

Easter Seals Nova Scotia

ANNUAL REPORT 2010 HIGHLIGHTS

This year has been one of positive change and growth.

Our decision to move to the single identity of Easter Seals Nova Scotia has been a smooth process aided by a new website that has helped to communicate our mission. Positive change also came about through the development of our four-year strategic plan which provided opportunity to evaluate priorities and plan ahead; in all cases looking to expand our services and programming to even more people who are in need across the province.

We initiated significant program growth serving more than 3,500 persons with disabilities and their families.

This programming included both our Assistive Devices Program and the new Nova Scotia Wheelchair Recycling program. Wheelchairs, seating, walkers, safety and transfer equipment and much more were provided to clients in financial need.

We responded to more requests than ever before for information about education, housing, health, seniors, transportation, assistive devices, employment and funding resources.

Our Active Living Programs expanded to include a school disability-awareness program using adapted sports play.

New Leaf Enterprises expanded the training and employment programs to a new community café at Shannex Parkstone Residential Facility and increased its number of clients in its Therapeutic Work Project at the Rehabilitation Hospital.

Easter Seals Nova Scotia was honoured with a declaration in the legislature being made by the Hon. Maureen MacDonald, Minister of Health, declaring 'March is Easter Seals Month'. This was celebrated with a series of spring time fundraising initiatives including the Easter Seals Appeal, a Giant Easter Egg Hunt and pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Fundraising and sponsorship support continued to grow this year despite a challenging economy. A very successful Gala evening with silent and live auctions, an increase in Easter Seals Paper Egg sales across the province and our flourishing centennial partnership with the Canadian Navy through our "Dolphins in the City" Public Art Project have made this a benchmark year.

We are so grateful for all the support we have received this year from our partners, sponsors, staff, and volunteers. Thank you to each person who gave to this organization. Together we are working to create more caring and equitable communities helping children, youth, adults and seniors with physical disabilities to actively participate, live healthier and more independently, and experience respect and dignity.