

## Recognizing our LIGHTS Donors and Partnerships



LIGHTS Advisory Emeritus, Ian Brown

We continue to be immensely grateful to our donor community for supporting us on this incredible journey.

On June 7th LIGHTS Board member, Dan Sullivan and his wife Sandra, graciously hosted a celebration evening in their home to recognize those who have made the dream of LIGHTS a reality. Advisor Emeritus, Ian Brown spoke about his journey with his own son, Walker and what initiatives like LIGHTS really mean to families. Krystal Nausbaum, who lives in a LIGHTS supported home and her mom Madeleine Greey, shared the ups, downs and ultimate successes of moving into a home of ones own. Both speeches reflected the tremendous impact of LIGHTS.

Partnerships are the secret to LIGHTS success. We are always looking for new ways to make independent, affordable and supported living attainable for our families. This year alone we celebrated a number of new partnerships that will help make this kind of supportive housing a reality. Here are two of them:



L-R: Madeleine and Krystal

With a multi-year grant from the Webster Foundation we were able to create The Webster Capital Resource Fund. It provides grants of up to \$2,500 to LIGHTS individuals who are struggling with the start-up costs of moving into their new home. These grants are used to pay for essential household items.

We have also partnered with Centennial College to create the Friendly Housemates initiative. The project provides an affordable way for LIGHTS families to have a college student live with their son or daughter as a roommate – thereby creating companionship and support for the family, as well as a unique social and educational opportunity to the student.

Looking back on another year, we keep dreaming big. But we see ever greater needs, which means ever more work needs to be done. As extreme and persistent as the need for humane and independent housing for the intellectually disabled continues to be, we also see opportunity.

**Thanks to the path we have created, families have options that did not exist before. Thank you for helping to create these options. We hope you appreciate the impact you are having on LIGHTS families and the housing crisis for these families in Toronto. We certainly do!**

### Bridging the Gap

We are looking forward to hosting our second major fundraising event for LIGHTS in November, 2016. For more information about upcoming events or to make a donation, visit [LIGHTS.to](http://LIGHTS.to) or contact Angela Bradley at 647.729.1178 or [abradley@cltoronto.ca](mailto:abradley@cltoronto.ca).