



ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023

BUILDING THE FUTURE



CHILDREN'S
COTTAGE
SOCIETY

Core Funders

Thank you to the core funders who ensure we are able to keep our promise to our children;
"To help your parents keep you safe so that you can grow up to be healthy and happy."



United Way
Calgary and Area
Building a great city for all.



Our Vision

Resilient children blossom in healthy families.

Our Mission

Building strong children and safe nurturing families through prevention programs and support services.



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Pediatric Consultant



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Dr. Janice Heard
Board President

Message from the Board President

This past year has been one of the most transformative in the history of the Children's Cottage Society (CCS). After more than a decade of dreaming and planning, we are thrilled to see the next chapter of CCS's story unfold before our eyes.

We are always grateful for the unwavering dedication of the employees and volunteers, who impact the lives of children and families with their work. This year is no exception. As the world changed around them, our teams at CCS continued to deliver in excellence, instilling hope into the hearts of their clients on a daily basis.

One of the main responsibilities of the Board this year was to seek a new CEO to lead CCS into its next chapter. We were delighted to welcome Danielle Ladouceur into that role in November. Danielle has managed to quickly step in and expertly guide the day-to-day running of the organization, as well as oversee the construction of our new Child and Family Centre. Her expertise, her calm, organized manner, and her good humour are all easy to appreciate.

Thank you to our search committee, comprised of board members and led by past President, Vicki Reid, who worked tirelessly to find the right person for the job. We believe they succeeded!

I would also like to acknowledge the excellent leadership CCS had from Lisa Garrison, as Interim CEO, for the six months of the search. With support from her development and finance Directors, Lisa stepped up at a vital time and led the organization with passion and determination.

It has been an honour to lead the Board through this transition and I am eternally grateful to the CCS board members, all of whom helped make the transition time (almost!) seamless. I am very excited to see our new Centre open later this year, ensuring that the Cottage will serve even more children and their families in the years to come.



Danielle Ladouceur
CEO

Message from the CEO

Joining an organization mid-way through the year can be a little challenging, joining mid-way through their largest construction project ever has made things even more exciting! It is a pleasure and an honour to return to the Children's Cottage Society after a six-year hiatus and step into the role of CEO. I am cognizant of the decades of growth and achievement that have passed into my hands, and grateful to rejoin a talented team and a thriving organization that maintains the wellbeing of children and families at the core of everything we do. The Cottage is committed to embedding science-informed and evidence-based approaches into programs that are building capacity, strengthening resilience, and creating better outcomes for over 2000 children and families every year.

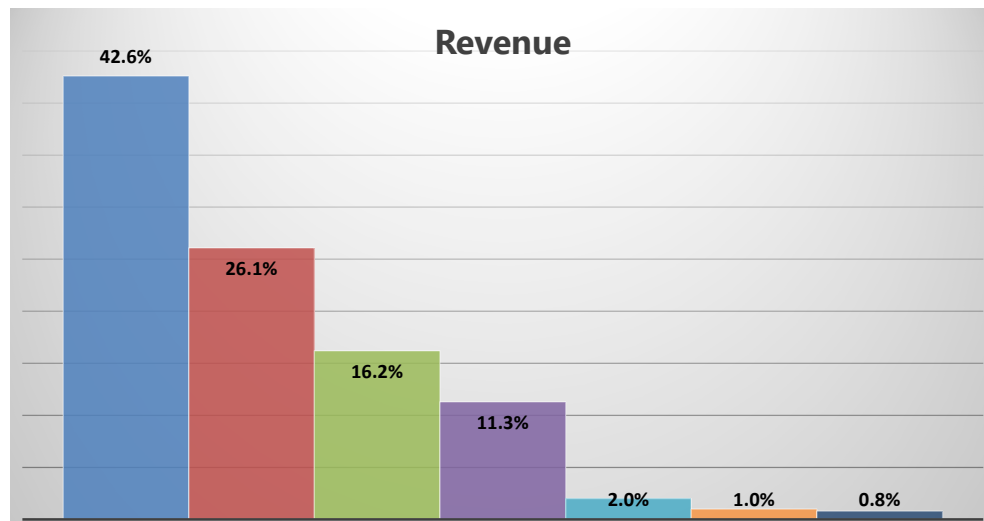
The future is bright and in the coming year we will be celebrating the opening of a new Child and Family Centre in Montgomery. I am inspired by the dedication that our team members demonstrate each and every day and thank them for the skill and caring they bring to their programs and roles. Steering the organization successfully through this time of growth and change is a priority for me in the coming year, as well as ensuring that we maintain and enhance wellness, health, and psychological safety in our workplace.

Thank you to our Board and volunteers, our donors and funders, our partners and collaborators, and all our community supporters who believe in the work we do and help make it all happen.

Organizational Commitment Statement

Last year as an organization, we resolved to continue our work towards understanding the truth of Canada's past and to move towards Reconciliation. Throughout this past year, we have continued to work with a group of Elders, Knowledge Keepers, Pipe Carriers, and Indigenous advisors to ensure our programming continues to evolve to be mindful of our past and respectful for a collaborative future. We have continued to engage in learning opportunities as an agency and to openly support our Indigenous community. As we start a new and important year in our story, we commit to continuing this work, to grow and learn, to ensure we are fully inclusive, and that all who need us are welcomed and supported by us.

