

June 3, 2005

SOUTH NIAGARA YOUTH GROUPS RECEIVE FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Two agencies serving youth across South Niagara are the recipients of the latest round of grants from the Niagara Community Foundation. With only two grants awarded in the current round, both went to agencies serving the southern tier. **Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara** received \$5,000 and **Adolescent's Family Support Services of Niagara** received \$9,000.

"Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara is thankful for the support received from the Niagara Community Foundation," said **Greg Whelan**, the agency's executive director. "The grant received to upgrade existing technology concludes organizational issues resulting from a consolidation of programs in January 2004. We are now able to move forward."

"Our grant will assist with furnishing the new home of our Welland Parent Child Centre in the former Welland YMCA building on East Main Street," said **Margaret Jarrell**, AFSSN's executive director. "We have been required to move our service 3 times over the past 14 years in Welland alone. This dislocation over time could have destabilized service delivery, so the need for a permanent, lasting facility was identified. **And it's even more exciting to be part of the downtown revitalization.**"

Both agencies draw their clients from **Pelham, Port Colborne, Wainfleet and Welland**. The grants were awarded in response to a call for proposals from the Niagara Community Foundation for groups working with youth at risk.

Local charities interested in securing a grant from the foundation should go to its website at www.niagaracommunityfoundation.org. The next deadline is July 29th for the Community Grants Program where \$50,000 in grants will be available.

Since the foundation's launch in 2000, over \$750,000 in grants have been awarded to groups across Niagara. The Niagara Community Foundation builds and manages income earning endowment funds to support charitable activities.

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