

A N A D V E R T I S I N G F E A T U R E O F T H E O T T A W A C I T I Z E N

# Charitable Giving & Estate Planning



Thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of Ottawa, iSisters opened its eighth Technology and Learning Centre in partnership with Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization in 2010.

## iSisters opens up new vistas for women in need

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**I** Sisters Technology Mentoring connects women in need with opportunities to become more technologically literate through learning programs in the Ottawa area. Celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, the organization has grown from a group of volunteer teachers supporting pregnant teens at St. Mary's Home in 2001 to a wide-reaching series of partnerships with such charitable organizations as Big Brothers Big Sisters Ottawa, Tungasuvvingat Inuit, the Youville Centre, Immigrant Women Services Ottawa, Cornerstone Women's Shelter and St. Joe's Women's Centre.

With the support of a grant from the Community Foundation of Ottawa, iSisters opened its eighth Technology and Learning Centre

in partnership with Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization in 2010. Modelled on the employment support program at Immigrant Women Services Ottawa, which graduates 30 to 40 women every three weeks, the centre makes iSisters' services accessible to new Canadian women in Ottawa's west end.

"This OCISO program allows participants to learn 21st century job skills that are key to helping women gain financial stability," said Jolynn Sommerville, executive director of iSisters. "By providing free access to customized learning programs for unemployed and marginalized immigrant women, iSisters is able to help them to increase their economic independence while significantly improving their self-esteem. With the support of the grant from the Community Foundation of Ottawa, we have been able to reach a whole new community of women in need."

The latest feather in iSisters' cap

is its Mobile Learning Lab, which recently won the TELUS 2011 Innovation Award. Also funded by the Community Foundation of Ottawa, the Lab was recognized for demonstrating social and technological innovation. The iSisters Mobile Learning Lab is currently delivering training programs in new technologies to young women at Tewegan House and Operation Come Home.

iSisters will celebrate its 10th anniversary at its Annual General Meeting tonight at the C3 Centre at 1155 Lola St. Hosted by CTV reporter Karen Soloman, the evening celebrations will include tributes to learners, donors, staff, volunteers and stakeholders for their generosity and continued support.

For more information about iSisters Technology Mentoring, visit [www.isisters.org](http://www.isisters.org). For information about how to make a difference in the community or apply for a grant from the Community Foundation of Ottawa, visit [www.cfo-fco.ca](http://www.cfo-fco.ca).

## Ottawa women

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### The Ann Diamond Fund

Ann Diamond is a singularly determined and independent woman. An only child who grew up in Saskatoon, Ann moved to Ottawa in 1975 following a diverse administrative dietetics career in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver. Ann then worked for 16 years as director of dietetics at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, where she was part of a team which founded the largest centralized hospital food production operation in the country.

When she retired in 1991, Ann was able to turn her attention to her many other interests, including music, gardening and travel. One of her favourite passions soon became charitable giving and the work of the Community Foundation of Ottawa.

Introduced to the Foundation by her lawyer when preparing her will, Ann became instantly enamoured with the work it was carrying out in the community. Not only did she find it an ideal vehicle through which she could give to the many causes she cared about, but she felt a strong personal connection to the organization itself, becoming one of its longest-serving volunteers.

"Since establishing my fund here and working directly with the Foundation as a volunteer, I have learned so much more about the community than I could have discovered on my own," said Ann. "I particularly appreciate the personal service I receive as a donor, and the fact that I'm able to make gifts to all my favourite charities by writing one single cheque each year."

Among her many interests, Ann is particularly passionate about supporting children and the elderly, and in contributing to those who work to fight poverty and homelessness in Ottawa. She does this by using her fund to support such or-



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— Ann Diamond

ganizations as the Mission, the Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa, and Big Brothers Big Sisters Ottawa, as well as a variety of support programs for seniors, local community houses and school breakfast programs. An avid music aficionado, Ann also supports local music education programs, including those for underprivileged students.

Having established a donor-advised fund that will continue via a bequest after her lifetime, Ann is especially pleased with the fact that she can make these ongoing charitable gifts now, and that her fund will continue to support organizations and causes she cares so deeply about in perpetuity.

For more information about how you can leave a legacy by establishing a fund with the Community Foundation of Ottawa, visit [www.cfo-fco.ca](http://www.cfo-fco.ca) or call 613-236-1616.