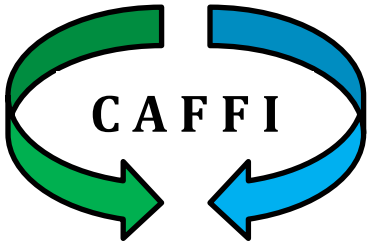

Caledon Area Families For Inclusion

CAFFI was formed by a group of local parents of children/young adults with intellectual/ developmental disabilities. The families came together out of concern for the lack of services, programs, and housing for their family members in the Caledon community. Many of these individuals have positive experiences as children in school programs and local recreational activities, but become excluded from programs, camps and activities as they "age out", without viable options.
At age 21, once these young people leave school, they are faced with little to do, few places to go, and even fewer places to live, as young adults in Caledon.

CAFFI is a network of families who want to work together with various supporters, organizations and businesses, to find ways to include adult family members with intellectual/developmental disabilities ***in their own community***.

1 The CAFFI families are seeking ways for their adult children to be welcomed and safely included in their home community through employment and volunteer opportunities. Community engagement, a critical social determinant of health, allows for meaningful participation in and contribution to one's community.

2. The CAFFI families require housing solutions for their family members, so that these adults are able to live with some independence while being less reliant upon ageing parents. Local solutions save money, preserve family well-being and secure the embrace of local community interests that can support community residents.

3. The CAFFI families are seeking ways for their adult children to be welcomed and safely included in public recreational and social activities outside of their families. These are necessary ingredients for the well-being of these often-marginalized Caledon residents.

CAFFI is always looking for agencies, organizations, and businesses to partner with, and welcomes anyone willing to support the group's efforts. CAFFI currently has support from, or is working with:

- BCCL (Brampton-Caledon Community Living) and "Connections"
- CCS (Caledon Community Services) "The Exchange", "Chez Thrift", Transportation
- Christ Church (Anglican Church, Bolton)
- The Town of Caledon, Mayor Allan Thompson, Councillor A. Groves, Councillor R. Mezzapelli, Councillor J Downey
- MPP - Sylvia Jones
- White Birch (day program in Palgrave)

The CAFFI group meets once a month at Christ Church, Nancy St., in Bolton. We welcome any family wishing to join our group.

For more information please contact: Patricia Franks (CAFFI Chair): at cafficaledon@gmail.com

Anyone interested in helping our community become more inclusive, or in helping our families be more included is warmly welcomed.