

# THE MONTHLY POINT

## **Pivot Point Newsletter**



#### **COVID-19 Update**

Services to individuals with diverse abilities are an essential service in the province of British Columbia. As such, Pivot Point has measures in place to protect all of our clients and our staff who wish to provide / receive in-person supports. Pivot Point also provides nearly all of our services via on-line methods. View our <u>Safety Plan</u>.

## World Autism Day - April 2

Parents today experience a wide range of emotions when they first discover their child is autistic. For some, the realization can be overwhelming and scary. For others, a sense of relief as mysteries fade.

Here's one mother's journey about her son, and how she has become a strong Autism advocate and champion. Not only for her family, but an inspiration for others.

"Autism is near and dear to my heart. It has been for nearly 16 years now.

My son was diagnosed with autism at the age of two. At that time, I had no idea what autism was. I was scared and uneducated. Immediately I started asking questions to health professionals and doing my own research. It soon became very evident that my son had autism.

Over the years autism has become a lot more received worldwide. But awareness of it still needs to be known! There isn't something physical on the body to show the public your child has a disability. There aren't crutches or a cast. The disability is in the mind.

My son is my hero. He fights everyday for people to understand him. He fights autism with a smile and sense of humour. He makes the world a better place.

So, I fight right next to him by helping people become more aware of autism and how it affects those who fight it and they're loved ones who fight hand in hand."



For almost 20 years, Pivot Point has been providing a full range of support services to children, youth and adults with Autism. For example, our Online PATH service helps Teens or older (either neurotypical or with Autism or Diverse Abilities) to receive the guidance, inspiration and focus to help them and their family ensure a more successful journey towards adulthood. It starts here to create a clear PATH.

#### **Newsletter Content Submissions**

## If you would like to participate in writing content, sending in photographs and/or sharing ideas for the staff newsletter, please contact Rochelle at: marketing@pivotpoint.ca

#### Newsletter Feedback

Rochelle would like to hear from you! Please provide her with your feedback or let her know of specific topics that you would like to see in upcoming newsletters by completing our <u>Feedback & Suggestion Form</u>. Thank you for your input!

## STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Meet Amber Foster -Complex Care Program Manager



Amber brings to Pivot Point 20 plus years of hands on experience in addressing the complex behavior of children and youth who live with special needs, developmental disabilities, as well as learning, behavior and psychiatric challenges.

Throughout her career, Amber has worked closely with hundreds of families, including natural and foster families, supporting children in their care. She has completed a BA in Psychology and MA in Leadership.

<u>Learn More</u> about Pivot Point's Complex Care Program.

Thank you Amber for all you do here at Pivot Point!

### **NEWS AND EVENTS**

Now Available: Summer Day Camps and Online Caregiver Support: Rockstar Parent Workgroup!

Summer Day Camps will run in July & August for a full week from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM & Rockstar Parent will start on June 1st and run for 8 weeks.

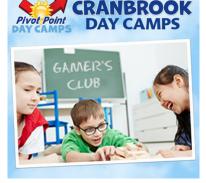
Autism Funding can be applied for all groups.

See full details on our Group Activities Page









## CLINICAL CORNER

Care Giver Support: Coaching & Training

We have always known that stronger families create better outcomes for their children. When parents and other caregivers take time to learn about their family, that entire family changes.



Pivot Point wants to inspire that shift towards a better future by introducing two new services. "Caregiver Support" is when our Lead professionals provide support to caregivers, helping them learn more about the conditions that impact their family, and then developing the skills their family needs in order to thrive

Caregiver Support TRAINING lets parents access courses, either alone or in small groups, presented by Pivot Point professionals. These classes cover a wide range of topics most important to families caring for individuals with Diverse Abilities. For example, some of the courses provide an introduction to different developmental, behavioural, or mental health conditions. Other courses offer initial training in fundamental skills for behavioural, mental health or academic treatment approaches.

Caregiver Support COACHING is when Pivot Point's Professionals provide individualized direct mentorship for the caregivers about the curriculum specific to their family.

Caregiver Supports are available from every professional discipline at Pivot Point including ABA and Behaviour, Mental Health, Education, Transition Planning, and General Family / Self Advocacy.

Keep an eye on our <u>Group Activities Page</u> to find upcoming courses!

#### Do you have questions about our services?

Need Assistance about our services, <u>Request a</u>
<u>Meeting</u> and one of our Regional Mangers in your area will connect with you for a free consultation.