# **Dorset Park** Neighborhood **Association**

416-292-6912 dorsetparkna@gmail.com

# **Inside This** Issue

-Dorset Park Commu- nity Hub	2
-VHA Home Healthcare -Happy Women's Club	3
парру мошен з став	
-T.I.E.R.R. Project	4
-Women's English Circle Story	
-Women's English Circle	5
-Dorset Park Neighbour- hood Association	6

# DORSET PARK

## **COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

## Rosalie Hall Clothing Youth Clothing Bank

On Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> – Rosalie Hall will be hosting its annual Youth Clothing Bank which services young people between the ages of 13-24 living in the Dorset Park and the surrounding communities.

The clothing bank is a free event which gives youth, young parents and families an opportunity to access free new and gently used clothes. Once again, the Dorset Park Community Hub graciously hosted this initiative which took place from 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

A very special thank you goes out to all the youth volunteers who supported this event to make it possible.

## **Dorset Park Day**

Dorset Park Day is a FREE fun-filled event for the whole family featuring a BBQ, bounce castle, competitions, and much more!

Come out to this year's event on Saturday, July 16 from 12 pm - 4pm at McGregor Park Community Centre (2231 Lawrence Ave E).

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Dorset Park Day, thanks to the generous support of our community partners and residents.







## **Dorset Park Community Hub**

The Dorset Park Hub is a place where everyone has equal access to a wide range of programs; services and supports.

Summer is fast approaching and the Hub will be buzzing with many activities

#### Canadian Film Day

On April 20<sup>th</sup> the Hub participated in the National Canadian Film Day Event. The Film shown at the Hub was titled Welcome to Canada. The documentary showcased a unique immigration experience to Canada's East Coast. The National Canadian Film Day is a one day celebration of Canadian culture through film. The event was hosted by Reel Canada.

#### **HSBC** Event

On May 14<sup>th</sup> the Hub in partnership with ABC Life Literacy Canada and HSBC held a literacy event to bring parents and children together to practice literacy. The event was attended by over 30 families. Families participated in a number of literacy related activities facilitated by HSBC volunteers and ABC staff. There were refreshments, giveaways and lots of fun activities.

**ACSA AGM** - The Hub also hosted ACSA's Annual General meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>

**Job Fair for Newcomers** – In partnership with ACCES Employment the Hub hosted a job fair for newcomers. Over 69 participants attended this event and a number of employers were present, letting participants know about job opportunities at their companies

**Summer Program -** The Hub will host a summer program for children ages 6-12. The program will run for one month starting on July 18th and ending on August 15th.

The Bridge Event – on June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm the Hub hosted The Bridge Event an evening of music and spoken word. This was an open mic event, persons came to play or share their spoken word or just listen.

To learn more, you can stop by the Hub at 1911 Kennedy Road, Unit 105 from 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday or you can call 416-292-6912



#### VHA Home Healthcare

VHA Home Healthcare is looking for volunteers to help with families in the Scarborough area. We currently have an opening for Parent and Child Support Volunteers.

The volunteer will visit the family's home weekly for 3 hours. You will provide support to mom and involve the children in activities that lead to healthy development. Most of our moms are at risk for post-partum depression or have been diagnosed with it. They are isolated, have little or no support and face many challenges. As a volunteer you will listen to the client and help link her to resources in the community. You'll also accompany her and her children on outings.

As a volunteer you'll visit the family for three months and then will be matched with a different family so you get a chance to experience different situations and challenges.

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Roseanna Wirt at 416-489-2500 ext. 4327 or rwirt@vha.ca.

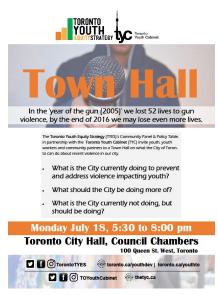
## Happy Women's Club

Our Happy Women's Club came to an end on June 1st. Women were happy to join the group. We did fun activities, arts and crafts, cooked healthy recipes and workshops about women's health.

We are happy to announce that the program will continue in the summer and the fall of 2016. The summer schedule will be every Wednesday from July 20 to August 10. The fall schedule will be announced later.

Join our group and be a part of our big family.