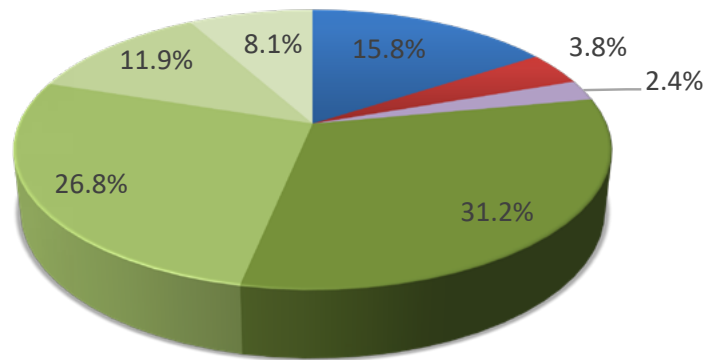
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW - OPERATING FUND



- Alberta Government: Children's Services - \$2,697,490 (42.6%)
- Donations & Fundraising - \$1,653,314 (26.1%)
- Brenda Strafford Foundation - \$1,024,563 (16.2%)
- Calgary Homeless Foundation - \$715,857 (11.3%)
- City of Calgary FCSS* - \$123,854 (2.0%)
- The United Way of Calgary - \$64,000 (1.0%)
- Investment Income - \$47,960 (0.8%)

* Family and Community Support Services

Expenditures



- Program Delivery - \$5,680,550 (78.0%)
- Crisis Nursery - \$2,274,765 (31.2%)
- Housing & Homelessness - \$1,952,678 (26.8%)
- Family Resource Network - \$865,581 (11.9%)
- Community Programs - \$587,526 (8.1%)
- Administration - \$1,150,516 (15.8%)
- Fundraising & Communications - \$280,137 (3.8%)
- Loss on Investment Portfolio - \$173,269 (2.4%)

The Audited Financial Statement is available on our website.

Your Gifts Make a Difference

Every year, we are blessed by gifts from amazing philanthropists who donate to Children's Cottage Society and help make our daily operations happen in our programs. Their gifts enable us to support children and families in crisis when most needed, and create a huge impact in the community. Individuals, corporations, service groups, schools and clubs, memorial gifts and fundraising events, thank you. We have many donors that choose to give anonymously, and we want to acknowledge their gifts and thank them too.

Diamond (\$100,000+)

Anonymous Fund at Calgary Foundation

Emerald (50,000+)

Anonymous (1)
Calgary Shaw Charity Classic Foundation

Sapphire (\$25,000+)

Anonymous (2)
Co-op Community Foundation
The Fortmuller Family Foundation
The Prosser Charitable Foundation

Gold (\$10,000+)

Anonymous (1)
Denise Bardeau
Baytex Energy Ltd.
John R. Bird
Calgary Real Estate Board Charitable Foundation
Canadian Energy Services
Carmel & Jane Gatt Legacy Fund
Chandos Construction Calgary
Michael Fawcett
IFF Holdings Inc.
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The Nickle Family Foundation
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Brian & Shannon Olson
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The Ward Family Foundation
Shelley C. Kehrig
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Arlene McCook

Silver (\$5,000+)

Anonymous (1)
Accredited Condominium Management Services Ltd.
John Anderson
The Ardea Foundation
Big Spruce Environmental Consulting Ltd.
Patrick & Tracy Brennan
The Drake Family Trust
Norma Dyck
Douglas Elasz
EMBE Consulting Engineers Inc.
Ensign Energy Services Inc.
Gary Nissen Fund at Calgary Foundation
Gauthier Family Charitable Fund
Graydon & Dorothy Morrison Fund
Alison Hayter
Ledcor Construction Limited
Longshore Resources Ltd.

Paul McKay
Olwen Priestnall Memorial Fund
Pacesetter Directional Drilling LP
Jim & Cathy Peplinski
Polar Asset Management Partners
Rafflebox
RBC Foundation
Sagium
Saturn Oil & Gas
The Scotlyn Foundation
Sherrri's Hope Foundation
Teine Energy
United Way of Calgary and Area Indigenous Strategy
The Welty Family Foundation
Jeff Wilson
Tor & Jan Wilson

Bronze (\$1,000+)

Anonymous (11)
CIR Realty
The Adah Crawford Gifting Fund
AGAT Laboratories
Erik Alson
Anova Resources Inc.
Ruby Arthur
Adrienne Augustin

The Beingessner Family Foundation
BlueX Energy Corp.
Doug Bonner
John Brannan
Charles L. Buckley
Bonnie Butler
Calgary Petroleum Golf Classic
Calgary Remand Centre

The Campbell Family Foundation
Brad Carter
CBRE Limited (Calgary Office)
CDI College
Cedarglen Living
CEMROCK Concrete & Construction Ltd.
Colter Energy LP
Graham Cooke

Jason Davies
 Glen Dickey
 Sean Dockar-Drysdale
 The Dufresne Foundation Inc.
 Alan Dunlop
 Dynamax Drilling Tools
 Elevate Auctions Inc.
 Childrens Cottage UCalgary Club
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 John Heida
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 IBM Canada Employees' Charitable Fund
 Impulse Downhole Tools Ltd.
 Independent Order of Odd Fellows -
 Hillhurst Lodge No. 46
 International Association of Rebekah
 Assemblies - Lodge 117
 Peggy Jackson
 John Jeffrey
 The JRG Family Fund
 The Kaimanu Fund
 The Keg Spirit Foundation
 Joanne Kerr
 Keywest Projects Ltd.
 Trevor Klassen
 Conrad Kluge
 Krywolt Insurance Brokers Inc
 Peter Kurceba
 Steve Larke
 Jeff Lawson
 Ledcor Industries Ltd. - Employee Giving
 John Leduc
 Legacy Kitchens
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Lexus of Calgary
 Linear Logistics
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 Arthur M. Lutz
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 Kathryn Morrison Gislasen
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 Packers Plus Energy Services
 Pembina Pipeline Corporation
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 Christopher Potter
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 Christine Rome
 Rotary Partners of Calgary at Stampede Park
 Royal LePage Shelter Foundation
 Carly Sakamoto
 Ryan Schneider
 The ScotiaMcLeod Charitable Foundation
 Joe Seidel
 Maria Shaw
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 Sinopec Canada
 Dean Slater
 St. David's United Church Foundation of
 Calgary
 Stampede (Casino) Limited Partnership
 Stampede Drilling

