

Securing our Children's Future

Annual Report 2011-2012




Children's
TREATMENT CENTRE
OF CHATHAM-KENT

Celebrating Abilities, Developing Potential


Children's
TREATMENT CENTRE *Foundation*
OF CHATHAM-KENT

Message from the Centre Executive Director



It is with a great deal of pride that we share the news that 2011 and early 2012 has been a period of great accomplishment for the board and staff of the Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent. It is these successes that will allow us all to remain focused well into the future on providing our clients with outstanding paediatric therapy support and assisting each of them to reach their own full potential.

Working in a fast-paced and ever-changing environment, it is important that we ensure our services continue to be delivered with a high degree of quality and safety. To meet this goal, Centre management initiated an accreditation process during 2011. Our staff met the challenge and as a result we are pleased to report that the Centre received the Accreditation Primer Award from Accreditation Canada in recognition of our commitment in providing quality care and service to the Chatham-Kent community.

To address the reality that demand for our services is increasing and that we have outgrown our current facility in many respects, a business plan was developed during 2011 that confirmed the need for renovating and expanding our building, which would result in a number of functional improvements. Our business case for capital investment, titled "Securing Our Children's Future", was submitted and we

are pleased to report that the regional office of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, our major funding ministry, has formally supported it in principle. We are committed to advancing our plan forward and securing the necessary funding from government and non-government sources to ensure we can continue to meet the need of children in our community now and into the future.

In addition to addressing physical building needs, great efforts have been devoted to the development of a modernized electronic client information system in collaboration with 12 other children's treatment centres across the province. Supported by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services last year, we are excited to highlight that the electronic record captures caregiver goals, facilitates team information sharing, and is based on current evidence and best practice.

As we move forward into 2012 and beyond, I want to take this opportunity to thank our staff, board members, volunteers, numerous community partners and our Foundation for their hard work and valuable contribution to our success this past year. Finally, I want to personally thank outgoing board directors, our retiring chair Beth Cummings and Sandra Mailloux, for their many years of leadership and guidance that they have provided our cause. Their contribution has made a lasting difference in our Centre and the lives of children in Chatham-Kent with developmental challenges.

Sincerely,

Donna Litwin-Makey, Executive Director



Message from the Foundation Executive Director



Whoa!

Thank goodness for annual reports. They force us to stop, breath and reflect on the past year. In full support with this report's theme of "Securing Our Children's Future", the Foundation has been engaged in a whirlwind of activity throughout 2011 and the first quarter of 2012, all aimed at increasing the Centre's capacity and sustaining the Centre's impact.

Upon the successful touchdown of our "Fitness Fun for All Kids!" adapted sports campaign announced at last year's annual general meeting, the Foundation board took little time in launching not one but two follow-up campaigns. The "Express Yourself" campaign in support of adapted arts programming and music therapy, and the "Child's Play" campaign in support of a new accessible therapy playground, have been the focus of much attention this past year. It is anticipated that both campaigns will conclude successfully during 2012.

In addition, this has been a year of hugely successful events! The 10th anniversary Festival of Giving in April 2011, the last with co-chairs Darrin Canniff and Michael Grail at the helm, raised \$365,000 for several charities and set the stage for new co-chairs, Greg Hetherington and George Bossy, to take the event to the new John D. Bradley Convention Centre in April 2012 and raise more than \$300,000 in the 11th edition.

Similarly, proceeds from last October's third annual Mosaic Art Gala, featuring an auction of art created by our client children or donated by local professional artists, brought our


three-year tally raised to \$75,000. As well, Foundation staff helped co-ordinate and market the Pattern Energy "Concerts for the Kids!" series of well-attended tribute shows at the Chatham Capitol Theatre featuring the music of Queen, Elton John, U2, Aerosmith and others.

This past year Foundation staff have partnered with other entities and invested in activities with the potential to pay greater dividends down the road. For example, the Foundation participates on the Chatham-Kent Roundtable of the Canadian Association of Gift Planners, working with other local charities and allied professionals such as legal and financial advisors, to promote the concept of planned giving through wills, life insurance, endowment funds, and so on. We have also participated in the OACRS Fundraising Network with representatives from other children's treatment centres examining possible awareness building and fundraising campaigns at the provincial level. And finally, the Foundation embraced the new tools of social media in 2011, particularly Facebook, to expand its reach and influence in this rapidly growing communications medium.