## T.I.E.R.R. Project from 2013 – 2016. Here are some highlights in Dorset Park

- METRAC safety audit trainings offered, and audits completed in the community to create a priority list of safety concerns the group worked with community partners to resolve.
- Organizing a pedestrian awareness campaign, presenting a speed hump petition to the local councillor.
- A shade area and huge rocks in Glamorgan Park. Special thanks to Parks and Recreation staff.
- Employment opportunities for residents to become Safety Animators.
- Safety event in Glamorgan Park summer 2015
- Building positive relationships with the police, holding monthly safety meetings with the police, attending monthly Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) meetings to connect with 41 division, and attending Safety Week.
- Home Alone workshop in June 2016 to prepare children age 10 14 to be home alone.
- Becoming more involved in their community, taking on leadership roles and advocating for positive changes in their communities.

I would like to thank the Dorset Park Safety Ambassadors, partners, and Dorset Park Staff for committing to the project over the last 3 years. Without them there would be no project or changes.

# Safety in the Park











#### Women's English Circle Story

My name is Valliamai. I have been living in this community for 25 years. I started coming to the English Circle since September 2015 until now. After my husband died I was at home doing nothing. I became very lonely. But someone told me about this class and I started coming.

It has helped me a lot. I am able to meet new people and make friends so I am not feeling so lonely anymore. We talk and laugh a lot. I learn about their culture and I tell them about mine. Our teachers are very kind and patient. They treat us with respect, they even take us on trips sometimes. I love coming to the English Circle, my English is improving day by day and I am feeling more confident to speak when I go out in public.

I am thankful for the Hub, the English Circle, the people I meet and my teacher!

## Women's English Circle

We would like to say thank you to everyone who participated with our circle and supported our program. Our numbers continue to grow with 72 registered ladies and 20 children in both locations. This year we hired two ECA's for the circle. They graduated from our English Circle.

The English Circle will start again on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Dorset Park Community Hub. Classes will be on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30 am – 12 pm. At the McGregor Community Center it will start on Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Classes will be Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 am – 12 pm. For more information please contact Suganthine at 647-628-7406.

#### **Celebrations:**

- 2016 Spring Party on June 10th, 2016.
- Baby shower for our staff, ECA, Fowzia and our committed volunteers bridal shower. Our Fowzia got a baby girl.
- March 8th International Women's Day.
- Mother's day: Our ECE and ECA's celebrate mother's day with our children.

#### Workshops:

In February we collaborated with the Newcomers' Center to have a tax clinic for our women, where they learned the benefits of doing taxes. After this workshop, Toronto Employment and ACCES Employment gave us some good information about job search and resumes. ACCESS employment also spoke about their women's program.

We had a City of Toronto poverty reduction consultation. We were asked how can we build an advisory group for our Neighbourhood? And what are the key needs for the community? So our team took notes to sent it to city hall (with Laura's help for submission). We also participated in the City of Toronto's TTC Fare Transit Equity Survey, filling out surveys to improve our TTC service & to get affordable fare prices.

We collaborated with ACSA's Early Years Family Center to get free training for our ECE and ECAs. They attended an 8 week program. They built more knowledge and techniques about working with younger children.

#### **Summer:**

Again we are collaborating with ACSA's Early Years Family Center to run summer kindergarten readiness program at Glamorgan Junior Public School. Only 2 week's program starting from mid July - August. We will be having 20 kids each week. Our ECE will work with them.

#### **Summary:**

Many ladies have started to join other program in the Hub and are using the services here. Our beginners class staff Mohiba found a nice job as well as some of our ladies: Indrani, Mona, Krishanthini got a job. This year we got a handful volunteers to help our ladies. Students from George brown & UofT: Areeba, Roxanna, Amanda, Hana, Mina, Paticia. They were helping our ladies to get better understanding in the subjects and feel free to ask more questions and answer. Also Amanda and Roxanna created a survey for our ladies. Patricia one of our student volunteers, recently took over Mohiba's position our basic level class. She has been a real asset. Best attendance for this team: Raja, Valliamai, Faten, Searan and Sumia.

# We are starting again on September 12th, 2016

# Dorset Park Neighbourhood Association

#### Vision:

We dream of a safe Dorset Park where people know their neighbours, take pride over their community and are able to access programming.

#### **Priority Areas:**

- 1. Safety
- 2. Program/Services

- 3. Food Security/Community Garden
- 4. Employment
- 5. Communications

If you would like to get involved please call 416-292-6912 ext 315

# www.DorsetPark.com

Everything about the Community



## Call for Submissions

The Dorset Park Community Newsletter is calling for submissions focusing on safety, programming, food security/gardening, programs, employment and or other topics of interest to the Dorset Park community. Please email your submission to

gmalsan@agincourtcommunityservices.com

416-292-6912 ext 316



Supported by









