

SPOTLIGHT on Fred Stade

Community Living – Hanover

Like most people with intellectual disabilities, Fred Stade did not have the ideal childhood. He lived with his mom, two brothers and three sisters in Chesley until the age of 24. He spent time in the Bluewater Regional Center, Muskoka Regional Center and Huronia Regional Center until he found a home at the Mid-Western Regional Center near Palmerston at the age of 31.

Life in an institution can be busy. He was involved in music and day programs and went to church services, but it is nothing like living as part of a community. In 1990, at the age of 39 he made the move to Hanover as a member of the HARC Family. Since then Fred has moved to the HARC group home in Neustadt, where he has grown to be a productive member of the group living the farm life. Among the things Fred is involved with is collecting eggs at the barn and cutting the grass with a push mower. While he does not always cut the grass in a straight line, he takes great pride in the work he does.

It's hard to imagine Fred without a smile on his face. He lives a full life, collecting eggs in the barn, visiting friends and doing jobs at the workshop.