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Town's youth centres gain reprieve from closure— for a month

It looks like the town's youth centres may remain open— at least until the end of June.

Councillor John Day, a member of the Keeping Our Youth Doors Open committee announced at Monday's council meeting that the committee is close to meeting or surpassing its \$10,000 target by the end of May. It has currently raised about \$9,000.

The centres, Off The Wall in Acton and Open Door in Georgetown, were slated for closure at the beginning of June unless funding could be found to keep them open until the school year ended.

"The public has been very responsive in coming to meet this crisis, as we so often do in this small community," Day said.

Meanwhile, word on whether the centres will get Trillium or

Healthy Community Fund grants won't be known until at least mid-June. These grants will determine whether the centres can remain open in the long-term.

The Open Door centre is located in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church in Georgetown while the Off The Wall centre is on Mill St. in Acton.

Officials say between 45 and 50 youths visit Open Door each day while 45-60 use the Off The Wall centre daily. It costs \$130,000 a year to keep the centres operational. Most of that money is raised through community fund-raisers.

Anyone wishing to make a donation or help with the campaign should call Day at 905-873-3979.

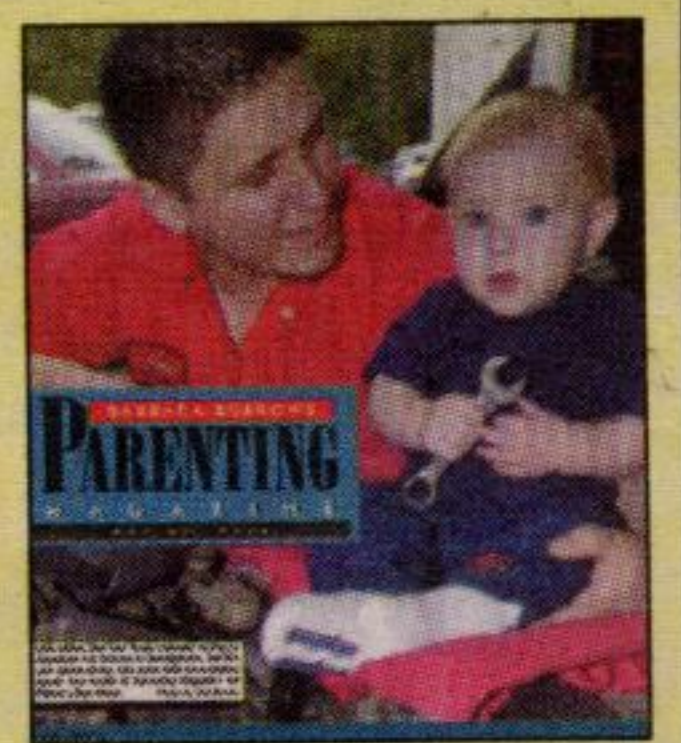
—By Cynthia Gamble, staff writer



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Budding gardeners

Victoria Plackoski, 5 and little brother Alexander, 2, couldn't wait until today's expected rain showers and decided to give a drink of water to the newly planted flowers in their garden Wednesday.

Photo by Ted Brown



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