



## HISTORY

Blue Veil Ministry is a registered non-profit, non-denominational, community based organization that has been integrating youth and adults with developmental and/or physical challenges with their "able" peers since March 2006. Our Registered Charitable No. is 80339340RR0001. We provide music-based youth programs to all communities, regardless of the ability to pay.

Blue Veil brings to each school: a live daytime/evening band performance with professional stage production. These events are so vital to the community because through the emotional power of melodies coupled with rhythm and descriptive lyrics, our positive messages of community building are all easily relayed. Our musical team is also trained in working with special needs youth and adults (post 21 who are leaving school) by providing programs that help integrate them into their community with their peer groups. This is an on going issue for Blue Veil Ministry and our goal is to bridge the gap for people of different abilities who need our services and programs as we continue working with the schools to support their Safe School initiatives.

Our peacemaking programs continue to support "Safe School" and Character Building' initiatives that touch on anti-bullying, peace, unity and respect. We provide a positive environment for students to come together where we collectively and creatively promote unity and stimulate teamwork. Through the 'arts' primarily music our team of trained young men and women have found a powerful tool that touches the hearts of many young people, raises school spirit, and increases musical awareness. Our programs also serve as an educational forum for students to interact and more importantly understand the importance of staying in school.

After nearly 250 performances and events our musical team has become a great school spirit builder. To date we have had the opportunity of reaching out to over 100,000 young people touring elementary and secondary schools in the York, Toronto Dufferin Peel, Halton, Hamilton, Wellington, London, Simcoe and Oshawa Regions.

Since the beginning Blue Veil has been touring the schools all across the GTA, bringing not only our music but our message of "embracing the light" of life to all the elementary and secondary students and although we continued to reach out to all the youth through our musical performances, retreats and workshops, we began to realize that this wasn't enough. Having worked with special needs for many years, as program instructors, the Blue Veil Team felt that deep down, in all of their hearts, they knew that they had to find a way to reach out to the young adult with special needs. So in July 2006 the Sara Elizabeth Centre was established.

### Co-Operative Education & Field Placement

The Sara Elizabeth Centre provides opportunities for integrated employment and is perfectly suited for the Co-op students who participate in our program, especially those who intend to pursue a career in the arts, social and health services, or teaching. Their placements at Sara's Elizabeth Centre gives them an opportunity to shine and be mentors for challenged individuals. This also holds true for all those students who come from local secondary schools to spend the day at a retreat or workshop with our special needs clients.

*Our charity continues to grow because of the generosity and support of so many people that continue to give of their talents and time on a daily basis.*

