

## The Community Foundation of Ottawa extends lifeline to

### THE IN COMMUNITY'S

### SPECIAL NEEDS EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE SERVICE

OTTAWA – December 3, 2009. The Community Foundation of Ottawa is providing a \$20,000 grant to The In Community for its **Special Needs Equipment Exchange Service (SNEES)**. With this funding SNEES will be able to continue to provide special needs equipment to children, adults and seniors with physical disabilities and their families free of charge.

The Special Needs Equipment Exchange Service is the only service of its kind in the Ottawa area. Until very recently it had been housed in rent-free accessible space in a building now scheduled for demolition. Late last spring SNEES was asked to vacate this space by the end of October. The search for new rent-free space began in earnest but proved futile. The In Community was at a loss as it receives no operational funding for SNEES, and having to pay rent would threaten the very viability of this much needed service. It was then that the Community Foundation of Ottawa stepped in and provided a one-time grant that has made it possible for SNEES to relocate. The grant covered not only the moving expenses, but also the rent for the next 9 months. Today SNEES was officially opened at its new location, 1150 Morrison Drive.

“We’re so pleased to be part of the official opening of SNEES new location here on Morrison Drive,” said Bibi Patel, Vice-President of the Community Foundation of Ottawa. “We’re glad to have been able to support this move to what we hope will be a permanent site from which The In Community can continue to deliver this valuable service.”

“The gift comes at a critical time for the children, adults and seniors with disabilities who use this service,” said Teena Tomlinson, Executive Director, The In Community. “The generosity of the Community Foundation of Ottawa has made it possible for SNEES to continue recycling special needs equipment to those who need it for the next 9 months.”

For more information please contact Cathy Blauer at 613-724-5886 ext 233 or [cblauer@theincommuntty.ca](mailto:cblauer@theincommuntty.ca)

## **About The In Community and SNEES**

Founded in 1957, **The In Community** (formerly Disabled Persons Community Resources) is a non-profit organization that identifies, develops and delivers programs and services that maximize opportunities for the contribution, participation and inclusion of people with physical disabilities within the City of Ottawa. **SNEES** is a program of The In Community in partnership with Canada Care Medical and Nortel Networks Community Volunteers – Ottawa Retirees Club. SNEES recycles special needs equipment to children, adults and seniors. Since its inception, SNEES has recycled more than 4700 special needs items valued at over \$3,600,000. – at no cost to the individuals who needed them.

## **About the Community Foundation of Ottawa**

Established in 1987, the Community Foundation of Ottawa is a public, non-profit organization created by and for the people of Ottawa. It connects donors who care with causes that matter and serves as a trusted resource for addressing issues and leveraging opportunities in the community. Since its inception, the Community Foundation has been enabling generous citizens to enhance the quality of life in their community and to achieve their own charitable objectives through permanent, well-managed endowments.