

Other Services

- **Information and Referral**
- **Advocacy, Education, and Awareness Raising**
- **Workshops** for clients, families, and volunteers
- **Training** for staff of other facilities and community agencies
- SLP and CDA **student mentorship** opportunities

Eligibility Criteria

Adults 18 years of age or older living with **aphasia** or other **acquired communication** disabilities due to **stroke, brain injury, or brain illness** may apply for this program.

Referrals accepted from

- **Health Care Professionals** or community agencies
- **Family** members, **friends**, or supporters
- **Self-referral**

Referral forms available online:

www.marchofdimes.ca/ydac

Programs are offered at the following locations:

**MAPLE
NEWMARKET
PETERBOROUGH
RICHMOND HILL
STOUFFVILLE
WHITBY**

You can help

- Become a **volunteer**
- Make a financial **donation**
- **Tell others** about this program

For more information

York-Durham Aphasia Centre™

c/o March of Dimes Canada
13311 Yonge Street, Ste. 202
Richmond Hill, Ontario L4E 3L6

Phone: 905-773-7758 ext. 6216
Toll Free: 1-800-567-0315

www.marchofdimes.ca/ydac



York-Durham APHASIA CENTRE™

a program of March of Dimes Canada

Community programs
for adults with acquired
communication disabilities



*This pamphlet is produced in "aphasia friendly" format.

What is Aphasia?

Aphasia is one of the **communication disabilities** that can occur after **stroke, brain injury, or brain disease**. It may be **hard to talk, to understand** spoken words, to **read** and to **write**.

Some people may also have:

- **Dysarthria** - weakness of the **speech muscles**
- **Apraxia of speech** - difficulty with **coordination of speech sounds**
- **Cognitively based** communication challenges

Communication changes affect

- **Well-being**
- **Self-confidence**
- **Conversation** effectiveness
- Family roles and **relationships**
- **Social connections**

www.marchofdimes.ca/ydac

The York-Durham Aphasia Centre™

Communication Programs

We are a **partnership** of adults with **aphasia** and related acquired **communication disabilities, families, community, volunteers, speech-language** and **social work** professionals.

OUR MISSION

- to **improve communication**
- to enhance **quality of life**
- to support **independence**
- to provide **communicative access**
- to encourage **participation** in **community life**



- **Build** on client's **abilities** and strengths
- Increase **communication skills**
- Enhance **life participation**
- Improve **self-confidence**, in an atmosphere of **respect** and **choice**

Our adult conversation groups

- Provide **mutual aid** and **peer support**
- Encourage the use of **supportive communication strategies**
- Incorporate **Life History Communication Books** and **communication aids**

Volunteers and **staff** work together to **design** and develop “**aphasia-friendly**” and **communicatively accessible** programs.