Finally, I am pleased to report that, upon the completion of her Job Creation Program contract in early February 2012, Candice D. Phillips joined the Foundation office full-time providing communications and fundraising assistance to both Foundation and Centre staff. Her youthful enthusiasm, cheerful disposition and technical skills in designing and producing promotional materials have enabled her to become a valuable resource in a very short time.

Sincerely,
Art Stirling, Executive Director





The Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent is a proud member of the Ontario Association of Children's Rehabilitation Services (OACRS), an advocacy organization that articulates to government and other stakeholders the collective contribution made by the 21 children's treatment centres to children and their families across Ontario. Every year, therapists in Ontario's paediatric rehabilitation sector work hard to serve as many children as possible to give them the best chance to achieve their potential and succeed in life. Every year, demand rises, waiting lists grow and kids waiting fall further behind. OACRS believes the solution lies in sustaining and strengthening investment in the sector; in embracing innovation in all we do; in pursuing opportunities for service integration; and in the inclusion of children with special needs in all Ontario has to offer. Because...

every kid matters

inclusion

As the Ontario government proceeds with implementation of Full-Day Learning at the province's elementary schools, Centre staff working with school staff have expanded an innovative pilot project for full-time JK/SK students in Chatham-Kent. By delivering therapy services at school and integrating techniques into the classroom, children are demonstrating an increased ability to learn and participate, families are engaged, strong relationships are being built with the education system, and more children are identified and treated sooner.

"The service is a partnership between therapy staff, the school and parents. It works because there are strong relationships at the school, designated space for therapy, as well as collaboration between Centre and school staff in the classroom. There is flexibility to follow children who are on Centre caseload, to provide screenings and follow up for new children referred by school staff and to meet family needs such as appointments before school, over the school lunch break, or throughout the designated therapy day".

- Sheryl Langille, Centre communicative disorders assistant
(has 15 children on her caseload at Tilbury Area Public School)



Staff Design First Accessible Therapy Playground

Last August the Foundation launched "Child's Play", a campaign to raise \$125,000 to support the installation of an accessible therapy playground. As equipment design, accessibility standards and safety codes have evolved dramatically over the past decade, it was determined that the existing playground was no longer adequate and in need of updating. Designed by a team of Centre therapists, the new playground features specialized pieces selected to align with the developmental needs of children. It will be unlike any other playground in Chatham-Kent, with 'giant insect' themed equipment that will excite and stimulate their imagination. One exciting feature of the new playground is a 17-piece musical ensemble that will not only provide fun and excitement for children, but also a therapeutic value. The children will be able to test their abilities, develop new skills, improve their health, overcome obstacles and make new friends, regardless of their ability level.

The campaign was kicked off with support from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, who approved a \$50,000 grant from the Recreation/Parks Partnership Program, and an \$11,000 donation from Farm Credit Canada quickly followed. Over the ensuing months, Kruger Energy committed \$10,000, International Power Canada donated \$2,500, the McGeachy Charitable Foundation donated \$1,500 and \$5,000 came from the Kinsmen Club of Dover, leaving fundraising efforts now more than halfway to the goal. The Centre plans to have the new playground installed for 2013.

"As an infant, my son began therapy at the Children's Treatment Centre and by age two he was using the outdoor playground equipment. Now at age six, he is still using the playground. I often bring him and his younger brothers here because it is a fun and safe place to play. The equipment is designed to meet the needs of children with disabilities but at the same time very much suited for any child."

- Erika Walker, parent





Volunteer
Angela

Celebrating Our 2012 Hall of Fame Recipient

Our Hall of Fame Award is presented to an individual who serves as a role model for youth who are working toward independence and participation in the community. The award serves to highlight our commitment in helping to develop the next generation of community leaders and volunteers.

