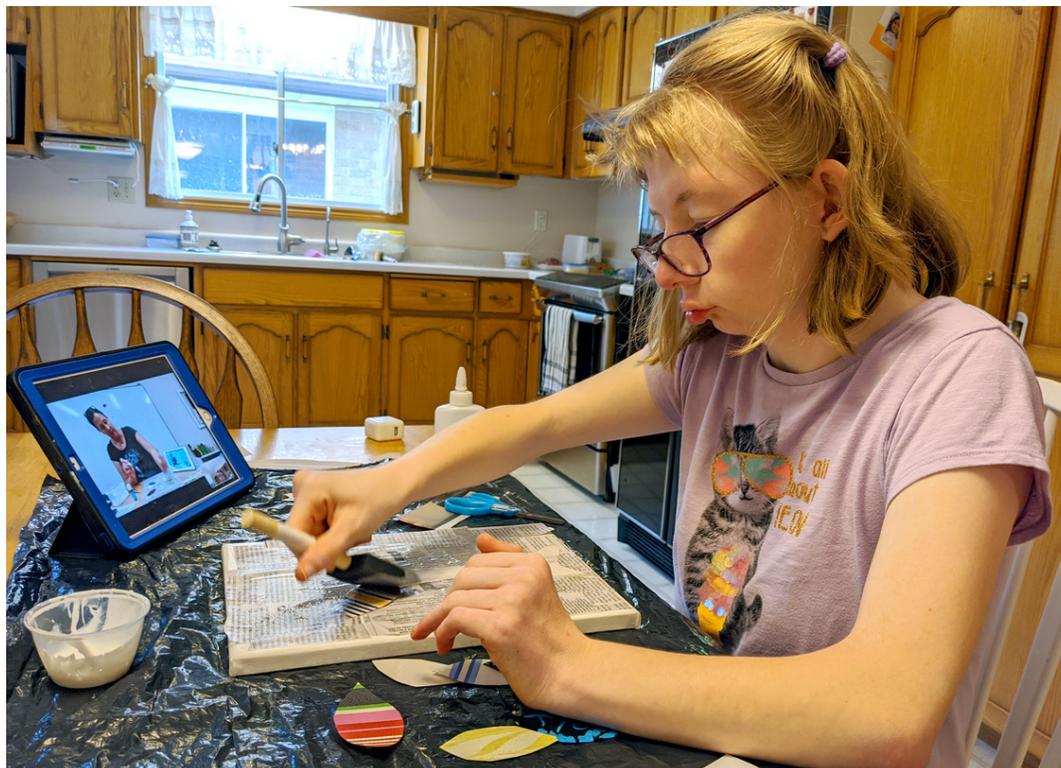




# KW habilitation



## Online Learning at KW Hab

We're teaching classes online at KW Hab from Monday to Friday! Sing-Alongs, Mindfulness, Chair Yoga and other classes are free to anyone interested in attending and there are several fee-for-service options available too. To check out the calendar of available classes, please [click here](#).

## What's Inside?

- 50 years at KW Hab
- Pi(e) Day
- Strategic Pathways Update
- AND MORE!

## A NOTE FROM ANN

This last year has been like nothing I ever could have predicted. We have been physically distancing, working from home, (for those who were able) masking up and following public health guidelines for a full year. People are tired, burnt out and missing in-person connections. I miss them too.

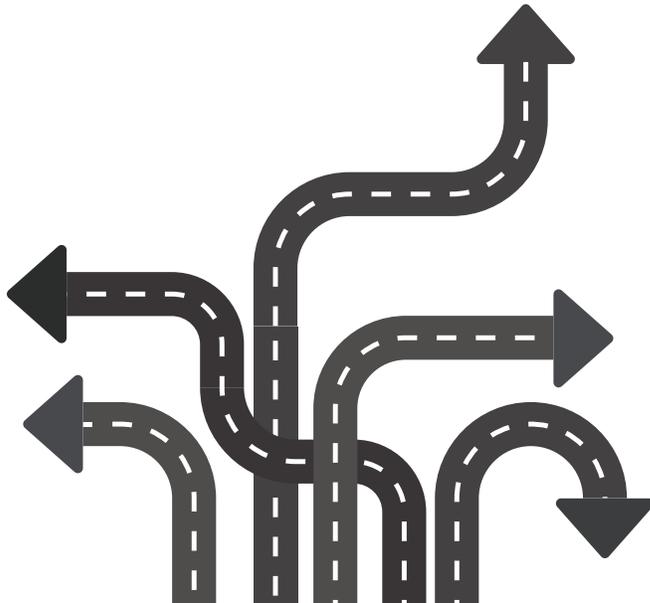
One year on, however, and I can't help feeling hopeful. We've started Rapid Antigen Testing for COVID-19 at KW Hab, we're working with Public Health to help disseminate vaccines to the people we support and our staff as one of three pop-up vaccination sites in Waterloo Region, and every day it's getting warmer.

