Organizers of the Stouffville Igoma Partnership's sixth annual fundraising dinner and auction are calling the event a success.

Funds raised will support projects in Igoma, an African village, including the Peter Neufeld Education Fund, a health clinic, the Net program for the prevention of malaria, the mother and child birthing centre and the mother and child outreach program.

The dinner was held at EastRidge Evangelical Missionary Church Oct.

Stouffville Igoma Partnership is operated by a volunteer board of directors. Paid staff in Igoma include doctors, nurses, nursing assistants, lab technicians and administration workers.

In 2009, secondary school scholarships were provided for 74 students, along with five skilled training students. An anonymous supporter is helping a student in his third year of medical school.

In 2009,11,173 patients were seen at the SIP clinic and 2,504 children attended the mother and child clinic.

Diabetes programs improve with regional co-ordination

A new regional diabetes program will improve treatment and support for those living with the disease.

The new co-ordination centre, at Southlake Regional Health Centre, is part of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Ontario diabetes strategy, a four-year, \$740-million plan to fight the disease.

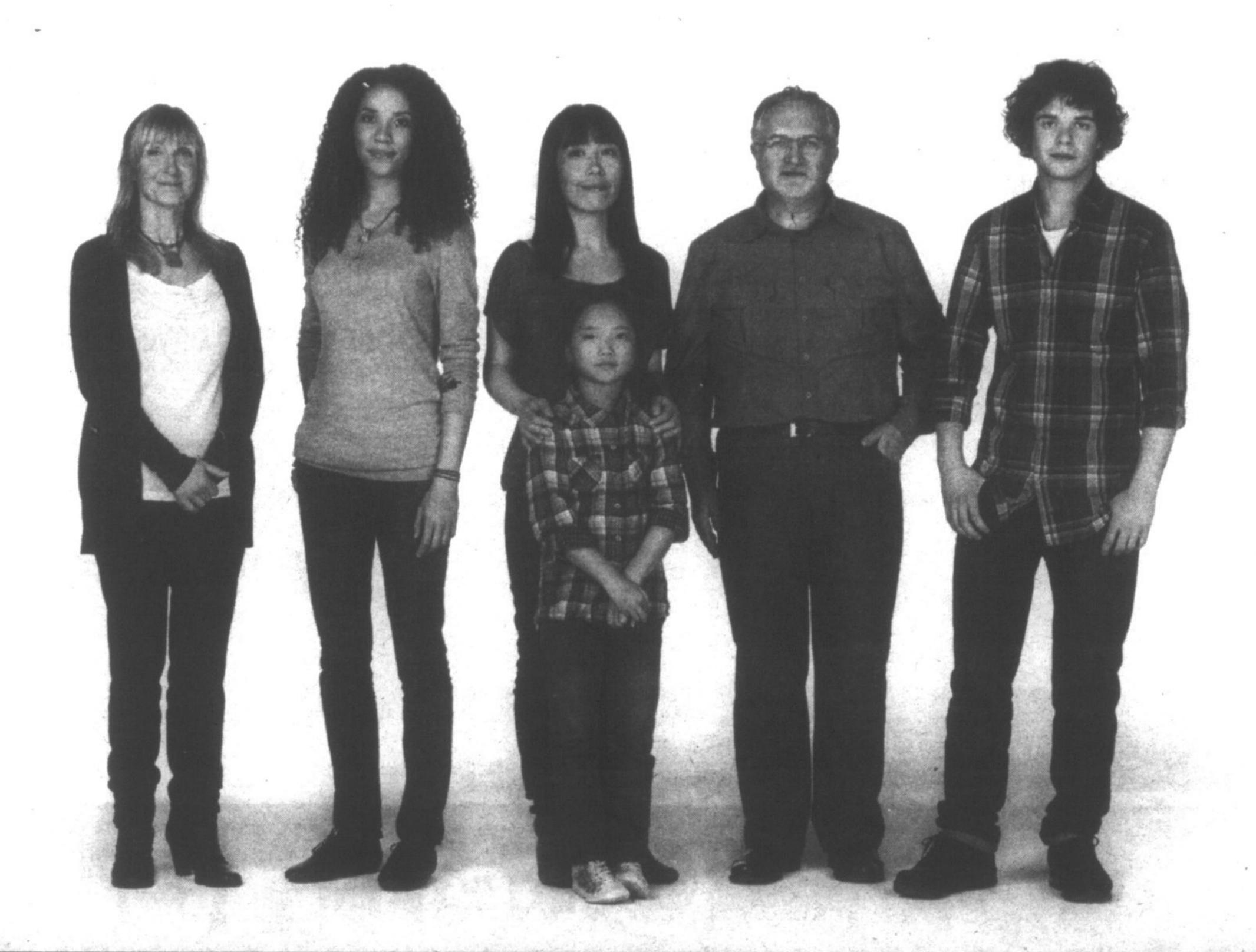
It is one of 14 centres that will work with local service providers to co-ordinate and improve service offered to residents.

The new program does not offer services directly but supports current programs offered elsewhere.

The team at Southlake has already selected representatives for working committees and has begun to contact stakeholders and service providers as they take inventory of services offered in the region, co-ordination centre administrator Lucia Cook said.

The idea is to create a program that provides services, education and treatment and apply it provincewide so a high but uniform level of care is being provided everywhere.

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