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Blair Edwards | May 17, 2012 - 11:42 AM | | Report a Typo or Correction

## Centrum to host fundraiser for Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa

### Centrum Summerfest to be held on June 2

An event aiming to assist the thousands of youth who seek help with mental health issues in Ottawa every month will be held at the Kanata Centrum on June 2.

Sheila Greene, Centrum Summerfest's organizer, said the event was created in memory of Jamie Hubley, a 15-year-old Glen Cairn boy who took his own life last October, after struggling with depression following years of bullying in elementary school and high school.

"It's remembering the lives of our youngsters that are dealing with these mental health issues," she said.

One in five youth will suffer a mental health problem, with only a third of them receiving the services and help they need, according to the Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa.

"There's no one that doesn't have someone that hasn't been affected by mental health issues," said Greene. "It's so sad.

Greene said she remembers Jamie as a talented young singer, who performed twice at a youth-talent show at the Centrum in previous summers.

"One year his voice was changing – he was becoming a young man," said Greene. "He was unhappy his voice was changing, but he was singing beautifully."

Centrum Summerfest will offer Midway rides for children, games of chance, a 50/50 draw and musical entertainment throughout the day, including the performance of "On My Way to Finding You," a song dedicated to the memory of Jamie Hubley, by Ottawa country musician Drake Jenson.

The Youth Services Bureau Ottawa will attend the event and will sell T-shirts and bracelets inscribed with the word "acceptance," created to raise awareness about homophobia and bullying among Ottawa youth.

Centrum Summerfest will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and all proceeds of the event will go to support the Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa.

The games of chance will be run by friends of Jamie Hubley.

Carleton-Mississippi Mills MP Gordon O'Connor and Carleton-Mississippi Mills MPP Jack MacLaren will attend the event and invitations have been sent to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his wife, Laureen.

Kanata South Coun. Allan Hubley and Kanata North Coun. Marianne Wilkinson are unable to attend the event as they will be in Saskatoon, from June 1 to 4 for the annual Conference and Municipal Expo.



**Centrum hosts fundraiser for Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa.** Ted Charette, fundraising chair, Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa

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## YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

Ted Charette, fundraising chair of the Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa, said there has been an increased demand for mental health services following the deaths of Jamie and Daron Richardson, a 14-year-old Ottawa girl who took her own life in 2010.

"There has been an increase on all the services we have since this tragic event," he said. "We do know that after significant events like this there's always an increase in the number of calls to the crisis line.

"That's due to awareness," he said.

The youth services bureau recently hired four full-time youth and family counselors – two working at the Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre in Kanata and two providing service at schools among Ottawa's four English and French school boards.

"These are some of the things that money can do to expand our reach," said Charette.

The youth services bureau helps more than 3,000 youth and families every month, he said.

The youth services bureau crisis line – available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for children and youth ages 18 and under who are experiencing a mental-health crisis and for parents, family, friends or service providers – is 613-260-2360.

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