

NEWS RELEASE

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Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region receives OASIS Awards for outstanding contributions to developmental services

Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region (EAFWR) was named the recipient of two awards at the 2019 Ontario Agencies Supporting Individuals with Special Needs (OASIS) Conference Awards Gala on May 9. Executive Director Allan Mills was on hand to accept the 3rd Annual OASIS Member Leadership Award on behalf of Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region. Mills also accepted the George Braithwaite Scholarship on behalf of Director of Programs, Ron Trajano, who was unable to attend the event.

"We are honoured to be recognized with these prestigious awards. The Member Leadership Award is a celebration of our ongoing work and commitment to community, dignity and belonging for the people we serve and their families," said Allan Mills, Executive Director of Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region. "We are also pleased that Ron Trajano has been awarded the George Braithwaite Scholarship. This achievement recognizes Ron's extensive experience in development services, his commitment to continuous learning and to the community, and more recently, his work at EAFWR."

The OASIS Member Leadership Award recognizes an OASIS member organization:

- that demonstrates excellence, innovation and leadership in the developmental services sector and best exemplifies the interests and mission of OASIS;
- that demonstrates collaboration, partnership and professionalism and in so doing has provided an inspiration to others; and
- that, by a combination of perseverance, determination and positive attitude has assisted OASIS in achieving the goals inherent in its Mission Statement.

The <u>George Braithwaite Scholarship</u> was established in recognition of former OASIS Board member and President, George Braithwaite for his volunteer contributions to OASIS. As one of the founding members of OASIS, George exemplified the mission of OASIS through his tireless efforts, strong leadership and numerous activities on behalf of people with developmental disabilities. Director of Programs, Ron Trajano will attend the <u>National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities Leadership Institute</u> at the University of Delaware.

Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region was founded in 1981 by parents of children with developmental disabilities, as a way to build friendship and nurture community in Waterloo Region. As a local not-for-profit who serves 2,000 adults and children with developmental and physical disabilities, EAFWR is committed to community, dignity and belonging for all. Learn more at www.eafwr.on.ca.

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