This year's recipient is Angela Armstrong, a 24-year-old from Tilbury, Ontario. Although facing challenges due to her cerebral palsy, Angela has adopted a positive attitude and is assisting teens with disabilities. Based on her personal experience, she identifies helpful resources for Centre programs and assists with our Youth Planning Team. Angela is also exploring new opportunities for programs that can provide support for individuals wishing to access work and community experience. She is currently involved in a home study program to gain further independence in managing her own care. We proudly congratulate and wish Angela the best as she moves forward with her own unique style of dedication, energy and determination.

investment

Chatham-Kent Youth Receives 2012 OACRS Scholarship

The OACRS Scholarship Program was established to recognize a youth who has been served by one of Ontario's children's treatment centres and who is pursuing a post-secondary education or career goal. Multiple applicants competed for this year's scholarship and the Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent is happy to extend our congratulations to successful recipient Ashley Gialelem, who will be attending St. Clair College in the fall in the Social Service Worker program. Ashley shared her challenges and accomplishments on a youth engagement panel at the 2010 OACRS conference. We are truly proud of Ashley and are excited she is receiving this provincial recognition.



ONTARIO
ASSOCIATION
OF CHILDREN'S
REHABILITATION
SERVICES

service milestones

Our employees are our greatest asset, and each of them make a significant investment of their time and talent to help children with developmental challenges reach their full potential. We want to highlight and recognize those that have reached employment service milestones.

25 Years:

Marnie Ball

Mabel Thibault

20 Years:

Judith Brisbin

Sheryl Langille

15 Years:

Heather Sarson

10 Years:

Diane Fahey
Tina Jamieson
Laura Burritt

Cindy Gillett
Mumbi Johnson

5 Years:

Cheryl Lynn DeGraaf
Rachelle Regnier

Lindsay Knight
Gauri Sood

Best Start Involvement Continues to Pay Dividends

The Children's Treatment Centre continues to benefit from our ongoing partnership in Best Start, an initiative that has brought together all community agencies in Chatham-Kent supporting early childhood and parenting needs. For example, over the past year, our physiotherapy department has worked with Family Health Team at the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit to promote the importance of ensuring infants sleep on their backs and play on their tummies. This partnership led to the development of new resource material for the post-partum packages distributed through the CKPHU and through Best Start, in celebration of National Child Day last November, 50 information packages were distributed to new parents in the Maternity Unit at the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance. A billboard, featuring the message "Back to Sleep...Tummy to Play", was posted throughout Chatham-Kent this past March/April. New developments are emerging with the Family Health Team and we look forward to continuing this partnership.





Recognizing the expressive and therapeutic power of creativity for children with developmental challenges, the Children's Treatment Centre Foundation launched the "Express Yourself" campaign in August 2011 with a goal of \$75,000 to sustain and grow the Centre's adapted arts programming and music therapy services. These programs are a vital extension of the more traditional therapies offered at the Centre but are not supported through its core ministry funding. Appropriately, Foundation directors have taken the fundraising lead by spearheading multiple successful events, including the 3rd annual Thompsons Limited Mosaic Art Gala last fall and the Pattern Energy "Concerts for the Kids!" tribute concert series at the Chatham Capitol Theatre.



adapted arts & music therapy campaign

innovation

New Programming Helps Children Communicate Through Art and Music

Modelled after the success of several adapted sports and fitness programs for children with developmental challenges, innovative new adapted arts programming has been developed, and continues to be developed, at the Centre. Examples include adapted painting and pottery classes, adapted ballet as well as several newer offerings such as black light theatre and photography camp (volunteer leader John Lyons pictured below with camp participants). These programs have been well-received by parents looking for opportunities for their children to participate in these types of programs.



Dance Helping to Change a Child's Life

There was a time when Samantha's (Sammy's) parents wondered if she would be able to walk, talk or attend school. With the diagnosis of Down Syndrome at birth, Sammy's future was unclear to her parents. At the age of three months, Sammy was referred to the Children's Treatment Centre. "We have always been very committed to providing Sammy with anything that will benefit her," says Sammy's mom Chasity. "When anyone makes a recommendation, we try very hard to follow them." Recommendations were made for the way they held Sammy, how they played with her and how they communicated with her.

Over the years, Sammy and her family have benefited from multiple physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, speech and music therapy programs. The biggest change in Sammy, however, came from the adapted recreation programs. From swimming lessons to art camps, Sammy grew more confident with every program. "We have seen our very shy, introverted child get up on stage and dance her heart out in front of a large audience," says Chasity. "With all the help from the Centre, Sammy is a very active, young girl who loves to run, dance and sing!"