Thomas Story
 Eric Strand
 Evan Strong
 Supporting Wellness Psychological &
 Family Services
 Sam Switzer
 Systemic Architecture Inc.
 Wayne Thomas
 Neil Thompson
 Michael J. Tims
 Tomecek Roney Little & Associates Ltd.
 Torxen Energy Ltd.
 Brian Tufts
 The United Church of Canada Foundation
 Univar Canada Ltd., Calgary Social Fund
 Wesley Van Bruggen
 Christine Vander Pyl
 Johanna Vogel
 Voltage Wireline
 Walker Lawson Interior Design Inc.
 Webber Academy Foundation
 West Rock Energy Consultants Ltd.
 Deborah Wheeler-Gilchrist
 Mark Woitas
 Gerald Wood
 Ian Young



Please scan for a full list of our amazing donors.

Circle of Hope

The Circle of Hope is a special group of philanthropists making a multi-year commitment to donate \$5,000 or more annually to our Crisis Nursery. Their support ensures the best care for children and families, contributing to a healthy future.

Dr. Janice Heard and Bruce McFarlane
Christian Bayle and Nicole Cramer
CKLAS Foundation
The Ark Foundation

Henry and Linda Crawford
Inter Pipeline Ltd.
P.E.A.R.L. Foundation
McWilliams Family Foundation

Impact From Our Work



93% of families in our Housing programs moved into stable housing.



100% of parents from the Early Years program increased their knowledge about the healthy growth and development of their children.



Positive parenting skills are regularly taught by our Home Visitors. **88%** of parents in the program improved their parenting skills.



The In-Home Infant Respite program's post assessment of parents showed **97.1%** of parents were feeling more prepared to care for their children because of this program.



97.5% of parents report that, after receiving crisis care, they felt better able to meet their child/children's needs as a parent.

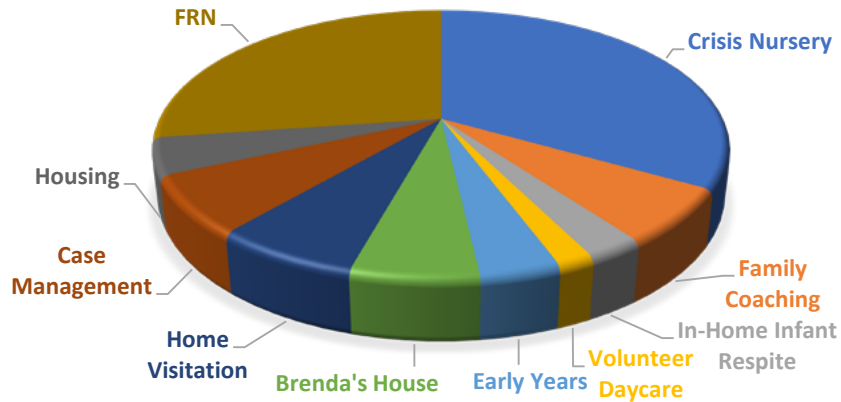


Satisfaction with support provided by Keyworkers at Brenda's House is paramount. **92.5%** of families felt truly cared for at the shelter.

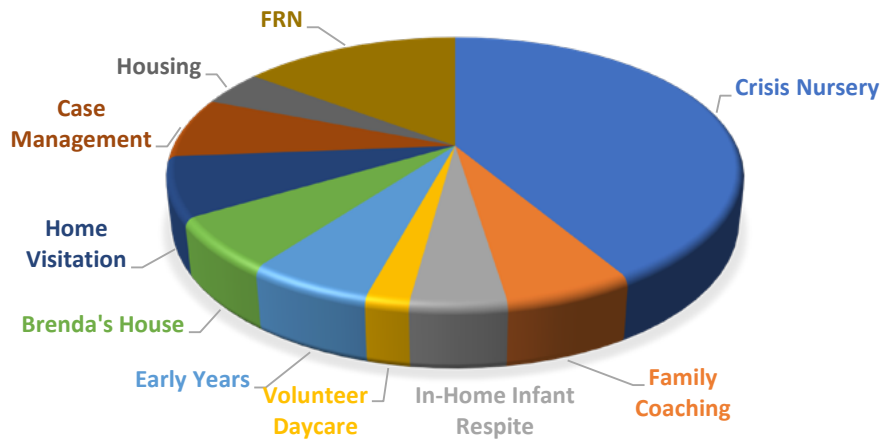
Our Clients Served

Program Name	Children Served	Families Served
Crisis Nursery	814	534
Family Coaching	162	79
In-Home Infant Respite	66	59
Volunteer Daycare	43	27
Early Years	94	77
Brenda's House	150	81
Home Visitation	171	93
Case Management	172	94
Housing	108	55
Family Resource Network (FRN)	667	190
Total	2,447	1,289

CHILDREN SERVED BY PROGRAM



FAMILIES SERVED BY PROGRAM



Our New Building Comes to Life

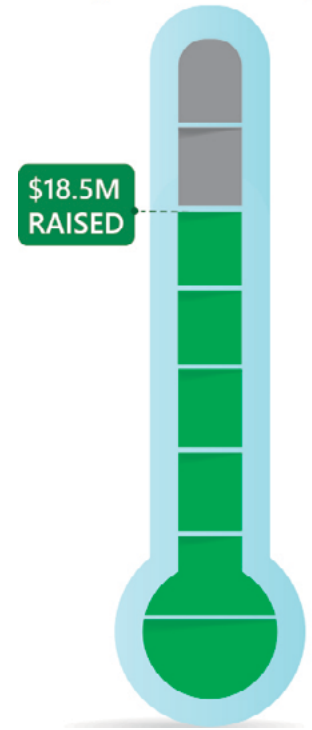
Help us Reach our Goal

CAPITAL GOAL
\$25.5M

The Children’s Cottage Society was born out of innovation and our Crisis Nursery was the first of its kind in Canada. From a donated bungalow that was able to shelter six children a night in our only program, we are now watching a 35,000 sq.ft. building grow out of the ground. This building, on which construction started April 8th, 2022 with 20 children breaking ground, will house a new Crisis Nursery, our Family Resource Network, a new Child Development Centre and will be the home base for many of our community programs. This new Centre will host our science-informed, life-changing programming. It has been a long and colourful journey to reach this point.

