

Education Services *NEWSLETTER*

Celebrating 15 years of Education Services!

Since 1988, Bartimaeus Inc. has been providing behavioural, emotional and programming support to children, adolescents and their families. Fifteen years ago, Education Services was created. Since then, we have been providing specialized services tailored to the needs of students in private and public school systems. Over the past fifteen years Education Services have evolved to better meet the needs of those we work with. At present, Bartimaeus Education Services offer one-to-one work with at-risk students, group programming for students, and recently enhanced training and consulting services for educators.

In recognition of fifteen years of working with students in public and private sectors, we have created this inaugural edition of our **Education Services Newsletter**.

NEW

BARTIMAEUS EDUCATION CONSULTING GROUP

On September 12, 2005 we began a new service in Ontario, led by Larry Chapin. Bartimaeus Education Consulting Group is composed of experienced educators and mental health professionals. The services, provided in the school setting, assist schools in meeting the unique learning challenges of at-risk and complex-needs students. Our consultants are available to assist in the development of student learning plans, program design and implementation, classroom management, special programs, and system-wide initiatives.

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WE WELCOME LARRY CHAPIN!



Larry Chapin (left) welcomed by Bill Carty, President of Bartimaeus Inc. (right).

Larry Chapin brings over thirty years of experience as a teacher, head of guidance, vice-principal, principal, and most recently as the Supervising Principal for Care, Treatment, and Custody programs for the Toronto District School Board. In addition, Larry is past president of the Ontario Association of School Board Administrators of Care, Treatment, Custody and Corrections Programs.

50 000 HOURS OF EDUCATION SERVICES PER SCHOOL YEAR

We are proud that our Education Services now provide close to 50 000 hours of Direct and Group Services, per school year, to school boards throughout Ontario and Québec.

In Québec, Bartimaeus offers services in 46 schools in six school boards (five in the Montréal Region, and one covering Hudson's Bay and Ungava Bay).

In Ontario, we offer services in over 50 schools across Central Ontario. Services are provided for individual students, classrooms and overall school support. We support students with special needs, mental health issues and behavioural difficulties.

Schools that are experiencing difficulties with groups of children in areas of peer conflict, social interaction and bullying are also accessing our services in order to address these issues.



Rick Miraglia, Behaviour Resource Specialist at the York Catholic District School Board - a key partner for us.



Sandra Montgomery (left), Superintendent of Special Services at the Toronto Catholic District School Board, and Lori Townsend (right), Director, Education Support Services - Ontario, meet to discuss services for high-risk students.

FUTURE PLANS

We are working toward providing more one-to-one services to schools in Québec and more Group Programming services to schools in Ontario. Québec schools have primarily used Group Programming services (such as Playground Leadership showcased on page 3), while Ontario schools have requested services directed at the individual student. We have seen the benefits of providing both individual and group services, and have increased our capacity in both provinces to respond to requests for either type of service.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

Paul Saunders joins Bartimaeus Québec Education Consulting Group as a senior education consultant for the province of Québec and Northern Region.

Paul is a recently retired principal who has worked in some of the toughest inner-city schools in Montréal. Paul's expertise is consulting with school administrators and teachers; our expertise is Child and Youth work. Together we can offer a broader perspective, practical experience and invaluable expertise to schools with challenging situations.

SHOWCASE

PLAYGROUND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Playground Leadership Program provides structured games and activities and addresses aggression, bullying and other antisocial behaviour in elementary schools. The unique aspect of the program is that it works particularly well with grade 5 and 6 children who exhibit some antisocial behaviour. These children, who often have natural leadership abilities, become members of the Playground Leadership team and are trained in social skills, conflict resolution techniques, and animation skills. Following the training, they receive leadership t-shirts; during recess and lunch, they are scheduled to animate programs with the younger students in kindergarten to grade three, help resolve disputes, and support adult supervisors.

This sense of being a role model gets instilled, and the Playground Leaders start gaining recognition from teachers for the good work that they are doing. In future situations where they may have previously exhibited bullying or poor behaviour prior to training, they often experience “positive contamination” from their role, and no longer act out in the presence of small children, or at all.



From left to right: Gary Tennant, Centennial Park School Principal, Sylvie Robillard, a teacher highly involved in the Playground Leadership Program, Andrew Middleton, the Bartimaeus Associate who developed and implemented the program at the Centennial Park School, and Doug Brice, Director of Education Support Services for Bartimaeus Québec.

Implemented by Bartimaeus Associates in Québec, the **Playground Leadership Program** now runs in 11 different schools in Québec.

One of the schools that has significantly benefited from the program, **Centennial Park School** in Chateauguay, Québec, has been recognized in the September 2005 issue of **Today's Parent**, in the article “40 Top Schools in Canada - Rising to a Challenge”.

The Playground Leadership Program has been running for 4 years, and is currently implemented in 11 different schools in Québec.

Education Support Services can be combined with other Bartimaeus services to ensure continuity of service for vulnerable children, adolescents and adults with special needs.

Bartimaeus Inc. often partners with **Leaps & Bounds Services**, whose Specialized Programming Services provide ABA services to children who have been diagnosed with autism. Leaps and Bounds also provides other specialized services that support children, adolescents and adults with neuro-integrative disorders. These disorders include Autism, Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Down Syndrome, Attention Deficit Disorder, Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, Asperger's Disorder, Developmental Delays, Tourette's Syndrome, brain injuries or other disorders which affect an individual's ability to cope with, process and respond to information.

NORTH OF 55°

Bartimaeus Québec has expanded Education Support Services to Nunavik, a region making up the northern third of the province of Québec. Nunavik is homeland to the Inuit of Québec.

The services are headed by Dennis Farley. We started offering support services two years ago, and are now working in seven Nunavik communities.

We provide support by looking at ways that people in the community can work more effectively together. The non-threatening approach and culturally-sensitive nature of our services has allowed us to provide expertise to the Inuit and others who work with them that help not only the children, but entire communities.

We take direction from the schools, school board and communities in which we work; we continuously evolve, and learn from our customers.

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