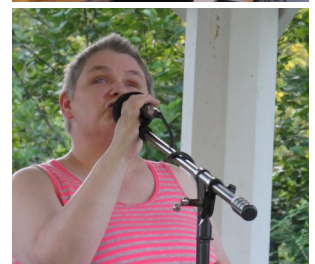
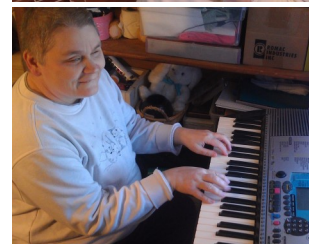
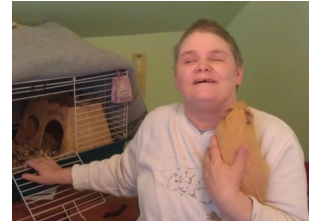
When I was younger, I was an active participant in Special Olympics including downhill skiing; quite a feat for a blind person. You have to trust the people guiding you down the hill.

These days I like going to music events, like concerts in the park and I'm a star of karaoke night at the local legion. I enjoy singing and playing my keyboard. I even made my own cd. In January, I enjoyed singing the lead in Bonny Lea's recording of "This Little Light of Mine", which has nearly 19,000 views on Facebook.

In summary, I've spent most of my life at Bonny Lea Farm. I've had more than my share of challenges, both physical and emotional. However, Bonny Lea has always been a safe haven where I could work through my issues at my pace. I can count on the support from staff and appreciate their continued patience. I've mellowed over the years, but still have my moments.

I've had many great experiences, learned many skills and worked with many terrific people. I've been treated fairly and with respect. After thirty-four years, Church House is home.

Bonny Lea Farm has been good for me. If it wasn't for Bonny Lea, I don't know where I'd be.



Continuous Learning

We know that to make each day the best that it can be for our participants requires staff to keep their skills sharp and be prepared to respond to the ever changing needs of our clients.

All staff at Bonny Lea Farm are required to maintain seven core competencies including First Aid, CPR, Mandt and fire & life safety. Other training is offered and arranged as needed.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Training staff in using visual aids to support communications with participants.
- Providing Mandt training for 3 new staff and recertification for 45 staff.
- Finding ways we can be even better for participants and staff through our Quality of Life and Occupational Health & Safety Committees.
- Identifying an opportunity for participants Amanda Robar and Anton Voegelé to complete a first aid course.

"Mandt is about building and maintaining healthy relationships, healthy communication skills and healthy conflict resolution skills, based on dignity and respect. All three are very useful skills that can be applied anywhere any time!" - Jane Rafuse, Association Support Coordinator

Communicating with Compassion

Using visual supports helps people who have difficulty with auditory processing, short term memory and language comprehension. Providing a visual form of a message, whether it is in writing or pictured, allows participants to think about the meaning of what is being said. It also provides a tool that they can use to respond. Teaching staff to use visuals in counselling, work and home routines has resulted in improved communication and positive experiences for participants and staff.



Duncan Gillis has a lot to say. With regular communications support, made possible by a grant from the Halifax Youth Foundation, he has learned strategies to share his thoughts and make him a more efficient and effective communicator.

"In addition to carrying topic starters such as written notes and objects of interest, Duncan has added an iPod touch to his toolkit with photos and stored phrases to tell coworkers his most recent news, talk about birthdays with friends, and update family about work details."

- Lisa Harris, Speech & Language Pathologist

Comfort & Safety First

Bonny Lea Farm began in 1973 and much of our infrastructure is original from that time. Our Facilities and Maintenance team is always busy caring for our buildings, equipment and vehicles, ensuring that necessary repairs and upgrades are made on time and on budget, with a priority on keeping everyone safe and comfortable.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Reaching the halfway mark in our multi-year project to replace windows and install metal cladding on the trim of the Pew Centre (main building). These changes will increase comfort, lower energy costs and reduce the amount of upkeep needed in the future.
- Continuing to upgrade the washrooms in our residential units to make them safer, easier to use and easier for participants to clean.
- Supporting the renovation of Hamilton House, which included upgrading windows and insulation.
- Helping with set-up and tear-down for special events held on and off-site.