Back in 2013, the Children’s Cottage Society was given a donation that enabled us to purchase three plots of land on Home Road NW for our new centre. Over the next decade, research was done, architectural designs rendered, collaborations formed, and campaigns created, with the goal of being able to ensure we can support every child and their family when they reach out to us. Ten years in the waiting and construction has been amazing.

In a year we have broken ground, excavated, shored up the site, poured and finished the parkade, completed the structural concrete pour, had our topping off ceremony, the stairs were put in place, and the elevators are ready to be built. The exterior walls are framed, the roofing has started and all trades are on site. The furniture is being purchased, the interior designs finalized, and the infrastructure being put in place to be able to activate the centre within the next year.



Caring Together Campaign Donors



Over the last several years, a huge number of donors have supported our dreams to build our new centre. Thank you for your support. We are looking forward to opening our doors in 2024 because of you. We have been fortunate to receive some incredible gifts anonymously from a number of campaign donors. We would like to acknowledge these gifts and say thank you.

Diamond (\$100,000+)

Anonymous (5)
Anonymous Fund at Calgary Foundation
Estate of Gordon C. Barber
The Calgary Flames Foundation
Government of Alberta
Canadian Natural Resources
Canadian Progress Club - Elevate
Cenovus Energy
Community Facility Enhancement Program -
AB Lottery Fund
Howard & Michelle Crone
Gerald A. Cooper-Key Foundation
Richard & Lois Haskayne
John & Lynn Keating
Allan P. Markin
The McWilliams Family Foundation
P.E.A.R.L. Foundation
The Rose Foundation

Emerald (\$50,000+)

Anonymous (2)
Clearwater Charitable Foundation
The Donald & Eleanor Seaman Family
Foundation
Janice Heard & Bruce McFarlane
Susan & John McWilliams
Elizabeth Nikiforuk
The Poelzer Family Foundation Fund at
Calgary Foundation
Wayne Thomas
Viewpoint Group

Sapphire (\$25,000+)

Aecon Group
Nathan Balfour
Alan Campbell
Cenovus Employee Foundation
Jan Daunhauer
Wendy Dempster
Jennifer Dunwoody
Grant & Penny Fagerheim
Fortmuller Family Foundation
Kristoffer Garden
Nancy & Bill Hay
Shelley & David Kehrig
Kinsmen Club of Calgary
Macquarie Group Foundation
Leslie McDaniel
Lorraine & Peter Moore
The Nathan O'Brien Children's Foundation
Allan & Meredith Simon

Gold (\$10,000+)

Anonymous (3)
Margaret & Matt Aufricht
Glen & Janet Dickey
Chloe Dusser
Goldman Sachs Matching Gift Program
Jennifer Heath
Pat MacDonald
The Norma & Ron Westcott Foundation
Norton Rose Fulbright Canada
Pipestone Energy
Jonathan Rogers and Chelsea Durber
Kelly Ryan
Shannon & Jim Stannard
Shaganappi Motors
Target Project Management
Donald H. Watkins

Silver (\$5,000+)

Anonymous (1)
ATB Financial
Co-op Community Foundation
Dinesh & Varsha Dattani
Tim Crough
Norma Dyck
George Elder
Ensign Energy Services
John & Roseanne Goetz
Stewart & Dianna Gossen
The Jeffrey & Marilyn McCaig Family
Foundation
Patty & Bill Kilgallon
The Lindsay Leigh Kimmitt Memorial

Foundation Fund at Calgary
Foundation
McDaniel & Associates
Consultants
Paul McKay
Geri & Alan Moon
The Nancy & Bill Hay Family Fund
at Calgary Foundation
Pete the Plumber
David Powell
Vicki & Stu Reid
Sagium
Ralph Ward
Ron Westcott



Please scan for
a full list of our
amazing donors.



Our 'Name the crane' contest winners
named it 'FRANK'.



Hope for the Future

The Children's Cottage Society has always been at the leading edge of providing one-of-a-kind programming to help children in crisis. As we move forward, this continues to be our focus, taking current science and research to support children and their families in changing their trajectories. The need for our work has grown and therefore so must we.

We are excited to have designed a new centre that will allow us to deliver even more programming that is needed by the community. Our new centre has been designed ergonomically to host and facilitate all our programs in a seamless way that maximizes our impact and outcomes.



Turning Dreams to Reality

The new centre is a place where no child is left behind. It's a community that meets children and families where they are "at" and provides wrap-around programming to intervene where needed and build capacity and resilience for the future. One of the original needs for the new centre was to expand our capacity for Crisis Nursery beds. Since 2016, we have been turning away more children than we are able to help. That was the catalyst for this dream becoming a reality.

Since those early days we have looked at our community around us, analysed the needs of our clients, connected with partners and other agencies, expanded our programming, built even more science into our practice, and expanded our goals and dreams. From the Centre being a larger and more modern crisis nursery, it has grown to become a hub to host our work, new partnerships, new initiatives, and so much more. Over the past year, we have continued to forge our strong collaboration with the PALIX Foundation, and incorporate the Brain Story throughout our programs and practice.

