

## GETTING TO KNOW US

# My Organizer in Muskoka will get your home back on track



Julie Medley-Hammond operates My Organizer in Muskoka.

Helping people make the most of their homes in order to live comfortably is Julie Medley-Hammond's specialty.

Through her business, My Organizer in Muskoka, Julie can help with everything from the simple reorganization of a closet to assisting a family going through the contents of a lifetime home of a recently deceased parent.

For more than five years she has been helping people reorganize their homes, cottages, garages and more. Once she helps them to get rid of unwanted items, she then sets up a system to help them stay organized. Often for a finishing touch, Julie stages or redesigns the living space.

Some clients are looking for a little support and assistance with organizing while others have so much clutter in their homes that they can no longer live in them comfortably. Julie has experience working with clients in partnership with their necessary support people.

"I am called a lot when there is a death in the family or when a family member is moving into long-term care," she says.

Other times, no one is able to help deal with a family member's disorganization.

"They need someone who can come in and be kind, gentle and non-judgemental," she says.

It is not unusual for Julie to deal with people that have so much clutter in their homes that it is difficult to use living spaces, or even get through the front door.

When first contacted by a client, Julie

offers a free assessment to get to know the person and their needs.

"They will walk me through the house and tell me what they want their home to be like," she says.

Some projects may take just a few hours but others last much longer.

"Sometimes we have to go through things piece by piece," she says. "I open a drawer and find a handful of nails, trinkets and pennies and we have to go through it one by one."

Others find it a bit easier to get rid of their clutter. Julie helps the owners send unwanted items to auction houses, second hand stores or even help to set up an eBay account.

She notes that clutter and disorganization are problems faced by all demographics and she's there to help.

"I've had parents hire me to work with their teenagers right up to working with people in their 90s," she says.

My Organizer in Muskoka also operates a concierge service, mostly for summer clients, supplying everything from event planning and groceries to finding a contractor for a repair.

Julie is a member of the Professional Organizers of Canada and the National Study Group for the Chronically Disorganized and a certified stager.

Meeting interesting people and helping improve their quality of life is important to Julie.

"I get the house to a place where they are happy, content and relaxed and they enjoy their home with family and friends," she says.