



Alternatives Community Program Services was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1986 to serve adults living with a developmental disability, by; supporting adult education, promoting interaction with the community, facilitating access to vocational endeavours, enhancing quality of life through age-appropriate activities in the community and developing programs to build skills that support independence.

Our Goals

- ⇒ To enable each individual to participate fully in their community
- ⇒ To enable each individual to enjoy the benefits of their community
- ⇒ To maximize each individual's potential for independence
- ⇒ To maximize each individual's potential to contribute to their community

Alternatives provide services and supports to approximately 260 individuals each year through a wide range of programs: Advanced Skills, Community Connections, Foundations, Fundamental Skills day program, Building Bridges, Individual and Employment Support Services. Our operations are possible through subsidies from Ontario's Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS), personal donations and the substantial contributions of community volunteers.

Growing to Serve our Community

Alternatives has grown and evolved significantly over the years. With this growth came the need for a permanent location, one that could provide future equity to sustain the programming needs of an increasing client base. Service has grown from supporting 50 individuals in 1986 to supporting 260 people so far in 2016. Respectfully, the staffing compliment also grew from 5 employees in 1986 to 32 full time, part time, contract and relief employees today.

In 2000, Alternatives purchased a 2140 sq ft building at 267 Stewart Street, Peterborough. In 2007 Alternatives purchased a second building, 1589 sq ft at 264 Stewart Street, Peterborough, directly across the road. Service demands continued to increase, in particular for people with significant mobility limitations. Additional space is currently being rented from Trinity Church on Reid Street to meet these demands. This multi-location service delivery, understandably not ideal, continues to be stretched.

In 2015, Alternatives' Board of Directors, based on 30 years of increasing demands, decided on a proactive plan that would continue to meet current needs as well as plan for future needs. 270 Braidwood Ave was purchased, a 12,280 sq ft building, formerly "St. George's Anglican Church". Preliminary studies and research indicated that this building could have the accessible capacity for efficient and effective service delivery well into the future as well as maintaining it's original use as a gathering space in the neighbourhood.

Following the sale of 267 Stewart Street in November 2015, renovations began to convert the Braidwood building into a safe, fully accessible space. With the commitment of loyal volunteers and community-minded contractors these renovations have been progressing smoothly.

Our Vision

History has shown that community services and supports for people living with all kinds of exceptionalities is essential to the health and well-being of the individuals supported and equally essential to the health and well-being of the community overall.

270 Braidwood holds the promise of providing a welcoming, accessible space where the services and supports required by people living with development disabilities can be available now ... and well into the future.

It offers the opportunity for people we support to welcome our neighbours into this space to meet, to participate, to share and weave people's lives and experiences together in a way where everyone experiences a sense of belonging to the community and of being a valuable and contributing citizen.

'Acceptance Builds Community'...the ABC's of Alternatives.'



In the beginning...



... raising the roof for accessibility

TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER!!!

We want to get to know you better and we want you to know us better.
Let's shape the future of our neighbourhood, together.

- Join us for a neighbourhood get together...date to be determined.
- Share your thoughts and ideas by completing our short online survey
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L63GXQD>
- Check out our Website, Facebook and Twitter
www.alternativescommunityprogramservices.ca

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