

## **Jericho House Leadership Symposium, Feb. 21, 2012**

Jericho House's philosophy of leadership is based on the belief that young people are already leaders. Jericho's efforts are geared toward helping to enhance the leadership that already exists—that is already being exercised by young people.

With this in mind, it was a natural decision to inaugurate the ministry at Jericho House Leadership, Justice and Spirituality Center by hosting the inaugural leadership symposium, February 15, 2011, as the first event to be held at the new home in Wainfleet.

The second annual symposium was held on February 21, 2012. Students from five Niagara high schools and a student group from Hamilton participated in this year's event. It was facilitated jointly by the Jericho Team and students from Kings University College at the University of Western Ontario.

This year's keynote speaker was Julie Mannell, graduate of Notre Dame College School and currently a student at McGill University. Drawing on her personal experiences of leadership, Julie spoke of personal and societal leadership. She described it as growing from leadership within to leadership outward to the community, both local and global.

After a session in which participants gathered in sharing circles, there was a dialogue session with Julie. Participants spoke with her about her past and present leadership experiences. Listening and planning circles, community building activities and lunch completed the day.

Participants thoroughly enjoyed meeting and interacting with Julie, the Kings College students, and with each other. They left the day feeling energized and inspired to continue their leadership efforts within their schools and wider communities.