I'm proud to say that our staff team continues to amaze me. The work they're doing to keep people connected, safe, and content is something I'll never stop celebrating.

Celebrating is definitely something I'm planning to do this year. After everything people have done since the start of the pandemic to keep the people we support, our staff and families safe and as we get closer to KW Habilitation's 50th anniversary, I'm definitely ready for a party. I would like to invite you to join us in celebrating our 50th anniversary, it's going to be a great year.



## STRATEGIC PATHWAY UPDATES



We have been working with People Minded Business (PMB) to develop new strategic pathways for KW Habilitation and we would like to invite you to join us for an update.

**PEOPLE WE SUPPORT: APRIL 23, 2021 AT 3 PM**  
**RSVP**

**FAMILIES: MAY 4, 2021 AT 6 PM**  
**RSVP**

## 50 YEARS AT KW HAB

This year, in 2021, KW Hab is celebrating 50 years of providing services and supports to people with developmental disabilities in our community. While our history actually goes back to the 1950s, we are celebrating our incorporation date: July 9, 1971. With members equally elected from the KW Kinsmen and from the KW Association for Community Living, these two forward-thinking organizations were integral in building the integrated services we provide today.

Prior to COVID-19, we were planning to celebrate with a big gala, a great party, tuxedos, gowns, and so much more. Instead, we're planning virtual, hybrid, smaller in-person events all year and we've set a \$50,000 fundraising goal for 2021!

Would you like to help us meet this goal? To connect about planning an event in support of KW Habilitation, please email our communications coordinator, Margie McLean at [mmclean@kwhab.ca](mailto:mmclean@kwhab.ca).

*memories*

WE'RE COLLECTING AND SHARING STORIES ALL YEAR...

[CLICK HERE TO SHARE YOUR STORIES](#)

OUR 2021 FUNDRAISING GOAL IS...

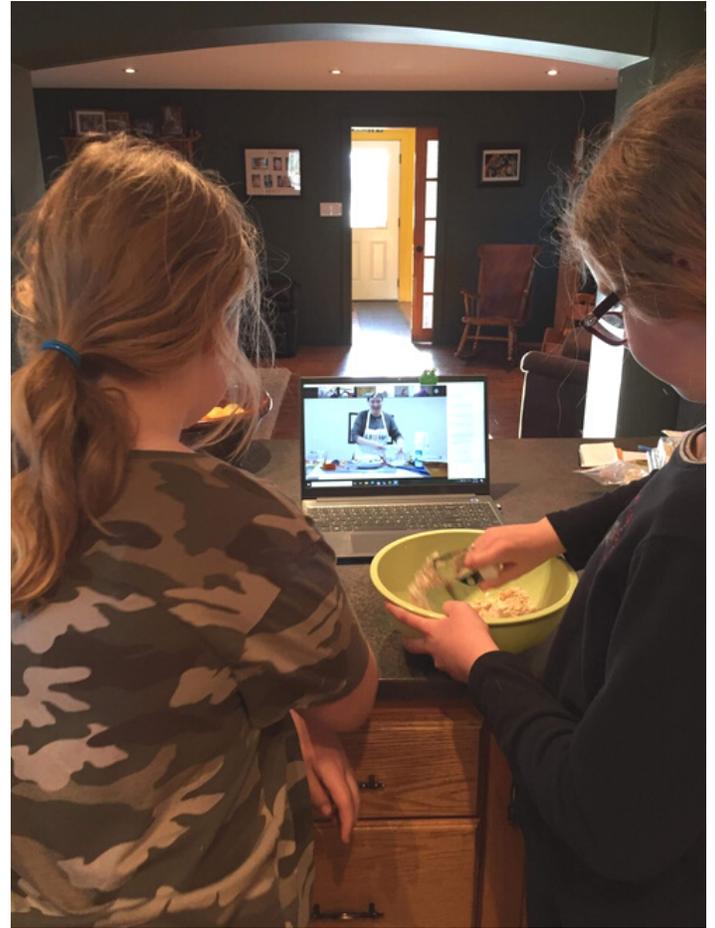
**\$50,000**

## PI(E) DAY AT KW HAB

On March 12, in advance of Pi day on March 14, KW Hab celebrated online with the people we support, staff, and community members.