"While there is always a lot to be done, our focus is on those projects that have the greatest impact on participants." - Doug Morash, Maintenance Manager

Attention to Details

McClung and Flinn House washrooms received long overdue attention. The upgrades included installing non-slip ceramic flooring, tiled walls, non-slip tub, better lighting, comfort height toilet, vanity and medicine cabinet.

Flinn House residents John Gibbs, Toby Plummer and Skip Morey are pleased with their renovated bathroom.



Fundraising & Outreach

Our specialized programs and services would not be possible without our committed donors, supporters, community and corporate sponsors, and over 100 volunteers for our events and fundraising efforts. Our events, newsletters and Facebook page are also outreach opportunities to share what we do with the community around us.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Hosting a busy Annual Plant Sale and Breakfast. Many braved the pouring rain to purchase hanging baskets and transplants before enjoying a hot breakfast and buying baked goods.
- Purchasing a new planer, wood splitter and dry vac for the vocational workshops with the funds from an anonymous donor.
- Having a visit by Premier Stephen McNeil to discuss the needs of our participants as they age.
- Welcoming more than 144 golfers to our annual golf tournament organized by Jack Flemming and raising more than \$28,000.
- Relaunching our website to make it easier to find information about what we do, including adding a "donate now" button to make online giving easier.
- Receiving nearly 20,000 hits for our ["Little Light of Mine" video](#) on Facebook and YouTube.

Lobster Lovers' Feast

It was a bright sunny day with a gentle breeze. Musicians were playing upbeat tunes. Record ticket sales, sponsorships and volunteer support for our Lobster Lovers' Feast served 680 meals, raising over \$24,000. In many ways this has become our signature event, not only raising needed funds but also showing the community what we are all about.



"This dinner has a reputation for selling out and for good reason. At only \$30 you get a fully cooked lobster (or steak) with various salads, a roll, a drink and dessert. It's the best deal in town! But that's not what makes it so special...



What made it so special was not one thing, but all of it. The heart, the time, the compassion, the people, the love, and the gratitude; that is what made this meal one to remember, even a highlight of my summer, and definitely something I'll be doing next year. The lobster...was an added bonus." - Tina Hennigar, LighthouseNOW

"I've been helping at the Lobster Supper for years. It's a great day."
- Ronnie Awalt, participant



New Elevator Increases Independence & Freedom

Participants with limited mobility living and working at Bonny Lea Farm are pleased with the new elevator, which went into service in September. Of the 45 participants at Bonny Lea Farm on any given day, five are wheelchair users. The original elevator was small, slow and cumbersome, allowing only one rider at a time and requiring wheelchair users to have help getting in and out. The new elevator is not only faster and much easier to use, it can also carry a wheelchair user and one additional person.

"The new elevator is great. I can use it by myself and can get from place to place faster."
 – Valerie Roode, Participant

This project would not have been possible without the generous contributions of many people and organizations who helped us reach our goal. Memorial Donations were made by Fred Bambury in memory of his wife Florence Bambury and the family of Audrey and Harold Clarke. Other support came from the Chester Basin, New Ross and Chester Lions Club; Bridgewater Lions Club; Edwards Family Foundation; The Windsor Foundation; and the funds raised by Team Bonny Lea Farm through the Blue Nose Marathon.

Giving Back - Starfish Refugee Project

After learning of a need for furniture for the refugee families coming to the area, the Bonny Lea Farm Facilities and Maintenance team identified four surplus dressers that were then refinished by staff and participants at the South Shore Work Activity Program before being picked up by Starfish Refugee Project volunteers to help furnish two homes.



