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## MEDIA ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date: October 21, 2024**

### ENHANCED IDENTIFICATION & EMPLOYMENT CLINIC FOR VULNERABLE AND UNHOUSED PEOPLE

The Centre for Workforce Development (CFWD) is proud to announce its second **ID & Employment Clinic** of the year, scheduled for **Thursday, October 24th, 2024** at the **Bridge Street United Church Drop-In Centre** in Belleville from **10:00 am to 3:00 pm**. This event is designed to support vulnerable and unhoused community members by providing essential identification and employment services to help them access jobs, training supports, healthcare and other critical public services.

At the previous clinic, held on June 21st, CFWD proudly assisted individuals in securing 93 forms of identification. This second clinic is expected to be equally successful, with an even broader range of services available. Participants will have the opportunity to obtain crucial identification documents, such as:

- **Birth Certificates**
- **Social Insurance Numbers (SIN)**
- **Ontario Photo ID Cards**
- **Ontario Health Cards**
- And much more!

In addition to identification services, this clinic has been enhanced to include Employment Ontario services, thanks to participation from Career Edge, Loyalist College Community Employment Services, and META Employment Services. This partnership ensures that attendees are also connected to valuable employment resources, creating pathways to economic stability and independence.

“Our June clinic demonstrated how important access to identification is in breaking down barriers for marginalized individuals. With this second clinic, we aim to help even more people take those crucial steps toward building better futures. We are incredibly grateful for the support of our community partners and the City of Belleville, whose contributions make this work possible,” says Sandi Ramsay, Executive Director of the Centre for Workforce Development.

This enhanced clinic is made possible through the **City of Belleville’s Community Impact Fund**, which has provided a **\$4,500 grant** to cover the costs associated with identification documents such as **Ontario Photo ID Cards** and **Birth Certificates**. The grant will also be used to provide ‘Welcome Wellness Kits’ for participants.

“The City of Belleville is proud to support this important initiative,” said Mayor Neil Ellis. “Ensuring our community has the essential identification and support they need is the first step to accessing life-changing services. On behalf of Belleville City Council and the City, I would like to thank the Centre for Workforce Development for taking this initiative and I encourage all members of the community to help spread the word about this event.”

**Participating Partners Include:**

- Service Canada
- ServiceOntario
- Hastings County
- Belleville & Quinte West Community Health Centre
- John Howard Society – Belleville
- Enrichment Centre for Mental Health
- Community Development Council of Quinte
- Gift from The Heart
- Career Edge
- Loyalist College Community Employment Services
- META Employment Services
- Bridge Street United Church
- The City of Belleville

This initiative highlights the importance of community collaboration in addressing the needs of vulnerable individuals, bridging gaps in the workforce, and fostering inclusion and opportunity for all.

The Centre for Workforce Development is your expert on the local labour market in Hastings, Prince Edward and Lennox & Addington Counties. Funded in part by the Government of Canada and Government of Ontario, it operates as one of 26 non-profit Boards across Ontario with a focus on local labour market research and workforce development. To learn more visit [CFWD.ca](http://CFWD.ca).

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