We have strengthened partnerships with agencies who will move into the centre with us, which will provide support for our programming, and bring their own unique programs too.





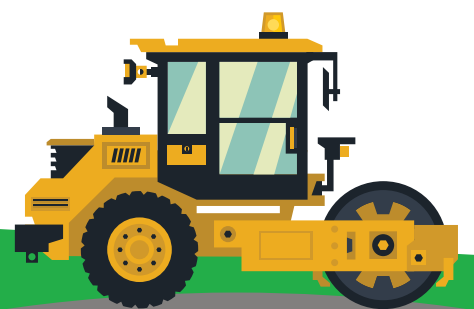
Crisis Nursery

The nursery supports child safety and well-being by providing crisis shelter and care, or respite support to parents who are isolated, lacking natural supports and struggling with problems that require temporary care for their children. The children are provided with 24-hour care for up to 3 days by skilled child care providers.

Tammie and Alex called the Crisis Nursery phone number inquiring about volunteering. Tammie explained that she had accessed the Nursery when her daughter was a child. Alex is now 14 years old. Tammie stated that Alex was quite sick as a child. She was on a lot of medication and had brain surgery at age 4. Mom stated that she struggled with parenting, but reached out and called the nursery. A Family Support Worker would "talk her down from the ledge". She accessed the Nursery for a break so she could be a better parent to Alex. "I don't know what I would have done without the Crisis Nursery."

Tammie and Alex stopped by the Crisis Nursery to donate some items for the children and were shown around the building again. Alex commented that the house seems smaller, however she remembers playing and feeling safe there. She remembered helping staff amuse the babies as a child. Alex hopes to return to the Crisis Nursery to volunteer when she is 16 as she wants to give back to other children.

"I don't know what I would have done without the Crisis Nursery."



Family Coaching

Family Coaching, through an in-home visitation model of service, is available to families who have accessed the Crisis Nursery. Family Coaches support the setting of personalized goals, provide information regarding parenting and child development, and build connections to community resources.

A Family Coach started working with the Smith family because their son had recently been diagnosed with autism, which they were unfamiliar with. The coach helped them understand what this diagnosis meant for them and their family, and helped them apply for Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) funding. Once that was secured, the Family Coach helped their son get into a specialized school, and connected them with a team of therapists, a behavioural aide, and respite services.

CCS has continued to support the family as their needs have changed over the years and have been so happy to help him continue to flourish. Recently, the parents passed their citizenship test and became Canadian Citizens. Their Family Coach was honoured to be invited to the swearing-in ceremony. The day was filled with happy tears, laughter and hugs.

“It’s a blessing to have a group around us who are rooting for us and trying their best to help no matter the circumstances. It’s definitely been a relief in many ways and I look forward to the future, thanks to the Children’s Cottage Society!”



Brenda's House

Brenda's House is an emergency shelter for families facing homelessness. Non-judgmental and respectful support are provided by a dedicated team of support staff and case managers to families in shelter.

Since 2009, the Brenda Strafford Foundation has generously partnered with, and contributed to this shelter located in Killarney. Their philanthropy is appreciated by every child and parent who comes to stay at Brenda's House. More than 150 children and their families resided at Brenda's House last year.

"I am just so grateful to be safe here when I needed to be, and for my children to have a place to live when we had nowhere to go."

84% of families accessing supports at Brenda's House were successful in finding long term housing. 74% were able to move into their own apartments within 45 days.





HomeLinks Housing Program

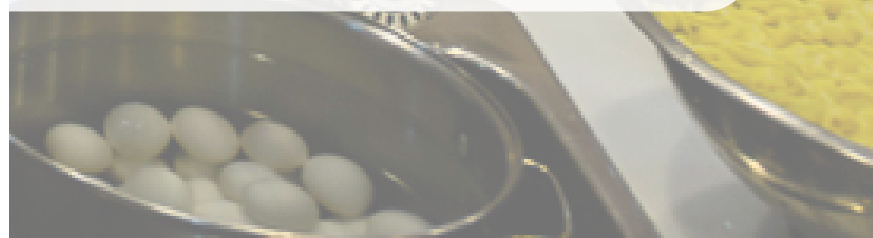
HomeLinks is an Intensive Case Management program that helps families who have a wide range of experiences with homelessness find and move into their own homes.

"We met Sally about a year ago. She had just left an unsafe relationship. She had a toddler and was pregnant. She had recently suffered the untimely loss of two close family members and was struggling with her grief. Sally very much wanted to be housed before the birth of her baby.

HomeLinks helped Sally meet her goals, and provided her with support through the process. The housing market was very tight at the time, but the Housing Locator found a small apartment that Sally was willing to move into until such a time that we could find her a bigger place to suit her growing family. She gratefully moved into the small apartment. We helped her set up her little home, and she delivered a healthy baby shortly thereafter.

More hard work and advocacy was done through her Case Manager and she was able to acquire a much needed subsidy from Calgary Housing. With assistance from the Housing Locator, and the Property Management company, who was very pleased with her tenancy, we were able to move her into a larger unit in an adjacent property. Sally loves her new home and takes pride in it."

94 families were successfully maintained in permanent housing by our Housing program and by extension, 172 children benefited from having safe homes to call their own.



