

# 115th Annual Report



## **Our Purpose...**

**The Children's Aid Society of Brant will work with families and the community to safeguard a permanent, nurturing family for all children at risk of abuse, neglect or abandonment.**

**In response to our commitment to strengthen and value families, we will work to recognize and use the strengths of families in all assessments, decision-making and actions.**

**We share with the community the responsibility for protecting children and strengthening families.**



June 14, 2010

## Executive Director's Report...

Child welfare staff continue to have an important role in helping children and families cope with the effects of stress from job loss, financial insecurity, homelessness and hunger. The number of ongoing family cases where children were at significant risk, was slightly up from last year and totaled 1,745. Due to funding constraints we have gapped staff positions, and, in some cases, not replaced staff positions. Our staff complement is 186; foster parents total 178; and volunteers total 88 (driving over 148,000 km. this past year).

We continue to invest in the strong network of foster families and kinship homes. We are pleased to report that 95% of the 344 children in care are in placements in Brantford and Brant County, Six Nations on the Grand and Mississaugas of The New Credit First Nations. Only 12% of our children are placed in outside paid resources.

Our Native Services Branch provides community appropriate services to Six Nations on the Grand and Mississaugas of New Credit First Nations. Our Aboriginal Services Unit provides focused child protection services to the off Reserve Aboriginal families in Brantford and Brant County. Most children are helped within their home and where that is not possible (both on and off reserve) children are placed in family or community foster homes to preserve their native traditions and cultural heritage.

We share with the community the responsibility for protecting children and strengthening families. Our sincere thanks is extended to: Grand Erie District School Board; Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board; Nova Vita Women's Services; Aberdeen Health & Community Services; Brant County Health Unit; Slovak Village; St. James Anglican Church (Paris); Brant Community Church; Pauline Johnson Child Care Centre; Ontario Early Years Brant; City of Brantford Child Care Services and Parks and Recreation; PJ Day Care Centre; Ontario Works Brant; Brant & Brantford Local Housing; Lansdowne Children's Services; Family Counselling Centre; Lynwood Hall Treatment Foster Care Program; Woodview Children's Centre; Ganohkwasra/Our Home on Turtle Island; St. Leonard's Community Services, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Big Brothers and Sisters, Aboriginal Health Centre, Brantford Police Services, Central Baptist Church, Grandvalley Christian Centre, Brantford Public Library & Brant Food for Thought.

We will continue to provide services to improve the well-being of the children and youth that we serve.

**Andrew Koster**  
Executive Director



<b>Children's Aid Society of Brant</b>		
<b>Statement of Operations</b>		
<b>Year Ended March 31 2010</b>		
	<b>2010 Fiscal Year</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Province of Ontario	\$ 23,325,839	94.82%
Government of Canada	1,003,918	4.08%
Other income & recoveries	269,769	1.10%
	<b>\$ 24,599,526</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 14,205,343	56.31%
Travel	582,665	2.31%
Education & Training	86,377	0.34%
Building Occupancy	801,574	3.18%
Purchased Professional Services	182,699	0.72%
Program Expenses	82,535	0.33%
Board Rate Payments	6,680,884	26.48%
Purchased Services, Client Health and Related	345,023	1.37%
Client Personal Needs	851,226	3.37%
Emergency Assistance	464,946	1.84%
Promotion	1,204	0.00%
Office & Administration	53,729	0.21%
Minor Capital	435,040	1.72%
Memberships	98,914	0.39%
Technology	78,661	0.31%
Miscellaneous	223,481	0.89%
	<b>\$ 25,228,377</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Excess of Expenses over Revenue for Ministry Purposes	(628,851)	
Capitalization of Assets	102,944	
Amortization of Property, plant and equipment	(250,780)	
Province of Ontario - Prior Year Funding	170,465	
Deferred Revenue related to Property, plant and equipment	(1,670)	
Deferred Grants related to Property, plant and equipment	122,968	
Deferred Contributions	23,532	
Excess of Expenses over Revenue for Audit Purposes	<b>\$ (461,392)</b>	

## The Year in Review—2009-10

**Total Investigations and Ongoing Protection Services: 1,745**

**Summary of Days in Care** (excluding other society wards and including relief placements from April 1/09 to March 31/10)

Adoption Probation	5,344
Extended Care and Maintenance	14,152
Foster Care - Kinship	16,244
Foster Care - Regular	44,599
Foster Care - Specialized	20,587
Foster Care - Treatment	2,735
Free Homes	3,307
Free Institutions	1,006
Independent Living	4,510
Outside Paid Institution Foster Care	8,700
Outside Paid Institution Group Care	7,291
Other	684