Annita Boer, an instructor at LEG Up! walked everyone through the preparation of an apple crumble pie, we answered pie themed trivia and eagerly awaited the culmination of our Pi(e) party—the Pie in the Face Fundraiser!

Jeremy Heatherington, John Martin, and Ann Bilodeau all volunteered to get a pie in the face, but it wasn't going to be that easy...we needed to raise \$1000 in 5 days! Well, in 5 days, people delivered and we raised \$1,165 to support our 50th Anniversary Fundraising goal.

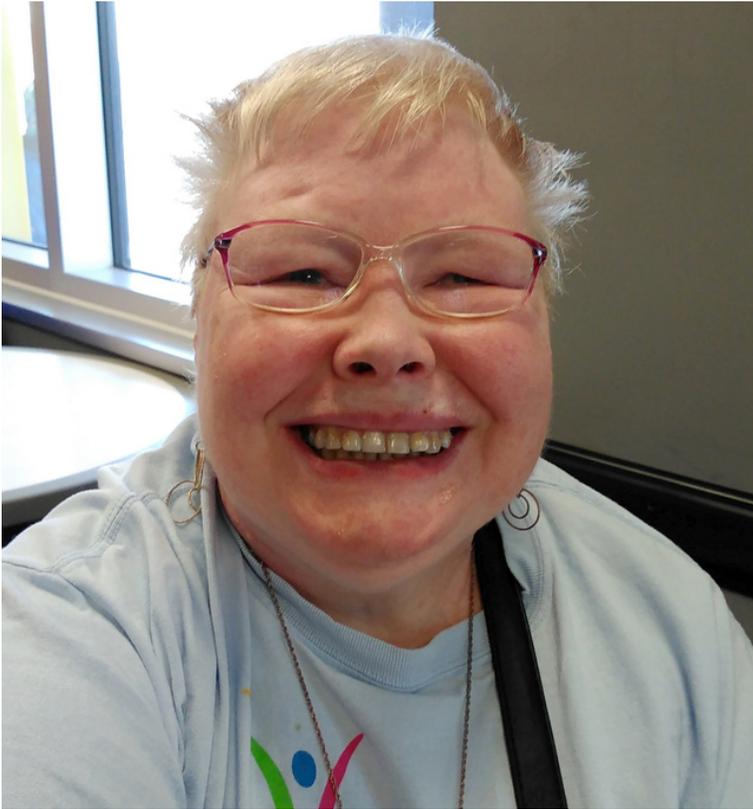


*Makayla and Addison Langille baking along with LEG Up!*

**[CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE PIE IN THE FACE VIDEO](#)**



## The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you -B. B. King



COVID-19 came into our lives in March 2020, and along with the virus was a great deal of change as our day options came to a halt. Fortunately, with this, many new skills were developed. These skills helped us see our friends and participate in online Zoom classes. One woman in particular has gained a large amount of pride in her skill set. Julie. Julie bought an iPad in the summer of 2020 when her and her family realized this may go on for longer than they had anticipated. Like many of us, purchasing the iPad came with some anxiety on how to navigate. With the help from her sister Tracy, as well as staff, Julie had worked through those anxieties and got started on

the basic “How to” of an iPad. Julie was joining classes and working through the never ending struggles of technical difficulties, always with a positive attitude. By November Julie was on time, encouraging her peers and participating in Zoom classes. With at least four Zoom classes a week Julie could almost run a class of her own!

Julie explains she feels confident using her iPad and is “loving it”. Some additional skills Julie has learned at home with the iPad are: taking photos, checking the weather app, and playing games. Julie is happy to continue learning new skills and is grateful for her iPad.

Are you looking for COVID-19 Resources Supporting  
Individuals, Families and Caregivers?