Calgary West Family Resource Network

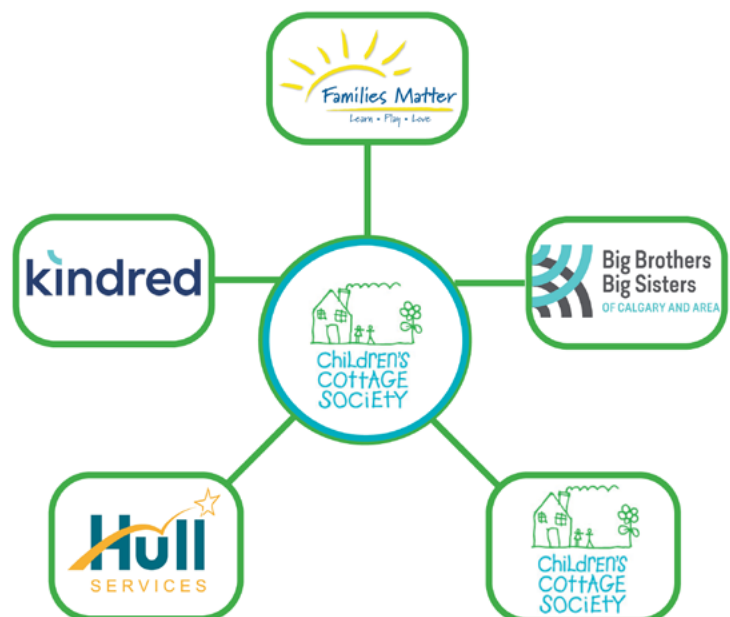
Family Resource Networks (FRN) are a provincial initiative to ensure every community in the province has a place where families can go to access supports. Our FRN is a collaboration of agencies providing a range of free programs for families with children under the age of 18 living in west Calgary. The agencies are: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Kindred Connections Society, Hull Services and Families Matter Society. When a parent or family walk through our doors, we are able to connect them with a myriad of services that they may need immediately: mentoring, support groups, community connections, relationship building, child assessment, skills development programs and counselling.

"We have been working with a family new to Calgary, and one child is in the process of being diagnosed with ADHD. The family initially engaged with us to get connected with some supports for ADHD and parenting.

They were referred to our Resilient Families Spoke and they were also invited to participate in a Hub Social Connections craft. The family enjoyed the craft session so much that they have become regulars for all our craft sessions and participate in the weekly MusicBox music lessons.

They have joined kid's yoga, and through that, connected with another family who also has a child with ADHD. They have developed a natural support connection, one of our primary goals."

The Calgary West FRN supported 1,228 children to access free low-barrier activities. These programs included Magic Carpet Ride, play groups, craft and cooking sessions, as well as story times, and special events.



Home Visitation

This prevention and early intervention program offers parents of children, newborn to age six, the opportunity to build on their strengths through regular home visits. Home Visitors provide support around parenting skills, child development, and connections to community resources. Referrals to this program come from our FRN Hub. Home Visitors usually meet weekly with each family to build parenting capacity, typically using the Nurturing Parenting Curriculum. Home Visitors complete a screening tool that helps to identify any areas of concern related to child development.

"I started working with a single mother of three children about a year ago. Her youngest child, who is now two years old, was consistently behind with his communication milestones. Mom and I continued completing screenings and created a developmental support plan to help him reach his milestones. I also made referrals to the Children's Hospital speech program. We persisted with the support plan and he is now meeting all of his developmental milestones on schedule. His mother is so happy and updates me regularly on his speech progress."

88% of families in our Home Visitation program increased knowledge about positive parenting, and 76% reported a boost in their confidence as a parent.



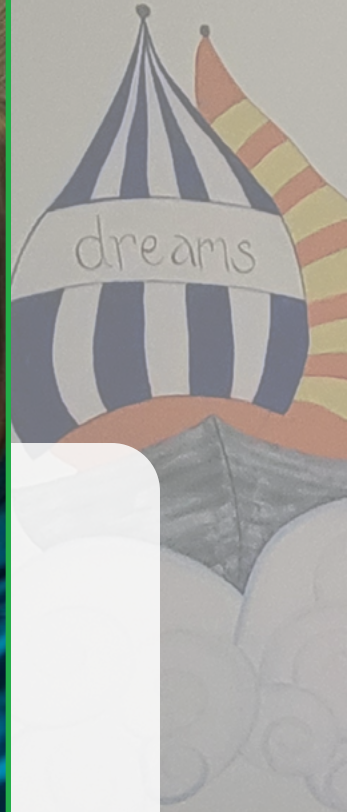


Early Years Family Support

The Early Years Family Support Program assists parents referred by the Alberta Vulnerable Infant Response Team (AVIRT). When parents of infants 0-3 months of age need specialized support, a team of child intervention workers, nurses and police officers work together to provide risk assessment and safety planning. The Early Years Family Support Program helps by working closely with the parents in their homes to address safety and wellbeing concerns and by providing guidance on parenting and child development.

"A great program for parents with young children. Provided encouragement and built confidence. Our Home Visitor really listened to us and was very kind and understanding. We felt very comfortable with her. This is our first baby so we needed a lot of guidance. She provided so much information, answered all of our questions, and listened to our concerns. We learned a lot about my daughter's development."

94 children from 77 families received tender love and care from the Early Year Family Support Program. 86% of parents rated the quality of service as excellent.



In-Home Infant Respite

The In-Home Infant Respite program provides in-home care for infants 6 months and younger when their parents are isolated, overwhelmed, and without support. A Respite Worker goes to the family home to care for infant and provide information about parenting and community supports to the parents at no cost to the family.

"I wish I had known about the program sooner! I was told about the program after dealing with very difficult post-partum and medical issues. I was able to rest and have time out to recoup. I am thankful for this program. Our Respite Worker is wonderful to work with, and we will miss her!"

100% of parents believed the services provided by the In-Home Infant Respite program helped them to deal more effectively with their challenges.



What Families Are Telling Us

"The Early Years program helped me to recognize what I want as a parent in how to nurture my child from my experiences, and from my childhood, with what I want to change from the way I grew up. It has helped me recognize the developmental milestones I should expect for my child. The program also identified my needs emotionally and psychologically. It has helped me learn about myself and how to be a better parent."

"My Home Visitor has been the perfect fit for me and my family. I am beyond grateful for the support and resources she provides. She is so kind and knowledgeable and always makes me feel like I am a good mom and am doing my best. She has honestly been a key piece in my postpartum anxiety and depression improving."