South Shore Work Activity Program

We often hear that the South Shore Work Activity Program (SSWAP) is the best kept secret on the South Shore. Started in 1986, SSWAP, as many call it, helps people prepare for employment whether they are entering the workforce for the first time, getting back into it or looking to better maintain any future work.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Supporting 44 participants through our SSWAP program
- Working with 18 employers who hosted participants for work placements
- Developing Community Journey and Move to Work programs
- Producing gingerbread people for the local Gingerbread Festival
- Welcoming new members to the SSWAP team, Work Centre Manager Sharon LeBlanc and Workshop Instructor David Chaplin-Saunders.

Transforming Abilities into Opportunities

We believe that every person has the ability to contribute to the workplace and use their skills and talents to do so.

Sometimes people lack confidence and need to discover their abilities. At SSWAP, people get to make these discoveries, gain confidence and open doors to connect with employers while developing the skills and knowledge to succeed in the workplace. Focusing on employability skills like motivation, team work, accountability and presentation, as well as life skills, computer fundamentals, upgrading and employment training in woodworking, janitorial, customer service and food services, participants are provided with a well-rounded program, which includes work placements.



Over the past year we have witnessed many participants shine their potential.

Steven had formal training in digital animation, however he had been unsuccessful in finding employment. He joined SSWAP last June to develop additional skills to change his situation. Through his two work placements he has made contacts and demonstrated his abilities. He is currently working with a local video producer, learning editing and voice over skills and has produced a video that beautifully captures the essence of SSWAP's work, which will soon be released publicly. **Steven is happy with the work he has done at SSWAP, the connections he has made and is far more ready for finding the type of work that he wishes to pursue.**

Connie completed the program at SSWAP in February. When she started at SSWAP she had been unemployed and was feeling isolated. She wanted to improve her employment and education situation however was not sure of her capabilities. At SSWAP, she worked diligently, developed more confidence and through the program and two work placements she successfully improved her employment marketability and education levels. **Connie is now actively and more confidently looking for work she wants to do in the food services or home care industry.**

Ashley started the program in January, somewhat shy and unsure of what to do with her life since graduating high school. Ashley is now finishing Level 2 of the program and has shown great improvement in her confidence. **She has a clear idea of her work and life goals, is taking action every day to make that happen and is looking forward to upcoming work placements.**

Community Journey & Move to Work

The Community Journey and Move to Work programs were designed to help people re-connect with their community and its resources and move towards employment.

In the summer of 2015, SSWAP was approached by the Department of Community Services to run a second project for them in Bridgewater. A number of their clients were isolated from the community and detached from the work force for many years. Community Services was looking for assistance in helping change their situation.

Through the work of two capable facilitators and support from the rest of the team at SSWAP and Community Services, two 8-week sessions of the Community Journey & Move to Work programs were run between November 2015 and March 2016, with a total of 41 participants. As a result, a significant number of participants were successful in securing work in the community and improving their situation going forward.

"At the South Shore Work Activity Program we know that everyone has potential; we love to see it come out in people. Our dedicated team at SSWAP does all they can to assist participants to recognize their abilities, transform them into opportunities and take action to fulfill their work and life goals." - Sharon LeBlanc, Work Centre Manager

Chester Career Resource Centre

The Chester Career Resource Centre provides service to people in the Municipality of Chester who are searching for employment. The Centre's location at the Chester Shore Mall is well located and attended, offering a bright and spacious environment.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Hosting a total of 2028 visits, serving 1624 registered clients and 404 walk-ins.
- Ongoing outreach and promotion of our services including Facebook ads, a link on the Municipality's website and ads in the New Ross Flyer.
- Identifying 50 clients who were successful in finding either full-time or part-time employment.

What people are saying:

"Everything I need is here!" Everything is top notch!"

"Love the fact that I didn't need an appointment and the location is perfect. Very easy to find - very satisfied!"

"CRC experience was very soothing and calm. Very knowledgeable and very caring."

"Great resume/cover letter handouts."

"Thanks for the assistance with my job search!"

Overall it was another successful year for our dedicated team at the Chester Career Resource Centre in assisting area residents with employment services.

