

LIGHTS Funds its First HOME

Meet Peter and Derek



Left to right: Peter Brennan, Amal Alles and Derek Stevenson.

Peter and Derek have always been very capable, sociable, young men who are very well liked by their peers and community members. Their families have known each other for a number of years and during May of 2010, decided to embark on a partnership which would provide their son's with a more independent life on their own. This was a life that both Peter and Derek had been dreaming and asking for.

After much planning, Peter and Derek moved into a townhouse that was purchased by Peter's grandmother in the Port Union and Lawrence area of Scarborough. Each use their ODSP and SSAH funding to pay for monthly expenses such as staff

support, transportation and recreation. Their families contribute funds above and beyond what Peter and Derek can afford to cover monthly expenses.

Peter and Derek, along with their families decided to go through the LIGHTS process to help them with the long term viability of their home. As they went through the process they decided to also apply to the LIGHTS Advisory Board for funding to relieve some of the financial strain and give Peter and Derek more freedom and independence.

The LIGHTS Advisory Board approved their funding and while their families still contribute financially in order to make this partnership work the LIGHTS funding will enable them to plan for the future for Peter and Derek better and work towards the long-term sustainability of this home.

" I love my new home! The bus stop is right outside my front door. I like my housemate, Peter, and all the new friends I have made. I like deciding what I am going to eat, food shopping, making meals and cleaning up - that is my specialty. I go to Martial Arts, by myself, with my new Metropass. I like my freedom, to do my own thing. " Derek Stevenson



Investing in Individuals

LIGHTS is a unique new option that helps individuals with an intellectual disability live in a place of their own. For more information go to www.LIGHTS.to.