"My family ran into housing issues on relocation to Calgary due to a natural disaster where we lived. However, things turned around when we were referred to Brenda's House. We were provided temporary accommodation, while the HomeLinks program helped with locating housing, first month's rent and paid the damage deposit and connected us to other supports. Now we are in our own apartment and on a trajectory of self-sufficiency and stabilization. Thank you HomeLinks!"

"Mom tells me I am going to the cottage so she can rest and have a break. She always says she is sorry but I LOVE it there!!"

"Without your help my son would not have healthy school snacks and lunches. The FRN gives us the support we need to stay hopeful."

"The In-home Infant Respite program has helped me so much. I have always struggled with mental health and my Respite Care Worker coming in every time helped me so much, especially emotionally. Every time my worker came, it helped me to stop and take care of myself so I could give better care to my baby and, my other child. I always looked forward to my worker's visit. She is the best."



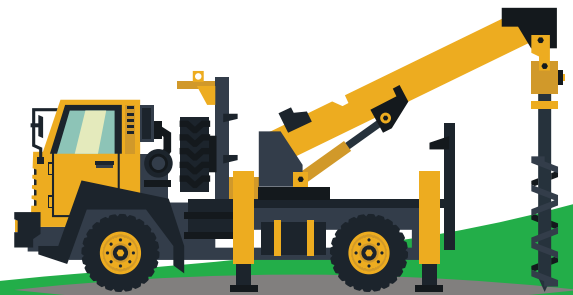
Volunteers

In 2022 we worked hard at rebuilding our Volunteer base post-pandemic. We had many virtual volunteers doing activities for our families at our Family Resource Centre, and as we reopened, we were able to welcome volunteers back on site. This has been really great for our families that have felt isolated.

We are very grateful for all our wonderful volunteers who have given so much of their time and expertise to make a positive difference in the lives of the families and children we serve.

"I've been volunteering at the Crisis Nursery for several years now and every time I go, I still feel a strong sense of purpose. It's heartwarming to see the community supporting each other and it means a lot to me to be part of that community. Every time I come to the Crisis Nursery, I'm reminded that it's the small acts of kindness, taking some time to show that you care, that makes a difference to these kids."

We had 1,633 visits from our volunteers that translated into 7,933 hours of work at the Cottage.



Support from our Community at Large

CCS is proud that we have a community that chooses to support our mission, vision and values through engaging their members and employees through fundraising initiatives. Over the past year we have seen so many organizations returning to support us in person, and many new ones join our supporters. Funds raised have gone towards our ongoing programs and projects as well as towards our new Child and Family Centre.

It was great to see Lexus of Calgary select us as their charity of choice at their golf tournament, along with AECON and Pete The Plumber, to name a few. A variety of Rotary Clubs supported us with everything from our Child Development Centre to new mattresses for Brenda's House. Alberta Ballet hosted a toy drive for us during The Nutcracker, and the children loved seeing the Grinch visit with truck loads of toys from the trio of Uniquenergy Solutions, Baytex Energy and Saturn Oil + Gas Inc.

Thank you so much to all those that have supported us. You are truly appreciated. We are very fortunate that the following companies have held or initiated a fundraiser to support us in 2022:

Accredited Condominium Management Services (ACMS)
AECON Golf Tournament
Alberta Ballet
BigYellowBag
Baytex Energy Corp
Calgary Stampede Rotary
Calgary Sport and Entertainment Corporation
Delta Hotels
Donate-A-Car Canada
Kimmett Cup
Royal LePage Foothills Shelter Foundation

Lexus of Calgary
Lowe's Home Heroes
MacQuarie Brew-Off
Pete The Plumber
Peters & Co Limited
Rainbow Pony Clothing
ScotiaBank Calgary Marathon
Shaw Birdies for Kids
SkiptheDepot
St. Pius X School
Saturn Oil + Gas Inc.

TruEarth
Webber Academy
Wee Wild Ones
Uniquenergy Solutions



Rotary Club of Calgary Stampede Park





Wee Wild Ones & Wilder Futures



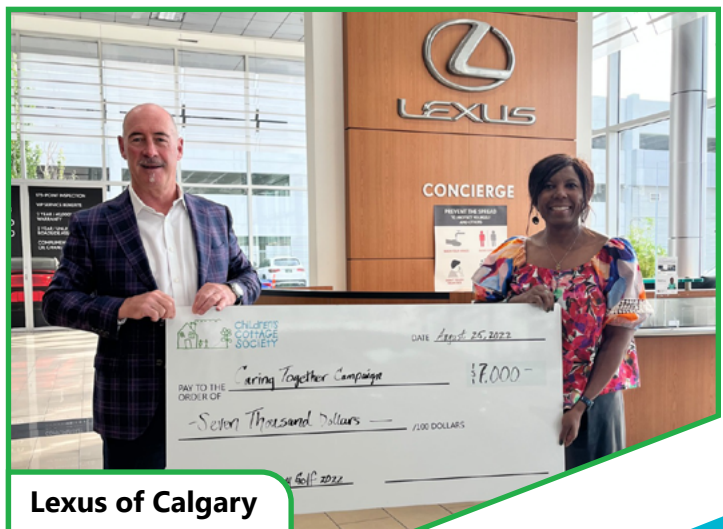
Pembina Pipeline



Uniqenergy Solutions, Baytex Energy Corp, and Saturn Oil + Gas Inc.



Krave Automotive



Lexus of Calgary

Collaboration and Partnerships

As a part of a vibrant sector in Calgary, Children's Cottage Society is supported by, and works with many partners and collaborators. This work both supplements and enhances the programming we are able to offer our clients in their times of need. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with these agencies, to learn and grow in what they offer, and ultimately to help make an even larger impact on the lives of our clients and Calgary at large.

