

News Release

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Community Living London benefits from REALTORS Care Foundation grant



Standing on the new accessible deck built at Community Living London's Westdale group home from left to right: Ruby Mercer (parent), Michelle Palmer (Community Living London Executive Director), and Joe Hough (LSTAR President).

The residents of Community Living London's Westdale group home have the REALTORS Care Foundation and LSTAR to thank for their new wheelchair-accessible deck, ramp and healing garden, which were finished last week. The project is designed to improve the level of safety, accessibility and quality of life for those who live, work, or visit the Westdale group home.

Community Living London was granted a \$8,500 grant from the REALTORS Care Foundation, which assists REALTORS® in re-investing in the communities in which they work and live through financial support to many local, charitable organizations. LSTAR also donated \$1,000 to the project on top of the \$17,568 the Association donated to the REALTORS Care Foundation in 2009. Other local charities that have received donations from the REALTORS Care Foundation include the women's shelters in St. Thomas and London, Mission Services of London, the London Area Food Bank, the Unity Project, Block Parents, and the Women's Rural Resource Centre.

“LSTAR is proud to support the REALTORS Care Foundation, and this year has been no exception to the generosity of our members,” says LSTAR president Joe Hough. “It makes us exceptionally proud to see first-hand what a difference these funds can make.”

Community Living London was established in 1952 and currently provides support and services to almost 800 children, adults, and their families. Community Living London provides accommodation support to more than 150 men, women, and children who live in the London area and have an intellectual disability.

The Association's jurisdiction includes Middlesex and Elgin Counties, home to nearly 500,000 residents. An average of \$46,400 is spent in additional expenditure per real estate transaction in Canada. For the average of 480,120 homes processed annually through MLS® systems in Canada during the period between 2006 and 2008, spending attributable to moving house totaled over \$22.3 billion per year – a significant contribution to the total Canadian economy. REALTORS® believe healthy communities depend on a strong economy, safe neighborhoods, a clean environment, access to housing and the protection of rights of property owners. The Multiple Listing Service® is a cooperative marketing system used only by Canada's real estate boards and associations to ensure maximum exposure of properties for sale. All of LSTAR's listings may be found on the public website at www.REALTOR.ca.