

## **My Placement Experience at Community Living Timmins**

As a college student from the Social Services Program, it's hard enough to know exactly what field of social service work you would like to go into. There's just so many type of Social Service Work to choose from! I started my placement at Community Living Timmins in the Foundations Program in January 2014 with Tammy Beaudoin. As I started my placement with a passion of helping individuals with intellectual disabilities, I knew where I was, I was exactly where I wanted to be.

During my first week, I learned all the different programs of Community Living Timmins had to offer to the individuals that are supported. Also, during that week, I was introduced into the group homes where individuals are supported 24 hours a day, seven days a week and trained by qualified staff. Camille, Fay, Graye, Birch and Ross are the five group homes that I visited and operated by Community Living Timmins.

Just a few weeks later, I had the chance to experience what it was like to work in a group home. I really enjoyed the positive environment and staff that the Birch group home had during my experience. This is where I met Falon, Sue and Val. These ladies have given me the chance to see what it's like to be part of the individual's life who live in a group home. During my experience in the group home, I learned that all the staff that take care of these individuals – matter to them and make a big difference in their lives. I also learned that a positive environment equals happy individuals, an easier content life for these individuals.

As the weeks went by, I learned more about the different programs that were offered to the individuals supported by Community Living Timmins. Rather it's been about the SES, SIL, VMC or the Foundations Program. I learned that all these programs that are offered to these individuals make a big difference in their lives. It's impressive that Community Living Timmins has such a wonderful team of staff that work with great passion and enjoy helping these individuals.

I always knew I enjoyed working with individuals who have an intellectual disability. My placement really confirmed my passion of work as a Social Services Worker in this type of field.

I would like to take the time to thank all the individuals and staff of Community Living Timmins for giving me the chance to complete my college placement with this agency and for giving me this wonderful experience.

A special thank you to Tammie Molenaar who accepted me into this placement and who has given me the chance to have this experience.

I would also like to thank Tammy Beaudoin for all the learning experiences during my placement. I know that every experience I had with them throughout my placement will only give me many more grateful life experiences and techniques on my journey into a brighter future as a Social Services Worker.

Thank you all for the wonderful experiences.

Sincerely,

Ashley Daigneault, Collège Boréal student.