[click here for local resources from Family Compass](#)



or click here to visit

[ConnectABILITY.ca](#)





*photos by One for the Wall*

KW Career Compass continually reviews and updates their employment curriculum to ensure they are providing the most up to date and accurate information. They also look at new ways to engage their learners, refresh their team and offer unique experiences.

This winter, members of the KWCC team participated in training offered through First Work to design employment specific programs that foster learning, resilience and goal achievement.

First work is a leading membership organization bringing together the best providers of youth programming and employment services, business and industry leadership, academia, and government in developing solutions for youth employment.

The training Online, Together is a 6-week course designed to support employment service providers to deliver programs that increase engagement, motivation, and retention by designing programs that foster learning, resilience, and goal achievement, and support a trauma-informed approach. In addition to live weekly lectures, staff engaged in peer calls where they connected with other organizations to share strategies and give feedback on assignments.

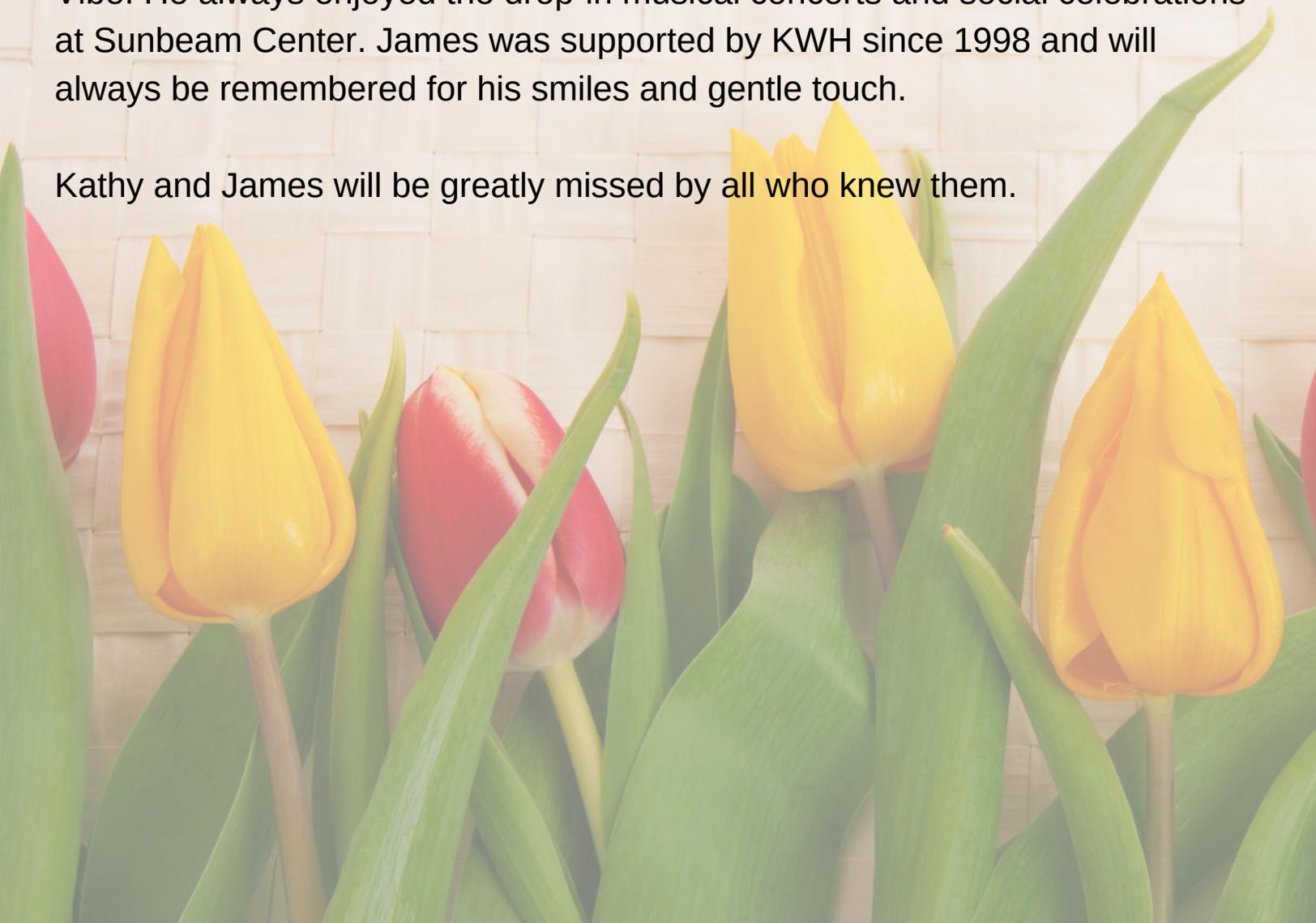
KW Career Compass hopes to continue their learning with First Work as they await acceptance into their Launch Pad Training, a program combining a dual-customer (demand-driven) approach to engaging employers and designing curriculum.

