

You're Invited to a Celebration ... Marking 25 Years of Help For Kids



Robert Hull

The George Hull Centre, an innovative children's mental health facility, is marking its 25th birthday this year and we are celebrating, indeed. You are invited, by the way.

Significant anniversaries are commonly used as an opportunity for charities to make a special appeal. What is it about these milestone events that makes them important to mark and, as donors and supporters, why do we respond in an even greater way than in other years?

Marking the passage of time prompts us to reflect on what the organization means to us, and why it matters. Just as we did for

You're invited to a birthday party!

Remember how excited you would be as a kid to see that telltale little envelope handed to you in the school yard? As happy as the birthday boy was to be turning seven, you were equally excited to be included in the celebrations.



that seven-year-old friend, we present a gift to say, "We're glad you're here. Our world is a better place because you are in it."

So we look back at the George Hull Centre's 25-year history and consider who we have helped and how we have made the world a better place. We could easily count our client list and come up with a meaningful statistic, but that wouldn't include the many collateral beneficiaries: brothers and sisters who grew up with a healthier sibling; parents who could breathe a little easier; teachers who could focus on teaching; police officers who had one less crime to investigate; emergency room doctors who didn't have to respond to a suicide attempt.

Our first clients from 25 years ago are now adults. With one in five children suffering from a mental health issue, those kids we helped may today be your neighbours, your therapists, your children's teachers.

Executive director of the

George Hull Centre Jane Bray has connected with a lot of those kids over the years. She told me about a girl we'll call Sharon, a drug user, who had been repeatedly raped while visiting a crackhouse. She was admitted to a George Hull residential unit and spent more than a year in treatment. Had you met her years ago, you might well have wondered what would ever become of her. Jane is very pleased to tell us Sharon is now a nurse. Like many of our former at-risk clients, Sharon is now contributing to improving our society.

The generosity of donors in this and every year allows the George Hull Centre to help more young people like Sharon.

Happy Anniversary!

Robert Hull

Robert Hull is a partner at Gowlings law firm, practising in the field of corporate finance from its Toronto office. He is a past Chair of the Board of The George Hull Centre for Children and Families, and presently serves as the Chair of The George Hull Centre Foundation. Bob is the son of George Hull, a long time educator in Etobicoke, after whom the Centre was named.
www.georgehullcentre.on.ca



Join us for an evening of festivity with delectable food, refreshments and much laughter featuring Toronto's best comedians as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary!

BMO Financial Group
Presents an evening of laughter to benefit



A children's mental health centre offering hope and healing to at risk children, youth and their families

Friday, May 7th 2010 - 6:30 pm
The Carlu - 444 Yonge St. (at College), Toronto
Tickets: \$150

Information 416-622-8833 ext 229
www.georgehullcentre.on.ca

In celebration of **Children's Mental Health Week in Canada**