

January 10, 2008

I recently attended a conference entitled, "*A Home of My Own: Promoting Supported Living for Persons with a Disability*" offered by the New Brunswick Association for Community Living. My opinion on the whole experience is that it was interesting and informative. It was a two-day conference covering topics such as recreation and services that are available to families, housing, Launch an MLA Program, respite care, etc. I met a lot of professionals, advocates, parents, mentors, and grandparents all seeking information that will help families with special needs children. I feel that attending conferences like this gives parents a better understanding of the services which are available. Ones that you did not think exist are indeed out there. Questions were asked by all attending, and the speakers did not hesitate to answer and give the audience all the right information and what avenues to go down to find it. All parents of special needs children need to know what services are out there that will give their child the best care possible in order for the child to achieve his or her best. I also feel that without the professionals being involved in our children's lives, we as parents or our children will not benefit. I was very pleased and look forward to attending conferences similar to this in the future. I and my family give thanks to everyone who give their hearts in trying to make a difference in the lives of so many families.

Lisa LaPointe  
(mother of Kyle LaPointe)