## IN MEMORY

**Kathy Spain** passed away on January 31, 2021. Kathy was a lover of life. A person created of equal parts joy, humour, and a vast appetite for everything life offered. Kathy came from a loving family and was supported by KWH for over 20 years. She was a ray of light in any dark room and a person who will always be missed.

**James VanEsch** passed away on February 9, 2021. James was very social and enjoyed the time he spent with his family, spending time outdoors and in the community, and watching his niece's hockey games. He was a great lover of music and participated in drumming and music sessions through the Vibe. He always enjoyed the drop-in musical concerts and social celebrations at Sunbeam Center. James was supported by KWH since 1998 and will always be remembered for his smiles and gentle touch.

Kathy and James will be greatly missed by all who knew them.



## WE'RE HIRING

Do you know someone looking for work and think they'd be a good fit at KW Hab? We're actively hiring new employees and we'd appreciate your **help getting the word out**.

What we offer:

- Meaningful work
- Benefits
- Holidays
- Training, onboarding, orientation
- Opportunities for education and training
- Competitive salary/wage
- Schedules that work for you
- Friendly work environment
- Opportunities for growth within the agency
- A personal connection to the people we support
- The \$3 government announced wage enhancement is in effect until June 30, 2020!
- AND MORE!



CLICK  
FOR  
MORE  
INFO



## SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

This February, a fire at the Inn of Waterloo displaced 130 people receiving supports from House of Friendship. KW Hab was able to step up and provide temporary shelter to a group of COVID-positive individuals. Ready to pitch in and help, we really believe in working toward achieving our vision statement: *a community where everyone belongs and participates*.

## LEG Up! ONLINE

Since the launch of monthly virtual classes in July of 2020, LEG Up! Online has offered over 40 classes which, to date, have filled 1446 spots in our program from people in Waterloo Region and beyond!

People have had the opportunity to learn online with their peers in a number of areas and we have been pleased to have the opportunity to share, collaborate and interact every day.



There is never a dull day at LEG Up! and we are pleased to share that in addition to adults 18+, we are now providing opportunities for youth, aged 13 - 17 to participate in LEG Up! classes. We hope you'll share this news with young people in our community who you think would find value in participating.

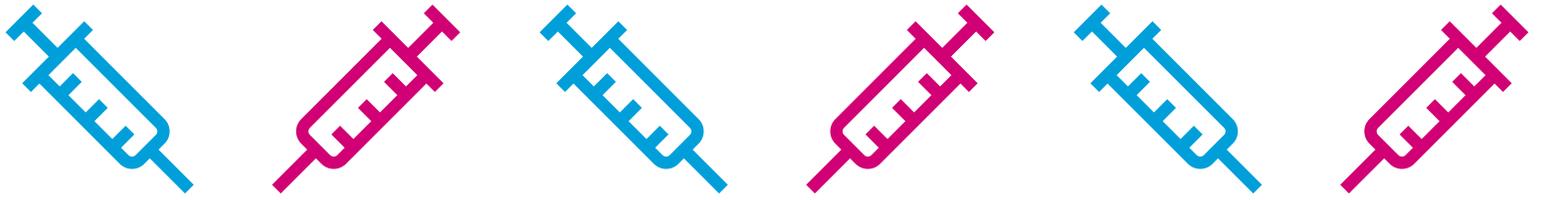


**ONLINE  
PLANT SALE**

**THIS MAY!**

[kwhab.ca/our-farm-online](http://kwhab.ca/our-farm-online)





# THE JAB AT KW HAB



We're helping to vaccinate people in our community at KW Hab. To learn more about it (and see if you're eligible to receive the vaccine here), please visit:

**[www.kwhab.ca/getthejab](http://www.kwhab.ca/getthejab)**

