

2010-2011
FOUNDATION REPORT



Breaking NEW ground

family & children's services
of the waterloo region
FOUNDATION

Charitable Registration Number: 885346817RR0001

FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES

To raise public awareness about child welfare concerns.

To raise funds within our community to support the work of Family and Children's Services with children and youth of the Waterloo Region who are at risk of harm.

To support the Agency's vision and mission statement.



President's Letter to the Community

In a perfect world, every child in Waterloo Region would be nurtured by a loving family, have a full, well-rounded school experience, and access to sport or cultural opportunities. Sadly, the reality is that not every child does. This is when the Foundation steps in...

Two thousand and eleven marks Family and Children's Services Foundation's 20th anniversary. We are proud to have spent two decades improving the lives of thousands of abused and neglected children, and their families, to help them become successful members of our community. Much of this work has been done by ensuring that as children they have the same opportunities as their more fortunate peers.

Having served on the Foundation Board for nearly half of its life, I have witnessed firsthand how by making opportunities available to kids when they need it, a generation has grown up, dreamed big, and now are entering post secondary institutes across Ontario. Their areas of study as far ranging as business to the arts—and everything in between!

We are especially grateful for this community's support because the economic climate has weighed so heavily on so many over the last two years. Despite this, you have continued to keep those less fortunate in your hearts, ensuring that extras not covered by provincial government funding, were available to those who needed it most.

Extras such as:

- 81 service or prevention program pilots and expansions to keep children safe, families strong, and our communities supported. Today more than ever, families struggle with many complex issues, and often their children are affected by these struggles. Though prevention we can address these issues before a family breaks down.
- 21 educational support grants for our children, because we know that many children served by the agency face serious challenges in the educational system. Because of troubled beginnings, many of the children we support struggle at least two grades behind their peers and need our help to catch up and ensure they stay on track to graduate.
- 8438 life enriching opportunities such as camp, sport, or culture. These important opportunities build a child's self esteem, confidence, and sense of identity; and give them the chance to move past the hurts and traumas to 'just be a kid'.
- 164 scholarships have been presented to youth who have broken the cycle of poverty by being accepted to post secondary programs.

Table of Contents

PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY	PAGE	1 - 2
BETTER TOGETHER	PAGE	3
FINANCIAL SUMMARY	PAGE	4



None of this, however, would be possible without our supporters.

And this community has stepped up once again. This fall we hope to open the Family Centre for families in need across Waterloo Region. This Centre will be a community hub that will further enhance supportive services offered to parents, youth, and children. The concept of the Centre is a setting where service providers can come together under one roof to support the needs of at risk families and children and allow families to access to a range of services in a timely fashion. We know that these partnerships will enable us to try new ways of working together, benefit from the experiences of others, and pool our resources to have the greatest possible impact. We know that we are **Better Together**.

We are grateful this community shares this vision. And, just like our humble beginnings, this is only possible because of our donors and volunteers. You are the lifeblood of the Foundation.

Thank you for your support and the hope you have brought to so many children, youth, and families. We look forward to the next two decades of building the future for this community's children with your continued support.

Sincerely,

Rick Skehan



Better Together

Capital Campaign

As chair of the Better Together Capital Campaign, I am proud to be a part of the team that is dedicated to the vision of the Family Centre. For the last 10 years Family and Children's Services has been developing partnerships, all working towards a common vision to ensure that the children in our community are healthy, safe and loved. As a community we want all children to have a strong connection to a family, and to know that they belong. The vision for the Family Centre is to provide a community hub where families can access services that improve their well-being, and will allow children to meet their maximum potential. All of the partners engaged with the agency have recognized the importance of this and are excited to be joining together in this new venture. The centre will provide access as services in one place: recreational, social, therapeutic, and educational.

The construction of the Family Centre began in July 2010. Two thirds of this \$8 million renovation project is being funded by the joint Federal and Provincial Infrastructure Stimulus program with the balance being fundraised by the

Foundation. The Better Together Capital Campaign team has a goal of raising \$2.5 million by this fall and on May 28th we celebrated the launch of our public campaign. Today we are pleased to announce that we have now raised over \$1.7 million towards our goal of \$2.5 million. I would like to thank all of our wonderful donors for their generosity and support.

Our Honourary Campaign Chairs are Brian Ruby, Jim and Sandy Beingessner, Ron Sills and Frank Voisin.

Our Campaign Leadership Team includes Janet Peddigrew, Peter Izzio, Sandra Hamner, Keren Adderley, Alison Scott, Candi Harrington and Rosemary Benbow. Special thanks to Karen Redman, who started the campaign with us.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to this wonderful team of dedicated volunteers and I invite you to join us as we continue the last leg of this journey. Please help us be "Better Together."



MARY JO FEDY
BETTER TOGETHER CAMPAIGN CHAIR



BALANCE SHEET AS AT MARCH 31, 2011

Assets

Cash	\$ 483,602
Accounts Receivable	7,152
Investments	1,132,109
	<u>\$ 1,622,863</u>

Liabilities & Equity

Accounts Payable	\$ 445,896
Specified Gift Fund	-
Community Gift Fund	459,233
Program Specific Funds	477,039
Scholarship Fund	172,842
Better Futures Fund	67,853
Building Fund	-
	<u>\$ 1,622,863</u>

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
MARCH 31, 2011

Revenue

Donations	\$ 1,146,893
Investment Income	34,390
	<u>\$ 1,181,283</u>

Expenditures

Grants to Agency	\$ 1,706,456
Operating Expenses	27,415
	<u>\$ 1,733,871</u>
Excess of Expenses over Revenue	(552,588)
Unrealized Loss on Investments	59,115
Net Decrease in Equity	<u>\$ (493,473)</u>

(Extracted from Audited Statements audited by KPMG
LLP Chartered Accountants.) Details for other programs
are contained in the audited financial statements.

