



Assisted employment for CHEER Group members providing an opportunity to gain job skills and income. There are many different jobs available considering differing abilities.



Social, recreation, leisure, and friendship program for young adults with intellectual disabilities.

Ongoing Living & Learning Inc.



OLLI is a registered not-for-profit caregiver driven company with four areas of focus: Cheer Group; Cheer Works; Cheer Connections; and, Cheer Living.

Vision Statement—

To be a community of inclusion and a circle of friendship that supports and enhances the lives of our loved ones with intellectual disabilities as well as the whole family.



An opportunity to practice independent living skills and living with minimal supports.



Caregiver social and support group, creators and administrators of all things C.H.E.E.R.



In June, 2023, we opened an ice cream/variety store called Cheer Canteen and Roxy's Putter Golf course at Rock Glen Resort, in Arkona, open street side to the public as well as the camp, so please come by and support us if you are in the area. CHEER Works employs members of the CHEER Group who have been developing their job skills. This is a safe and assisted working environment providing paid employment for our community members with intellectual disabilities. Caregivers and community supporter volunteer to help with this initiative. There are many different jobs to be done. Everyone enjoys working together and we have a great team!

If you are interested in the
CHEER Program,
CHEER Works, or
CHEER Connections,
please contact our fearless
leader, Ivey Hartman, at :

ihartmancheer@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook at
Family Connections Cheer

Next to Come — CHEER Living!

Winter 2023...watch for it :)

We are very thankful to our supportive community...



Order of Alhambra, Algarva 168

Grand Bend Sunset Foundation

Ontario Caregivers Association

Rock Glen Resort

Private Angel Donors

...We need each other as inclusion is for all.



CHEER Group consists of families caring for an adult with higher functioning intellectual disabilities. We pool our resources to share in hiring support workers on a 4:1 ratio.

Sharing support worker wages means it costs far less than the usual 1:1 ratio. Many of our families feel that, while support is definitely required, the level of 1:1 is not necessary and the 1:4 is plenty of support for their person. We have two energetic full time support staff, a part-time staff, and some volunteer grade 12 students. Currently the rate is \$13.50 per hour, as more attend the rate goes down. The Cheer Group Program can be paid through Passport funding!

The best part is that attendees are spending time with their friends in their community! We follow a preset calendar of events published in the month prior. You sign up and pay for just what you use. There are even times when you can request some 1:1 support if needed.

We have our club house located at Rock Glen Family Resort and the use of their beautiful facilities, including an indoor pool, sauna, fitness centre, hall, and kitchen. Some of our projects are integrated with the wider community and there are planned special outings each month. We focus on building life skills, social skills, and leisure skills. We aim to build in as much community inclusion as possible with a focus on the "normal".

Attendees must be able to look after their own self-care needs. Caregivers must be engaged, and interested in their person's success and the success of the group as a whole. Family get togethers and volunteering is a great part of this group.

We chose the name CHEER as the Webster dictionary gives the definition as "shout for joy, in praise or encouragement, give comfort and support to." Which fits exactly our purpose.



Cheer Connections, a caregiver support group, was formed in February, 2021, we had our first in person meeting on November 8, 2021, as soon as the pandemic restrictions allowed.

Cheer Connections is a group of parents and caregivers, some have adult children in the CHEER group and some don't, but we are all in a similar situation. We meet at least once a month to offer each other support and share our knowledge. Our winter meetings were funded by the Ontario Caregivers Association, which provided a relaxing day, a nice lunch, and great guest speakers. The Cheer Connections regularly gather for various workshops so that we may discuss information and learn together. We are all concerned about ODSP, housing, employment, social opportunities, etc. and a lot of our energy is given to finding solutions for our loved ones' future. This group helps reduce isolation for caregivers as well. It is a requirement of the CHEER Group that family members become involved with Cheer Connections. We are a close-knit social group that includes siblings, friends, and neighbours who care about someone with an intellectual disability. We are committed to developing a community of inclusion. We are supported by Ontario Caregivers Association, Algarva 168 (Alhambra), and private community member donors. We also run various fundraisers and donations are accepted on line through Canada Helps. Looking for some social fun?... we have that too! Respite care is also available so you don't have to worry about your loved one while you attend meetings.

For more information please contact
ihartmancheer@gmail.com