

The LINK

August 2022



LINX AGM 2022

The LINX Day Program has partnered up with The City of Leduc and Communities in Bloom this summer to help maintain some of the gorgeous gardens around our beautiful city!



The Communities in Bloom initiative doesn't just make our city look good. It promotes civic pride, community involvement, economic development, and tourism opportunities. The City of Leduc has been participating in the Communities in Bloom program since 2000.



Huge thank you to Brad Symes for getting our volunteers set up with everything they need to weed and dead head. I hope you think of us next time you take in the gardens surrounding Telford Lake, stone barn area, and along 46th Street!

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Dates to remember:

August 1, 2022 – CLOSED for Civic Holiday

Hearts and Heroes



Board Members

Ann Kurlovich – Chairperson
Nicole Murphy – Vice-Chairperson
Cortnee Brunet – Treasurer
Shannon Henry – Secretary
Cory Albert – Client Rep

LINX Bottle Pick-Up

Give us a call, and we will pick up your bottles and give you a charitable tax receipt for your donation!



You can now safely donate to LINX online at www.linx.ngo



Executive Director Report

I have just come back from what I would say is my best camping trip ever. I can definitely attribute it to great weather, my awesome family (both with us and those who stayed behind to take care of our animals), amazing scenery, fun and relaxing activities, and so on. We definitely have memories and pictures that reflect how fantastic our trip was.

Now vacation is over and back to work I go. I have often spoken about how much I love my job and can't wait to come to work. This year things seemed a little different though. I was more relaxed coming back than I ever have been before.

Of course, some of that was the great vacation itself, but this year it is so much more. I have been told I am a bit of a workaholic and don't take time away that well. It might be a slight bit true. LINX means so much to me that no matter what I always worry and need to check in. This year I still did my check ins... but I didn't worry. I keep thinking of the saying that starts with "It takes a village...". LINX is very much like that. It is not just one or a few of us that makes it so strong... it's the LINX village that make it the incredible place it is: the clients, the staff, the Board, the families, and the community. It has been a rough couple years for everyone, and I already knew how resilient LINX has been. It took until my vacation to realize we have progressed further than we have ever been before. Look out world... the LINX village is strong, and we are working together to change lives!



Day Program Report

Have you ever shared your experience with someone, only to be met with a negative opposing point of view? Sometimes, this can impact our relationships, both personally and professionally. It can make people uncomfortable and stop you from sharing your experience again. Your experiences, my experiences, our experiences, are not universal. Just because I have seen something or felt something, doesn't mean everyone will have the same response.

Think about the last restaurant you ate at – How was the food? How was the service? Did you enjoy your experience? For me, the answer is yes! If I was sharing my experience at this restaurant with someone and they responded with "Ew! That restaurant is disgusting. I went there last year and found a hair in my meal!" Does that mean my experience was wrong? Should I avoid that restaurant because of what someone else experienced? Of course not! This same logic can be used for people, job sites, policies, even movies! Your experiences are yours alone, don't let other people impact the way you feel or ruin a good experience. No two people on this earth are going to experience life in the same way...isn't that the beauty of it all?

Residential Program Report

What exactly does an Outreach worker do? Outreach workers do many different types of support. They support individuals in their own apartments with the skills they need to live independently. You can also find Outreach workers supporting people by doing activities with an individual just for fun. This is called hourly respite. Outreach workers can be found in the community supporting youth to access their community.

Outreach workers do all kinds of supports that are in the client's home or in the community they usually support people in a 3-hour block. You might find them supporting people in the following places in the community: at the grocery store, at the doctor's office, in the bank, the bottle depot, the LRC swimming pool, or the pharmacy. You could find them almost anywhere.

Outreach workers help with many skills. The following is a list of some of the most popular skills: Budgeting, cooking, grocery shopping, apartment management, safety in the community, making an appointment, social skills, emotional management, meal planning, and following doctors' orders.



Through Our Eyes

Our LINX Leaders

Our class had the opportunity earlier this month to interview our LINX Management, as we interviewed the managers, we learnt that some of the managers have been at LINX for many years, ranging from 4 years all the way to 25 years plus!

Each manager has their strengths and weaknesses; they have worked and continue to work together to build LINX into a safe and welcoming place for clients. Nicole is our Executive Manager and has been with LINX for over 25 years! People often refer to her as, “the boss” as she manages our management. Ronni is our Residential Manager and has been with LINX for 16 years! Ronni is in control of all things residential, this includes support homes, respite, and outreach. Katie is our Day Program Manager; she has been with us for 4 years. She is in charge of all the classes, volunteer placements, job visits and job support. Laurie is our Business Manager; she has been with us for 10 years! Laurie oversees all things financial, ranging from bills to employee paychecks. Fun fact: Laurie used to own Sears and be one of our LINX employers.

