

IN THE BEGINNING

More than 40 years ago, a family had a dream for their community. They donated a 2-acre parcel of land to Elmira District Community Living (EDCL), in the hope that their gift would permit the creation of housing for adults with intellectual disabilities.

For many years no one thought this was possible.

Until one day, EDCL envisioned an innovative model of housing, where individuals could live more independently and be supported by family, the community, technology and "good neighbours."

Thus began our *Fields of Dreams*.

WHY THE FIELD OF DREAMS WORKS

- » Independence maximizes each individual's abilities.
- » Friends and family are included in their support system.
- » The community provides opportunities to participate, like volunteering and employment.
- » Co-housing concept addresses loneliness and safety concerns regarding independent living.
- » Technology allows for greater independence and less dependence on staff.
- » Good neighbours include students on scholarship from Wilfrid Laurier University and Renison University College, as well as other citizens of the community who are in need of housing and willing to share their lives with others.
- » Paid staff are available if needed for support.

OUR NEED TODAY

\$ 800,000

TO BUILD 3 BUILDINGS
ON THE DONATED PARCEL OF LAND



\$1,100,000 PER BUILDING

EACH BUILDING WILL PROVIDE HOMES FOR:

4-5
MEN AND WOMEN

+

2-3
GOOD NEIGHBOURS

WITH INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES

STUDENTS AND
COMMUNITY MEMBERS



*"It's a wonderful
thing being in this
Fields of Dreams...
I love it every day!"*

DEE, TENANT

BENEFIT TO TAXPAYER

TRADITIONAL GROUP HOME MODEL

4-6 ADULTS

24-HOUR STAFF SUPPORT

FULLY GOVERNMENT FUNDED
(OPERATING & CAPITAL)

NO OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS
TO BE INDEPENDENT

ANNUAL COST:

\$350,000 - \$400,000

≈ \$80,000 PER PERSON

VS

FIELD OF DREAMS MODEL

4-6 ADULTS

SUPPORTS THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS

STAFFING ONLY WHEN REQUIRED

MULTIPLE PARTNERS & CAPITAL
(NO DEDICATED GOVERNMENT FUNDING)

SUPPORT MODEL BASED ON INDEPENDENCE

ANNUAL COST:

\$45,000 - \$60,000

≈ \$10,000 PER PERSON

PROOF THAT THE *FIELD* OF DREAMS MODEL WORKS

We developed a 4-plex using the “good neighbour” principle on Snow Goose Crescent—and it was a tremendous success.

“Being a good neighbour is life-changing. Now I have a better understanding of the importance of intentional relationships in this type of housing model and I have made life-long friends.”

ROBYN, GOOD NEIGHBOUR

BEYOND BRICKS AND MORTAR

Communities are coming to see how it works.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING:

Students are choosing to become professionals, supporting people with intellectual disabilities.

Families are sharing their experiences with other families, building a strong and resilient community.



*Your gift, whether \$50 or \$500,000,
makes the **Field of Dreams** possible.*

I/we wish to support the *Field of Dreams*
by providing a tax receiptable gift of:

\$ _____

PLEASE MAKE OUT YOUR DONATION TO:
ELMIRA DEVELOPMENTAL SUPPORT CORPORATION

Mail to, or drop off your gift at:

Elmira Developmental Support Corporation
118 Barnswallow Drive, Elmira, ON N3B 2V9

Give online at:

www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/elmira-developmental-support-corporation



Elmira Developmental
Support Corporation

Elmira District
Community Living

FIELD of DREAMS

“If we build it, will you fund?”



*“My experience there shaped me as a
person... and gave me the foundation
to go forward in my career.”*

STACEY, SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT & LAURIER MSW GRADUATE



Elmira Developmental
Support Corporation

Elmira District
Community Living

EDCL REG. CHARITY BN # 10729 7731 RP 0001
EDSC REG. CHARITY BN # 87939 8907 RR 0001

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*“We couldn’t have dreamed
of anything better.”*

CHANTAL, MOTHER of TENANT