Early Help

Help Along the Way



We work with our partners to provide early intervention Only 10% of our families return for service within 12 months

91% (42)

of community protection workers are co-located in 38 community placements including schools, counselling agencies, HUBS and the police service to provide early intervention and help

50

duty to report/community engagement presentations completed to help awareness that it is EVERYONE'S responsibility to keep children and youth safe

37

children and youth placed in kin families when they could not remain in their own homes

422

families received admission prevention funds (\$96,322), for items such as groceries, diapers, rent and hydro, on an emergency basis

5,438

people received assistance through the Our Kids Network hubs and programs



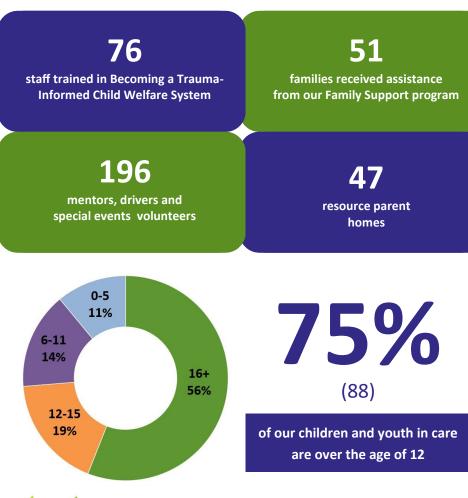
received from the Children's Aid Foundation of Halton to support these initiatives

22	youth attended post-secondary education
84	children/youth participated in FUTURES ec and recreational programs

ated in FUTURES educational, life skills ams

youth received outreach services from Bridging the Gap's 211 homeless program for youth aged 16-24

YouthSAID Advisory Group members attended events including 12 Children and Youth in Care Day, WE Day and Youth Civics Day



connections for our youth as they leave care

We are concerned about the number of children and youth leaving care without lifelong connections. Through our Family Finding work, we are making an effort to find

*Source: 2016/17 Performance Indicators For more information, see our website at www.HaltonCAS.ca

Reeping Kids connected

Permanency



reduction in number of children/youth in care over past six years due to concentrated efforts to find permanency options such as kinship, guardianship and adoption



of children/youth discharged within one year of coming into care, with the majority reunified with their caregiver





have been found for two of these nine children

Board Chair/Executive Director Message

This year's Annual Report highlights our uniqueness in providing Child Welfare services. It focuses on early help, helping children, youth and families along the way and permanency.

We are anticipating changes to the Child and Family Services Act and are encouraged that it will acknowledge prevention is part of our mandate. The Halton Children's Aid Society is a leader in providing early help services with 89% of our work completed at intake. We excel at providing prevention services because of our collaborative, community-based service delivery model.

Ninety-one percent of our community protection staff work in community placements such as schools, hubs, counselling agencies and the police service. Being active participants in the Our Kids Network, we reach out to all families living in our region.

Many of the children/youth we serve are exposed to trauma that leads to relationship issues. Research shows trauma in caregiver/child relationships that remains untreated has negative, long-term effects on health and well-being. Our vulnerable children, youth and families need responses that are attachment-focused, trauma-informed, relationship-based and resiliencyfocused. We are working to achieve the essential elements of becoming a trauma-informed Child Welfare agency and have hired a Clinical Manager to provide leadership and expertise to organizational and community learning.

Our children and youth in care numbers are declining as our work on permanency intensifies. We ended this fiscal year with our lowest number of children/youth in care (119)—a shout out to our resource parents who are true partners in helping our children and youth find permanency.

Permanency is about forever homes and lifelong connections. Last year, 18 youth aged out of care and the majority did so without family connections. It is our intent to do better. We have added a Family Finding position that will assist workers in connecting children and youth to their families and kin.

We are also participating in a new initiative called Wendy's Wonderful Kids. This program, sponsored by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, provides funding for experienced adoption professionals to move children and youth from foster care into permanent homes. The focus is on children/youth that are hard to place. We have one worker in our agency who recruits Forever Families for Halton, Guelph/Wellington and Dufferin.

The Ministry of Children and Youth Services has agreed to increase the age of protection from 16 to 18 years in the fall. As we prepare to provide services to this group, we are fortunate to have the experience of our Bridging the Gap program, which currently provides services to youth who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

In this time of accelerated change, we are proud we have remained focused on improved service delivery and better outcomes for children, youth and families.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Leadership Team, we thank our staff, resource parents, volunteers, community partners, YouthSAID Advisory Group and the Children's Aid Foundation of Halton.





Financial Report

This is a condensed statement. Full financial statements, audited by SB Partners, are available upon request			
2016_17	2015_16		
\$18,202,624	\$17,999,581		
\$ 1,501,952	\$ 1,466,720		
\$19,704,576	\$19,466,301		
\$12,371,413	\$12,040,779		
\$ 5,657,985	\$ 6,183,075		
\$ 1,358,301	\$ 1,243,063		
\$ 226,446	\$ 187,953		
\$19,614,145	\$19,654,870		
\$ 155,127	(\$ 188,569)		
	2016_17 \$18,202,624 \$1,501,952 \$19,704,576 \$12,371,413 \$5,657,985 \$1,358,301 \$226,446 \$19,614,145		

\$434,725

funding for Bridging the Gap supports youth who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless

\$835,866

funding for the Our Kids Network, a Halton-wide partnership focused on child development from birth to 18 years

Vision

Children, Youth and Families Thrive

Mission

We protect children and youth, strengthen their well-being and support lifelong, enduring relationships

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Board of Directors

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Emad Elsayed Vice Chair

Steve Cranna Secretary/Treasurer

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Lvnn Barker Director of Service

Derek Evans Director of Finance

Michelle McGaw Gord Muise Director of Human Resources

Ladan Hourfar Director of Strategic **Planning and Analytics**

Robyn Connolly Communications Specialist





Halton Children's Aid Society 103rd Annual Report—2016/17