Alberta Health Services
Alberta Home Visitation Network Association
Calgary Food Bank
Bridgeland Day Care
Made by Momma
Children's Place Day Care
UV-Natoo'si
WINS
Sproutz Spinz Grocery Program
Autism Calgary
Calgary Reads
Magic of Christmas
Miskanawah
CUPS
Stoney Nakoda Reserve
Kids Hotel
Twins & Triplets
Awo Taan
Discovery House
Bridgeland Community Centre
Calgary Counselling Centre
United Way
Trellis
Wood's Homes
LUNA
Hull Family Services
United Way
Momentum
The Mustard Seed
Community Kitchen
Calgary Board of Education
Kindred Connections Society
Calgary Housing Corporation

Distress Centre
Renfrew
Legal Aid
ICan4Kids Food Program
Little Red Reading House
Enviros
Worth Resolving
McMann Family Services
Okotoks (FCSS)
Cochrane FRN
Okotoks FRN
Child Advocacy
ALIGN - Association of Community Services
Assure
Calgary Immigrant Women Association
Wild Rose Community Connections
Shaganappi Health Centre
Town of Cochrane
The Alex
Enough for ALL
NorthWest Community Health Centre
Cochrane Pregnancy Care Centre
Cochrane BGC
Families Matter
Big Brothers Big Sisters
North Hill Community Health Centre
Elbow River Healing Lodge
Centre for Newcomers
Wheels for Kids
Calgary Catholic Immigration Society
City of Calgary (Fare & Train)
I belong backpacks

As an agency, we couldn't have made a difference for children and families without our collaborations and partnerships.



Magic of Christmas



Little Red Reading House



ICan4Kids Food Program



Birthday Miracles



The Alex



Calgary Food Bank

Collaboration with Indigenous Communities

About 40% of the children and families we serve are Indigenous. Our goal to build resilient children in healthy families includes forging meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities, especially the three Stoney Nakoda Nations. One such example is a reconciliation-themed collaboration between our Family Coaching program and Stoney Health Services.

Family Coaching programming was customized, making it more appropriate for Indigenous families in the Morley community. The Family Coaching program also supported Stoney Health Services' own home visitation program by providing information on parenting support and healthy child development.

The onsite work helped build cultural competencies that we have adopted and continue applying to provide more robust support to Indigenous children and families in Calgary. The program is funded through the United Way Calgary and Area's Nattoo'si Indigenous Healing and Well-being Initiative, making it sustainable in the mid- to long-term.



Training on 'Sanctified Kindness' led by Elder Patrick Diagneault and Adrian Goulet





Collaboration with Universities and Colleges

The Crisis Nursery, Family Coaching, and the Family Resource Network work alongside practicum students from the faculties of Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Early Childhood Education, and Child and Youth Care from the University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge College, Mount Royal University, Ambrosia University, the University of Calgary, and the University of Alberta.

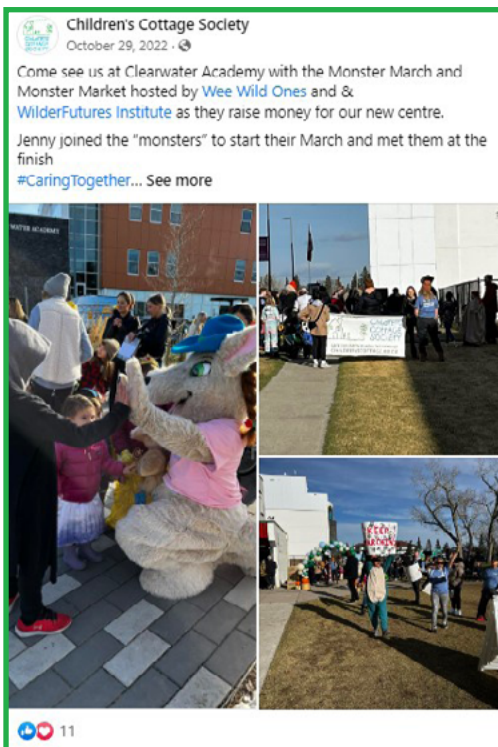
As these students learn from us, we also learn from them! They support Cottage staff in caring for children and help support the parents and caregivers. Our practicum students also assist staff with program planning and facilitation, on-site with families and children, and virtually, and help staff with client intake and referral processes. We have hired some practicum students on completion of their tenure with us.

CCS also works with several of the University of Calgary's volunteer groups. Music Box is a weekly program that teaches young children the basics of music. The UofC Club facilitates various craft and baking sessions with children at the FRN, and the Home Food Group runs cooking sessions with families via Zoom, teaching children basic cooking skills and nutrition.

Social Media & Communications

Over the past year, with things moving and changing so fast, we have been using our new “Cottage News” as well as social media to keep our supporters up to date. A selection of our most popular posts are below. Naming our construction crane “Frank” was one of our most enjoyed campaigns, and the New Centre groundbreaking our most followed.

Facebook: 3,747 followers / Instagram: 2,476 followers / Twitter: 2,194 followers



“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.”

NELSON MANDELA



Our Program Locations

Crisis Nursery, In-Home Infant Respite & Family Coaching

845 McDougall Road NE
Calgary, AB T2E 5A5
P: 403-233-CARE (2273) (24/7 Crisis Line)

Brenda's House Family Shelter & Housing Programs

1921 28 Street SW
Calgary, AB T3E 2H1
P: 403-242-8575

Calgary West Family Resource Network & Home Visitation

7930 Bowness Road NW
Calgary, AB T3B 0H3
P: 403-830-3153

Administration Office

204, 2120 Kensington Road NW Calgary, Alberta T2N 3R7
403-283-4200
admin@childrencottage.ab.ca

childrencottage.ab.ca



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