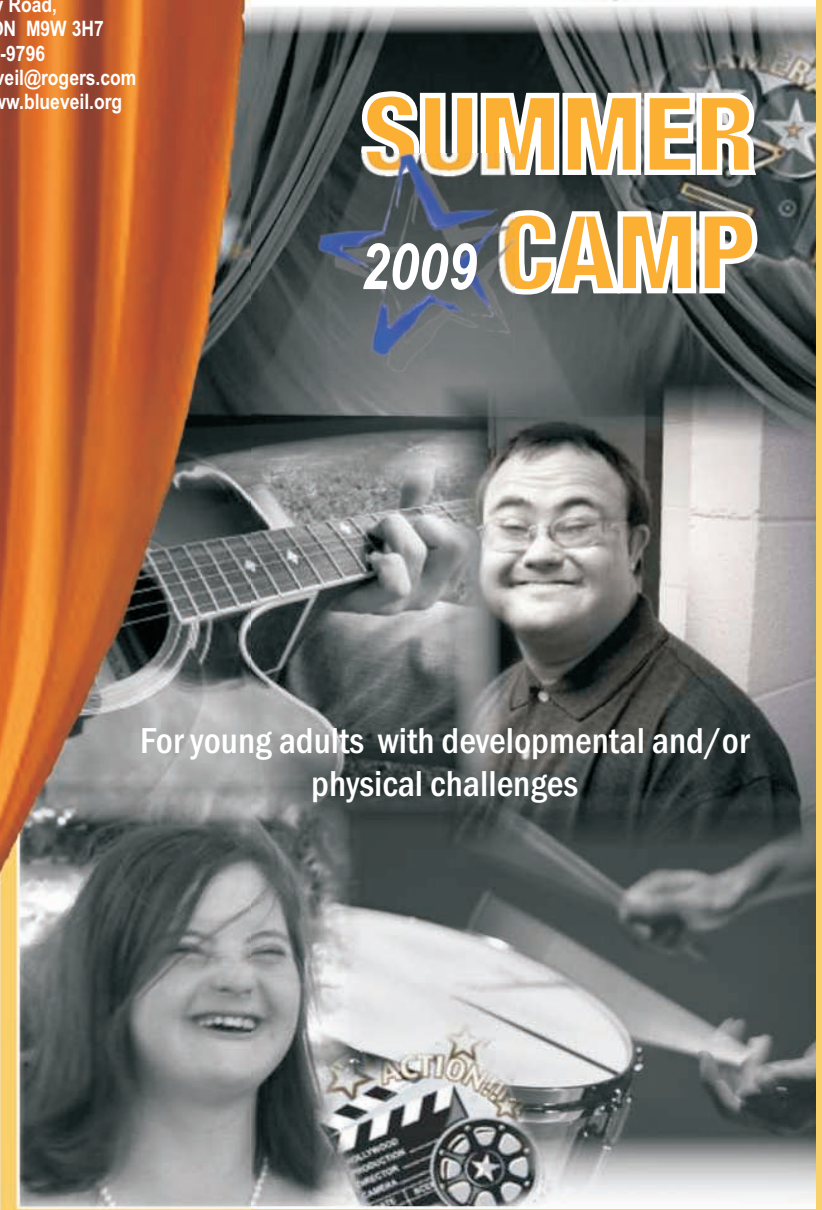


# Sara Elizabeth Centre



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Email: blueveil@rogers.com  
Website: www.blueveil.org

## SUMMER 2009 CAMP



For young adults with developmental and/or physical challenges

### Program Location

Astra Sportsplex  
2839 Rutherford Road 3rd floor  
Vaughan, On L4K 2N7

Don Smith  
Chair of the Board

Cris Smith  
Executive Director



## Sara Elizabeth Centre

On July 21, 2006, Blue Veil was granted authorization to operate and establish a day program for young adults with various developmental and/or physical challenges called the **Sara Elizabeth Centre**. The Sara Elizabeth Centre, is a community-based centre for young adults with special needs that provides quality programs to assist and support the diverse needs of all individuals with disabilities regardless of their nationality, race, religion or financial resource and where **"everyone can shine like a star"**.

The Sara Elizabeth Centre was named after Sara Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Cris Smith, Executive Director. Sara was one of nine children born to Cris and Don Smith who was born with Trisomy 13, a chromosome condition associated with certain physical abnormalities and who died only 26 days after being born on April 15, 1997. For everyone in the Smith family, Sara was a beautiful little girl whom they cherished for 26 days. Sara was a precious gift from God and although she lived for such a short while, Sara taught her family how to embrace life.

Needless to say, everyone was affected by Sara's death, especially Cris, her mother, who felt as though the light of life had gone out. It wasn't until she began searching in the bible for answers that she found one particular passage that spoke to her: "Let the light of life shine" (Job 33:30). Today Cris Smith and her family help others with special needs at the Sara Elizabeth Centre whose motto is **"Let the Light of Life Shine"** in the beauty and uniqueness of everyone. .



# SUMMER 2009 CAMP

## Our Summer Camp

Our SUMMER CAMP program is filled with Crafts, Music, Drama, Dancing and so much more. Each week a special craft is made as a way of preparing and celebrating the weekly theme. As well participants will work with our music coordinators on various songs and dance routines, that are educational as well as entertaining. Participant's will learn the culture, traditions and history of each weekly theme. Family and friends will be invited to attend the festivities at the end of the program.

## Light up your child's face

Our summer camp program is designed to help young adults with special needs learn to feel positive about themselves in an environment that promotes fun, play and learning through the art of music, drama, and dance. Our program promotes self-esteem, individuality, teamwork, life skills, self-advocacy and independence, especially by using the arts as a means of learning and self-expression.

## WEEKLY THEMES

**JULY  
WEEK 1 & 2**

**Hawaiian  
Luau**

**AUGUST  
WEEK 3 & 4**

**Wild, Wild  
West**

### Program Dates:

- ★ Week 1 (July 13-July 17)
- ★ Week 2 (July 20 July 24)
- ★ Week 3 (Aug 10 Aug. 14)
- ★ Week 4 (Aug. 17 Aug. 21)

**Time:** 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Cost:** \$250 per week

(A 10% discount will be given to anyone who registers for two weeks or more)

### Location:

**Astra Sportsplex**  
2839 Rutherford Road 3rd floor,  
Vaughan, ON L4K 2N7  
(Astra Sportsplex, located just north  
of Toronto, is Ontario's newest  
indoor world class sporting complex)

### Eligibility

- Open to young adults with developmental and/or physical challenges
- Members from adult development programs and high schools are welcomed
- Participants should be able to work independently as much as possible
- Campers who require a personal worker will be accepted if the parent/caregivers can provide one.



### Program Description

- Weekly themes - each week a special craft will be made to feature the weekly theme
- Campers will work with our music coordinators on various dance movements, improvisation, drama, and vocal work.
- Daily drum circle will introduce campers to different beats on various drums.
- Games, exercise and recreational activities will be scheduled daily.
- Healthy snacks will be served to compliment the weekly themes.
- Presentations will be held at the end of each two-week session to family and friends.

**To request an Information Package,  
please visit us online at  
[www.blueveil.org/sec.htm](http://www.blueveil.org/sec.htm) or  
Call Cris Smith at 416-747-9796**

### Open House:

Register in Person

**Saturday Feb 28, 2009**

**10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**Sunday March 1, 2009**

**1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**