2010/2011 FCS Foundation Grants

THE FOUNDATION BOARD WAS PLEASED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING GRANTS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES INVOLVED WITH FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN THE PAST YEAR:

- To create the Building Attachment Capacity and Knowledge (BACK) Research Project, the aim of which is to increase placement stability, improve the likelihood of reunification and accelerate permanency planning for local children. The project aims to strengthen primary and alternate families, equipping them to provide caring environments for children.
- To support the Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) which is a strengths based family driven process that empowers families to develop a plan focused on the best interest of their children. The process is inclusive and attempts to bring together family, friends and community in the development of the family plan. In order to facilitate this, family and friends may need to travel from within and outside the Kitchener/Waterloo and Cambridge jurisdictions. The grant assisted with travel costs, food and refreshments for the participants in the conference.
- A grant to provide assistance to client families by providing bus tickets, food vouchers and emergency financial assistance when families struggle to meet their basic needs. This assistance enables agency clients to attend counselling, medical appointments, drug screens, supervised access and meetings. By providing bus tickets we are removing the transportation barrier that could potentially prevent a family member from attending appointments that are vital in restoring the family home.
- To provide transportation for participants in the feasibility study of training client families in a formal mediation procedure created for families with young children.
- To cover the cost of a summer student and funds for activity costs for summer programs for children and youth of ongoing service families. The programming demonstrated an increased motivation to read, and acquainted participants with the services offered by their local library and improved their reading skills. The program also increased awareness and access to outdoor activities, as well as improving self esteem.
- To cover the costs of materials to support the "I am Your Children's Aid", a Public Education campaign to enhance the public's perception of the Children's Aid Societies across Ontario by creating a more positive public image.
- To fund a summer student who assisted in summer outreach and community events such as Tooney Tuesdays, Kidspark and the Multicultural Festival as well as increasing the number of volunteers able to assist with summer fundraising and awareness events and to assist in the development of a Foundation volunteers/donor recognition event.
- To provide resources to our clinical based and asset building groups, programming and activities for all children and youth in care, including a combination of "free" outings and outings that have a cost for entry/supplies.
- For a Foster Family Breakfast, that provides an opportunity for all our foster families to enjoy a buffet breakfast together and allows us to recognize the foster family as a whole.
- To provide supplies for our Blairview School Program that is a collaborative project between the Waterloo District School Board and Family and Children's Services. Our program assists youth who have difficulties learning in the mainstream school setting.
- To cover transportation, lunches and program materials for the SMILES (Simplifying Mental Illness Life Enhancement Skills) group for children 8-11 who live in homes with parents who have mental health issues.
- To cover transportation, lunches, refreshments and program materials for "Me & My Kids", a one-day workshop to provide information about when substance use becomes a problem, particularly as it relates to parenting.
- To enable staff to attend the Andrew Turnell Signs of Safety training. Dr. Turnell is an internationally recognized expert in collaborative, safety organized child protection practice and is the co-author of the Signs of Safety approach to child welfare. Our Family Centred Practice philosophy is anchored by the Signs of Safety framework.
- To cover the cost of profile cards to be used at adoption resource exchanges and in other child-specific recruitment efforts. Opening the door of possibility for a potential adoptive parent is in creating a connection with the child and generating enough interest to make prospective families want to learn more about the child.
- For the Annual Christmas Party for all youth in care who are living independently in the community.
- To support the annual Open Adoption Christmas Gathering for our birth parents, siblings and extended family supports, who have placed their children for adoption through our infant consent program and/or those birth parents whose children have been placed for adoption following court involvement.

The Foundation

The Foundation is the fundraising arm of Family and Children's Services of the Waterloo Region. We believe that children are our most valuable resource and that each child should have the opportunity to meet his or her full potential. As such, our role is to provide the community with the opportunity to enrich the lives of vulnerable children and youth through a wide range of giving opportunities, provide semi-annual grant updates and newsletters, honour and acknowledge the support we receive from so many caring members of our community, and celebrate the heart-warming accomplishments of our children and youth.

The Foundation is supported by a team made up of agency staff, community volunteers, and donors.

OUR THANKS GO OUT TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR PART IN HELPING TO BUILD A COMMUNITY WHERE ALL CHILDREN CAN GROW UP BEING SAFE, HEALTHY, AND LOVED.

And a big thank you to the many dedicated volunteers who help us with everything from stuffing envelopes to staffing phonelines at the CHYM Radiothon in December.



FOUNDATION STAFF

Candace Harrington, Supervisor, Fundraising & Communications
Tracy Glidden, Fundraising & Communications
Vicki Loree, Fundraising & Communications

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Skehan, President	Melissa Howatson
Bryce McCandless, Vice President	Kevin Smith
Peter Routly, Treasurer	Jim Reitzel
Alison Scott, Secretary	Barbara Thomas
Brenda Hagey, Past President	
Anthony J. Giovinazzo	
Rick Purdy	

FOUNDATION OFFICE VOLUNTEER

Jeannette Hartung

To learn more about current Foundation volunteer needs, contact the Foundation at 519 576 0540 or foundation@facswaterloo.org

family & children's services
of the waterloo region
FOUNDATION

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