When asked what a “typical day” is like for our managers, we learnt that for some of them, they arrive early and leave late. Their days usually consist of meetings, checking emails, and answering phone calls. When their work gets piled up or they feel overwhelmed, they come and visit us.

Our managers have funny stories to tell, and when they hear stories from clients it makes them laugh and join in the fun. Our managers usually have good jokes to tell us, and we make them laugh as well. Our managers love to tease us clients about anything, like how great the Saskatchewan Roughriders are, and say things like, “you work my job, so I can go home”. No matter what obstacles we face, Managers and Clients work together as one team and support each other. We lift each other up, especially when we get stuck on an idea; we back each other up and offer new perspectives.

That’s all for this month, please stay tuned for next month. If you think you or someone else you might know has some career or industry knowledge and stories to share with us, please reach out! We would love to hear from you!



Our "...of the month" club!

There are so many people who make our world a better place. So, we have decided they needed individual recognition. Please help us celebrate our Employer, Client, Day Staff, and Residential Staff of the Month. If you see someone in any of these categories that you would like to see recognized, please let us know!

Employer of the Month: From The Sole



From the Sole is a home-based business that has been a LINX partner since April of this year. The owner, Stephanie, provides a work experience placement teaching computer and data entry skills as well as sewing and quilting.



Client of the Month: Aleah Demone

🐾 What drew you to LINX originally?

There are nice clients at LINX

🐾 What is your favourite LINX memory?

Learning new things.

Making funny jokes with other clients and friends.

Being around clients at LINX.

🐾 What three words describe LINX?

Job Searching. Workrooms. Friends.

🐾 What is your favourite part about working with LINX?

Being able to help other clients, like when they need computer help in class.

🐾 If you had to eat one meal every day for the rest of your life, what would it be? Spaghetti, salad, and macaroni!

🐾 If you were stuck on an island, what are some things you would bring?

My iPhone and my coloring book.

🐾 What did you want to be when you were growing up?

A teacher, a singer and moving into my own place.

🐾 What is something you can't live without?

My bike, my computer, and my bedroom.



Day Program Staff of the Month: Corrine Kratchmer

Corrine has been an excellent addition to the LINX team! She brings a positive outlook and fresh perspective to each day! Thank you for all your hard work and contributions to the LINX team!

- 🐾 What drew you to LINX originally? Employment in my related field that allowed me to do a job that I love and offered me more of a work life balance.
- 🐾 Before working at LINX, what was the most interesting job you've ever had? Long before LINX I ran a day home. Every day was full of new adventures, and I loved being a part of nurturing those little minds.
- 🐾 What three words describe LINX? Welcoming, Inspiring and Rewarding
- 🐾 What is your favourite part about working with LINX? I love feeling like I'm part of something important.
- 🐾 If you had to eat one meal every day for the rest of your life, what would it be? Lasagna!
- 🐾 If you were stuck on an island, what three things would you bring? My family, music, and matches!
- 🐾 What did you want to be when you were growing up? A mom!
- 🐾 What is the one thing you can't live without? My family



