As we celebrate National Volunteer Week, we would like to thank all those who take the time to help their centres and communities with the wonderful work they do. This year we received 16 nominations for the 2015 Spirit of Volunteerism Recognition. Congratulations to recipients Amy Vandewouw – Telephone Aid Line Kingston (TALK) – Young Adult Volunteer; Esme Hurst – Distress Centres Toronto; Carol Jarvi – Spectra Community Support Services; and Roy Purgavie – Distress Centre Oakville.

April 2015

Distress and Crisis Ontario /Détresse et Crise Ontario

As many of you know, DCO has been the acronym of our organization for several decades. While our organization’s legal name is The Ontario Association of Distress Centres, we have been operating as Distress Centres Ontario. For many years, that operating name served the members of our association well since it accurately reflected their core service as well as the ideals and culture of their organizations.

After consultation with every member of DCO, a change in our operating name from Distress Centres Ontario to Distress and Crisis Ontario was approved, and became effective with the start of the 2015/2016 fiscal year on April 1st, 2015. Read more.

Human Resources Management: What Every Not-for-profit Needs to Know

One of the DCO Spring Conference sessions focused on the idea that effective Human Resource Management is a critical component of any successful not-for-profit organization. To present the details and in-depth look at the essentials of HR Management, Patrick Gauch was brought in to be part of the spring program, and provided a follow-up to his session for Distress Centre executives and leaders last fall. Read more.

Volunteering and Giving 2015.

Stats Canada’s 2015 Spotlight on Canadians: Results from the General

10 Questions for Board Members

The board is convened for the purpose of governance. However, meetings often
Social Survey illustrates the changes in volunteering and charitable giving between 2004 and 2013. The survey, conducted every three years, shows interesting trends that indicate changes in the number and proportion of volunteers, generational and gender roles in volunteering, and charitable donations which ultimately reflect our society. Read more.

To avoid wasting money, directors should be educated and encouraged to ask the right questions... Read more.

Evaluating Our Services: 2015 Spring Conference

We want our association members to know how our association offerings are appreciated by the membership and community partners. During the last week of March, DCO hosted a two-day conference, Making the Pieces Fit: Enhancing Organizational Effectiveness. The intent of this conference was to expand on the organizational learnings from our highly regarded Fall 2014 Conference of the same name. Read more.

2015 Federal Budget: Impact on Charities

On April 21, 2015, Finance Minister Joe Oliver introduced the 2015 budget which contains a number of important proposed amendments of benefit to the charitable and not-for-profit sector. These amendments permitting registered charities, including private foundations, and registered Canadian amateur athletic associations, to invest in limited partnerships, and the introduction of the Social Finance Accelerator Initiative, a program to encourage social finance in Canada. Read more.

Upcoming Events and Centre News

DCO 2015 Fall Conference
September 24–25
Location: GTA

DCO 2015 Annual General Meeting
Thursday, September 24

Spirit of Volunteerism Recognition Dinner
Thursday, September 24

Upcoming Learning Forums Videos
April: Bullying
May: Autism

London and District Distress Centre’s Diva Day
Sunday, May 3
The Windermere Manor
Diva Day is an annual event that provides an opportunity for women to be pampered and spoiled while raising money for the London and District Distress Centre. Participants of Diva Day receive the opportunity to try new products and services, visit with friends, and enjoy a day dedicated to make them feel like Divas! Please email cheryl@londondistresscentre.com for more information.

Upcoming Meetings

Board of Directors
May 13
July 8
September 16
November 11

Education Committee
May 28
June 25

ONTX Steering Committee
Bi-weekly

ONTX Working Group
Weekly on Fridays
Distress Centre Ottawa and Region's Chocolate Affair Gala
Thursday, May 7, 6 – 10 pm
Ottawa's 8th annual gala features a four course chocolate infused dinner, sweet treats by local companies, a photo booth, silent auction, chocolate fondue, a raffle draw for an all-inclusive trip for two to a 5 star resort in the Dominican Republic, door prizes and more! Click here for event information.

Please email us to share your centre's news and upcoming events in e-News & Views.