"Whether you think you can, or you think you can't, you're right." - Henry Ford

We believe you can!

Community Wheels

The community-based transportation service began in 2007, with door-to-door service, reliable drivers and the only pay-what-you can approach offered in the province. Since then Community Wheels has built a loyal user group within the municipality who use the service to get to medical appointments, get their groceries, do their banking or attend social events.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Introducing a scheduled Friday service to Blandford.
- Continuing service for Shoreham apartment residents on Tuesday and service to New Ross service on Thursday.
- Providing 3109 one-way passenger trips, 643 one-way



A Letter of Thanks - by Daisy

Dear Community Wheels,

My New Year's resolutions include contacting those who have been such a support for me, during the past several years.

As you know, these years have been difficult, resulting in many, many medical appointments in various clinics and hospitals, made even more so by no longer driving... I have become a 'regular'. You have certainly gone the distance... I have also come to know the drivers, who are prompt, courteous and always make sure I'm at the correct location and on time.

*I am also a member of the group who use the service each Tuesday for our errands... We depend so much on this service as many of us no longer drive, often have no 'backup' and **without your service, we really would be put in a very stressful situation.***

I truly look forward to your help and assistance in getting me through the trying days ahead.

Daisy

Community Wheels is an initiative of the Municipality of Chester Transportation (Community Wheels) Society and a partnership of Service and Municipal Relations Nova Scotia, Aspotogan Heritage Trust, the Municipality of Chester and South Shore Community Service Association. The 2015-2016 budget of \$97,000 was secured through funding and grants from the partnership's members, sponsorships, charter fees and user donations. Grants were also received from the United Way of Lunenburg County and the Lunenburg County Community Health Board.

Financial Health

The financial oversight and governance of the South Shore Community Service Association is carefully managed by our Finance and Audit Committee comprised of qualified and committed Board Members and volunteers.

Highlights from the last year include:

- Providing regular financial oversight and ensuring the preparation of audited statements.
- Reviewing and approving the budget for Association entities.
- Testing internal controls.
- Upgrading the accounting software package to be sure that our systems are up to date.

Summary Financial Report for Bonny Lea Farm (April 1, 2015-March 31, 2016)

Our complete audited statements are available on request.

| | 2015 Budget | 2015 Actual |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Income | | |
| Government | | |
| Residential Program | 2,675,259 | 2,750,947 |
| Day Program | 763,352 | 756,600 |
| Non-government | | |
| Grants & Other | 476,991 | 589,795 |
| Vocational Projects & Sales | <u>61,550</u> | <u>75,014</u> |
| Total Income | <u>3,977,152</u> | <u>4,172,356</u> |
| Expenditures | | |
| Residential Program | 2,540,684 | 2,611,038 |
| Day Program | 1,512,513 | 1,484,323 |
| Total Expenditures | <u>4,053,197</u> | <u>4,095,361</u> |
| Total Surplus (Deficit) from Operations | <u>(76,045)</u> | <u>76,995</u> |
| Fundraising Revenue | 143,000 | 196,112 |
| Fundraising Expenses | (17,800) | (20,158) |
| Transfer to Foundation | <u>—</u> | <u>70,000</u> |
| TOTAL Surplus (Deficit) | <u>49,155</u> | <u>182,949</u> |

Awards & Distinctions

We believe in recognition for a job well done. Here are a few of our stars for 2015-2016.

Huey Barkhouse Award

The Huey Barkhouse Award recognizing spirit, humour and contribution to life at Bonny Lea Farm was presented to Kathy Demone.



Kathy Demone receiving the Huey Barkhouse Award.

Powers Trophy

The Powers Trophy, presented each year to a participant who has shown significant personal achievement during the past year, was received by Ben Porter.

McClung Trophy

Tom Clancey was awarded the McClung Trophy, which is presented each year in memory of Susie McClung, recognizing a participant who has demonstrated achievement in the workplace at Bonny Lea Farm.



Tom Clancey holding the McClung Trophy.

