



**THE ABLE NETWORK**  
...promising futures

# ABLE NETWORK NEWS

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## CONGRATULATIONS KIRSTENE!!

BY JAMIE DEMPSTER

Kirstene is pregnant! My friends and I are all happy that Kirstene is going to have a baby. She is scheduled to give birth on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014. I'm really excited. Some of us think she is going to have a boy but I think she is going to have a healthy baby girl. We have all been trying to help Kirstene throughout her pregnancy. We help her by carrying her bags and coat up and down the stairs and out to her car. Her last day of work is going to be Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. She is going to take a baby break to spend time with her new baby for the first year. I'm going to miss her especially on Tuesday mornings but I'll be OK.



Kirstene working hard at her desk.

## DOING MY STUDENT PLACEMENT AT THE ABLE NETWORK BY AJ KIRKPATRICK



Nick & AJ

My name is AJ Kirkpatrick. I go to Georgian College in Orillia. I am studying to be a Child & Youth Worker. At ABLE, I am a placement student who learns while supporting all of the participants. I also do assignments at ABLE, and then hand them into one of my teachers. Before I came to ABLE, I knew many of the participants from coaching with the Special Ducks Swim Team. I am going to be finished school on April 17. After I am finished school, I hope to work at a place just like ABLE.

## THE WINTER OLYMPICS BY NICK PORTER & GEMMA KIDD

### CONGRATULATIONS TO GEMMA KIDD

Gemma received the character trait award this month as she has been consistently practicing being responsible, respectful, honest, fair and has shown initiative on many occasions. Keep up the good work Gemma!



Gemma with her award.

**Nick:** I was excited about the Olympic hockey. On Thursday, February 20 I was at the gym when the women were playing the gold medal game. There was a TV at the gym. Canada was losing but they tied it up. Céline, Ryan and I watched the overtime period. I was so happy when Canada scored the game winning goal.

**Gemma:** I love watching the Olympics. My favourite sport to watch is figure skating. I watched with my sister because she was home for her reading week. We got to watch the semi-final game of the men's hockey on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> at ABLE. It was fun to watch at ABLE because we don't usually watch TV. It was so exciting to watch the game with my friends because most of us really like hockey. We all cheered and screamed when Canada won the game. I watched the final game with my family. I was so proud of Canada for winning the gold medal.

## WORKING AT THE CLOTHES CLOSET WITH VIVIENNE ARKEVELD BY DOUG SOOLEY

I volunteer at the Clothes Closet every second Tuesday morning. I work in the store with Vivienne Arkeveld. When I get to the Clothes Closet Vivienne is not there yet. I unlock the store and set up all the racks in the basement of the Trinity Anglican Church. Vivienne helps me to set up the bookkeeping log. Vivienne and I put the new clothes on the racks and then we are ready for customers. The store is open from 9:30-11:30AM. We have a lot of different customers but some are regulars. We even know some of their names. I always try to be friendly with the customers so that they will like shopping there. Some weeks we make a lot of money. When we close the store we put the money we made in an envelope and I hand it in to the Church office. I would like to thank Vivienne for coming in every week to help me.



Doug & Vivienne working together.

## WORKING AT OMAR'S SHOES BY ADAM BROOKES



Raz & Adam at Omar's Shoes.

I work at Omar's Shoes in the No Frills Plaza. I have been working there since 2008. I sweep, clean the mirrors, dust and take out the garbage. My boss' names are Raz and Natalie. I work at Omar's on Monday, Thursday and Friday morning from 9:30AM-noon. I walk to and from work. I like working at Omar's because I get paid for my work. I also like to shop there too! I buy my shoes at Omar's and I bought a scarf for my sister for Christmas. My boss and my co-workers are very friendly.

## THE ABLE NETWORK WELCOMES SAMANTHA COULTER

Staff and participants are excited to welcome Samantha to the ABLE Network program. She will be working as a program facilitator starting March 03, 2014.



## ON THE CALENDAR THIS MONTH

Character Trait of the month: **Courage**  
March 04-Michael's birthday  
March 17-St. Patrick's Day

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