**Children In Care** (as of March 31, 2010)

Crown Wards with Access	150
Crown Wards without Access	46
Society Wards	41
Extended Care and Maintenance (Non Wards over 18 years)	41
Temporary Care & Custody (Interim Society Wards)	46
Temporary Care Agreements Voluntary	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>344</b>

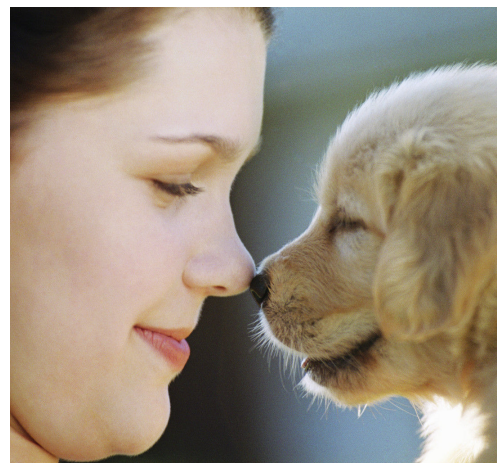
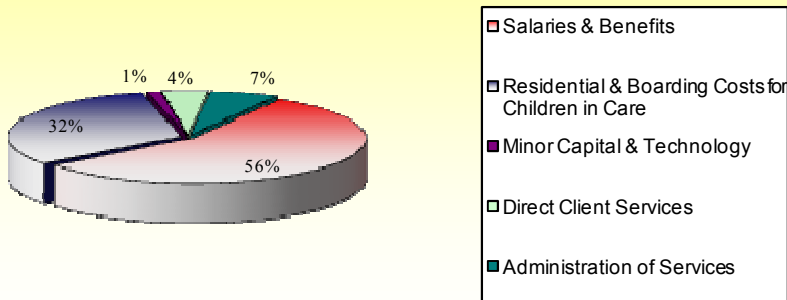


### *The Signs of Safety Approach to Child Welfare...*

*Brant CAS has embraced this safety-organized, collaborative and strength-based approach to delivering services. Six "practice leaders" are coaching 18 managers and workers who are utilizing the approach to achieve safety for children that more fully engages their friends and extended family - with a view to admitting fewer children to care and utilizing court less often.*

*In June 2010, the world-renowned creator of this approach will be in Brantford to provide training to child welfare practitioners from across Ontario. He will also meet with our practice leaders and senior staff for a "master class".*

### The Children's Aid Society of Brant, Expenditures by Category, 2010 Fiscal



## The Children's Aid Society of Brant in the Community...

Much of the work of Child Welfare Agencies is done one family at a time. The work of the Child Development Unit is done primarily with groups where the focus of the work is helping neighbours to make connections to one another and their community—thereby building and developing support networks. These types of programming are unique for Child Welfare Agencies in Ontario—another reason to be proud of The Children's Aid Society of Brant!

The Child Development Unit offers tertiary prevention programs at three housing complexes and five Best Start sites throughout the city. In 2009, there were 5,911 adult visits and 18,248 child visits to programs offered at these sites. Community Child Protection services are integrated in many neighbourhoods in order to develop trust and allow our staff to be more approachable to those who reach out for help. This allows early intervention and provides our workers with the opportunity to creatively solve problems for those who require our services.

In Brantford we continue to see families who are struggling with their children due to larger systemic issues, such as poverty. Our programs offer hope and concrete aid, which in turn reduce isolation and at the same time, encourage positive interaction between neighbours. There are a variety of programs from parent-child drop in, community kitchens, homework help, Dads' groups, arts and crafts, as well as events such as Movie Night, Bike Rodeos and Barbeques. Activities are offered in the hopes of strengthening the community's capacity to care for each other through nurturing relationships.

*For a tour of the sites or to learn more about the work of the Child Development Unit, contact Jill Esposto, Manager, at 519-7538681, Extension 282.*



**The Children's Aid Society of Brant  
Endowment Fund**

The Children's Aid Society of Brant Endowment Fund was established to enhance or improve the services or the facilities of The Children's Aid Society of Brant. This year the Fund has paid for 7 post secondary students to further their post secondary education. In addition, the Fund annually supports the Summer Camp program and this year sent 297 community children to camp who otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity. If you are interested in sponsoring a child in the camp program, or to make a donation to The Children's Aid Society of Brant Endowment Fund, please contact Fundraising Coordinator, Fran Welsh at (519) 752-9094 or [franwelsh@bellnet.ca](mailto:franwelsh@bellnet.ca). Our Mailing address is POB 774 , Brantford ON N3T 5R7.

## THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY OF BRANT

### 2010 Board of Directors

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