John Whitehouse Award

Shawn Joudrey received the John Whitehouse Award, named for a former long-serving South Shore Work Activity Program board member and retired educator, acknowledging the positive mark that a participant leaves on the program through their commitment.

Years of Service

30 Years: Joanne DeLong & David Outhouse (Bonny Lea Farm)

20 Years: Steven Baker & Janet McGinn (Bonny Lea Farm)

Retirements

This year we said goodbye to three long-serving employees of Bonny Lea Farm, Peter Parsons, who had been here since we began in 1973, Donna Cross, our long-time face of the front office and receptionist, and Janet McGinn, Residential Counsellor who had been with us for 20 years. We wish them all the best as they begin this new chapter in their lives.

Farewell Dr. Baker



Dr. Alberta Baker
1928-2015

In December 2015, Bonny Lea Farm and the South Shore Community Service Association said goodbye to our Board President and Founder, Dr. Alberta “Bertie” Pew Baker. Bonny Lea Farm came into being as a result of her vision and continues to be nourished by her inspiration.

Back in 1973, a group of people decided to address the needs of residents of Chester living with disabilities. At that time, the province and school system had nothing to offer them. When families were not able to care for them they became wards of the government. For many, life could have a richer dimension but the means did not exist to make it possible.

The founders developed a philosophy: That every person who attended Bonny Lea Farm should be supported to reach their potential. Each individual would have a program developed to meet their needs to challenge them to the utmost of their abilities with encouragement, support and the expectation of success in developing skills and finding personal dignity and worth through productive living. This is still the model in use at Bonny Lea Farm more than 40 years later. The results are measured in the smiles on the faces of the more than 40 “guys and gals” who live and work here today. And, the South Shore Community Service Association has expanded to meet other needs within the community.

“Her legacy of wisdom and perseverance will long serve our work to sustain Bonny Lea Farm in our service to people who live daily with the challenge of a disability.”

- David Outhouse, Managing Director

“I will remember Bertie as a loving mother and always a fierce advocate on behalf of her children. Some forty years ago, when she opened her arms to embrace our Bonny Lea family as her own, we reaped the benefits of that same love and advocacy. We shall continue to value and to protect her legacy of love and support and encouragement for all within our walls.”

- Mary Ellen Clancey, Board Chair

“It’s now up to us to continue her legacy. We need to carry on in her memory for the participants and vision Bertie made a wonderful reality.”

- John Biebesheimer, Board Member

Boards

We couldn't do all that we do without the dedication and commitment of our volunteer governance boards. Thank you.

South Shore Community Service Association

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Mary Ellen Clancey, First Vice-President | John Biebesheimer, Secretary |
| Bruce Flinn, Second Vice-President | Rachel Martin, Treasurer |

Bonny Lea Farm Board of Directors

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Mary Ellen Clancey, Chair | John Biebesheimer, Secretary |
| Bruce Flinn, Vice-President | Rachel Martin, Treasurer |

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| John Campbell | Rick Fraughton | Colin MacDonald |
| Barbara Carthew | Kim Geldart | Robert Manuel |
| Hiram Carver | David Hilchey | Tobias Norwood |
| Colleen Fitzgerald | Fred Honsberger | Barbara Nunn Porter |

Bonny Lea Charitable Foundation Trustees

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Rachel Martin, Chair | Kim Geldart | Joe Stackhouse |
| Ted Cleather | Kevin Healy | John Tatlow |
| Judy Connolly | | |

SSWAP Board of Management

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Paulette Countway, Chair | Mary Ellen Clancey | Brian Selig, Treasurer |
| Eric Bishop | Judy Connolly | John Tatlow |
| Barbara Carthew | David Outhouse | |

Community Wheels Board of Directors

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Leslie Taylor, Chair | Chad Haughn | David Outhouse |
| Kathryn Gamache | Rubia Hutt | Diane Webber |

In memory of our founder
Dr. Alberta Pew Baker.

With thanks to all those who
Help our Little Light Shine.