Residential Program Staff of the Month: Darlene Urness

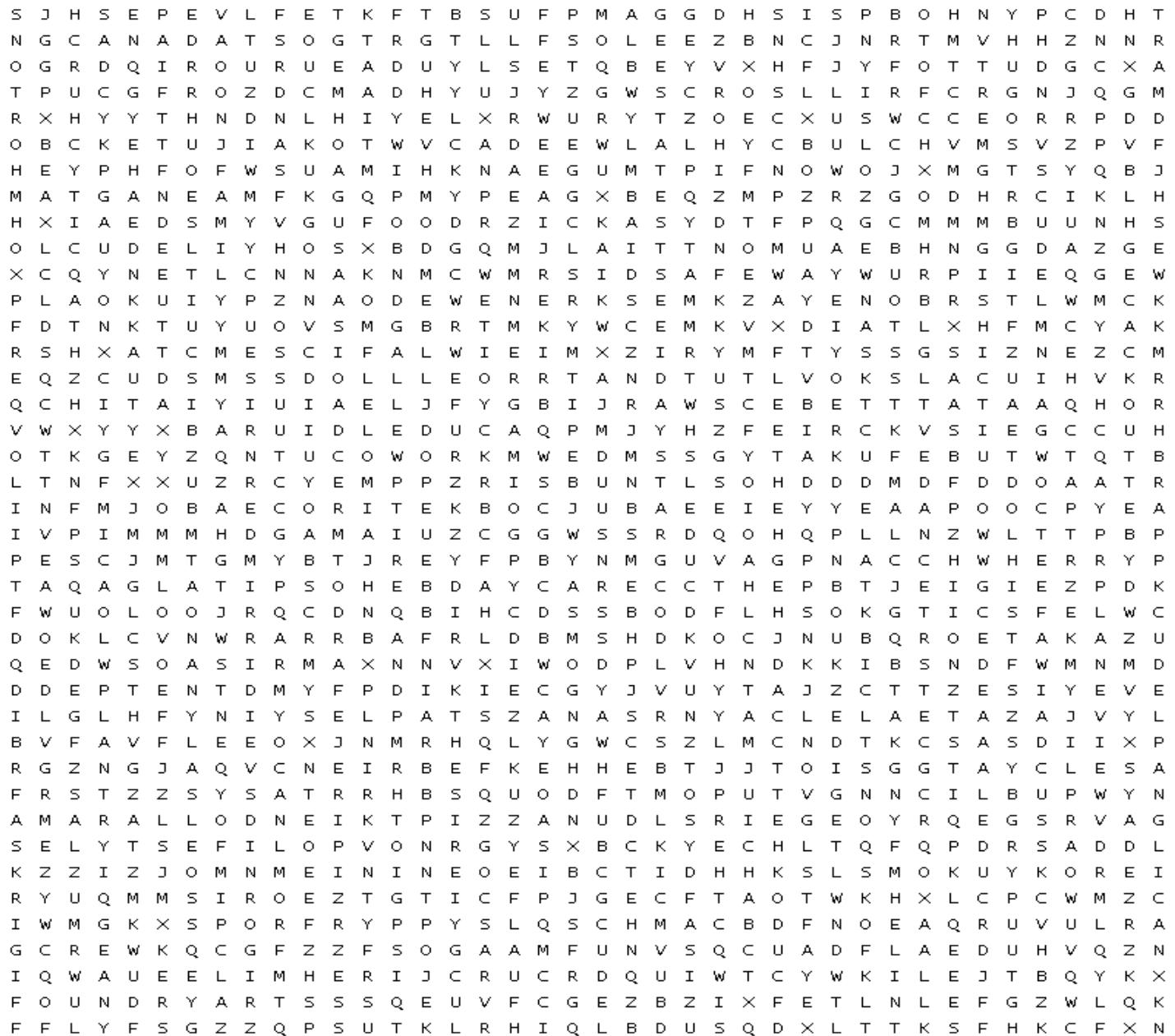
Darlene Urness, she is a new outreach worker that has stepped in and been able to do some great work. She is assisting a client to get their personal directives done at the doctor's office. She has been able to assist people with some really interesting circumstances. Thank you for being a part of the team.



- 🐾 What drew you to LINX originally? I researched LINX and saw this was a non-profit organization who works with citizens of Leduc. I wanted to be a community worker in the city of Leduc. I was taking a course for addiction and community worker and thought this would be a great opportunity. I always was a people helper, and this seemed the opportune time.
- 🐾 What is your favourite LINX memory? I worked with doctors for over fifteen years and loved it.
- 🐾 What three words describe LINX? Inclusion, caring, kind
- 🐾 What is your favourite part about working with LINX? Working with the clients is amazing. Not only do I help with things they require, they inspire me also, being so dedicated to their journey, smart real souls.
- 🐾 If you had to eat one meal every day for the rest of your life, what would it be? Potatoes and hamburger, I couldn't live without my potatoes. Beet pickles would be in the mix.
- 🐾 If you were stuck on an island, what three things would you bring? My cat (Sharlie), solar radio, and my favorite blanket.
- 🐾 What did you want to be when you were growing up? I wanted to be a medical assistant or an airline stewardess (but in my days I wasn't tall enough to qualify)
- 🐾 What is the one thing you can't live without? Music I could never be without.



LINX Employers



• A&W Nisku	• Daystar Church	• Leduc Fellowship Church	• Lifestyle Options	• Sobeys Beaumont
• Bone & Biscuit	• Dollarama	• Leduc Food Cowork	• The Lighthouse	• Sticks and Stones
• Boston Pizza	• Flaman	• From the Sole Processing Plant	• McDonalds Leduc	• St Pauls Anglican Church
• Boys and Girls Club of Leduc	• Gateway Family Church	• Leduc Public Library	• Peavey Mart	• Staples
• Canadian Tire	• Jireh Centre	• Leduc Martial Arts Academy	• Petro Canada Nisku	• Subway Leduc
• Century Mile Casino	• Leduc Arts Foundry	• Leduc Representative	• Planeview Place	• Common
• City of Leduc	• Leduc Estates School		• Renewed Resilience	• The Hub
• Connectivity			• RiseUp Society	• The Pet Hospital
• Coop Food			• Safeway	• Tim Hortons
• Days Inn & Suites			• Salvation Army	• WalMart