Sammy, 9, is now in Grade 3 at Winston Churchill Public School and her parents have big dreams for her. In addition to academic goals, they are hoping she will become more independent as she gets older. "We have seen Sammy evolve and flourish over the years due to all the wonderful things the Centre has done." The next dream for Sammy is to have her join a local dance club where she can continue to grow in her confidence and relationships.

integration

Centre Expands Support to Autistic Children

With additional funding from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, and in partnership with London's Thames Valley Children's Centre, the Children's Treatment Centre expanded services in 2011 to children and youth from birth to age 18 with autism spectrum disorder. Through consultation with families and the community, this Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) program works to develop skills in the areas of communication, behaviour, social skills and daily living skills based on ABA principles.



RBC Makes a Difference With Valuable Long-Term Partnership

In November 2011, representatives from the RBC Foundation and the two RBC Royal Bank branches in Chatham presented donations totalling \$20,000 to the Children's Treatment Centre, continuing a multi-year partnership between the financial institution and the Centre. Now in its fifth year of support, the RBC Foundation donated \$15,000 in support of the Centre's "Family Care PAK". Family Care PAK, consisting of the Triple P - Positive Parenting Program and psychology testing, assists parents of special needs children by providing advice, tools and strategies to deal with their child's diagnosis, determine appropriate expectations, and promote confidence and self-esteem in both the parent and child. RBC Foundation's support directly keeps this program available to our families. In addition, RBC Royal Bank's local branches presented \$5,000 raised at their 4th annual golf tournament for the Foundation's "Express Yourself" campaign.



"The Royal Bank has taken great pride in supporting the Children's Treatment Centre. We have seen the difference this Centre has made in the lives of those in our community. I could not be more thrilled to present this donation."

– Nicole Piette, RBC Community Branch Manager

Unique Program Helps Parents Cope and Excel

Having a child with a disability can be challenging, frustrating and exhausting. Every parent tries to be the best possible parent, but sometimes it doesn't seem to be enough. The Centre introduced "Triple P" (Positive Parenting Program) several years ago to teach parents how to better handle situations that may arise with their children.

Running over the course of eight weeks, Triple P teaches parents how to build positive relationships, encourage good behaviour they like, and teach new skills to their children. The program teaches parents that there is no such thing as a perfect parent, and that there will be difficulties with their child. The program is interactive, flexible and gives parents the opportunity to discuss their opinions and ideas for parenting.

The tips given during the program give clear examples of how to word phrases that encourage desirable behaviour. Parents are able to put these skills to work immediately after the class, and find the improvement in their child's behaviour to occur quickly.

With a goal of creating long-term healthy relationships and behaviours between parents and their children, the group also looks at how to handle difficult situations as a child ages.

Here's what parents have to say about Triple P!

"I really liked the setting and how I could talk to other people and get their opinions."

"I no longer struggle to communicate with my child. Both of our lives are much happier and healthier because of the tips Triple P provided."

"I've learned how to cope with misbehaviour that will occur when my son gets older. Every parent should have a chance to attend these programs and learn this information. The progress between myself and my child has been very satisfying."



Celebrating Our Donors

While every donation is important and valued, the Children's Treatment Centre Foundation of Chatham-Kent would like to take this opportunity to celebrate those donors during 2011-2012 that contributed \$500 or more to our Centre and its programs.

"Fitness Fun For ALL Kids!" Campaign

- TD Securities Underwriting Hope Fund
- Tim Hortons - Chatham Ownership Group
- (several other donors were recognized in 2010-2011 report)

"Children's Chrysalis Endowment Fund"

- Tim Hortons - Chatham Ownership Group
- Mike & Paula Grail / Tim Hortons Employees
- Festival of Giving '11

"Child's Play" Campaign

- Kruger Energy – Chatham Wind Farm
- McGeachy Charitable Foundation
- Farm Credit Canada
- Municipality of Chatham-Kent
- Kinsmen Club of Dover
- International Power Canada
- Sun Life Financial Advisors Susan Bechard, Joe Mares & Adam Vandermeij
- Harold & Margaret Pankrac
- Spectra Energy Matching Grant Program

"Express Yourself" Campaign

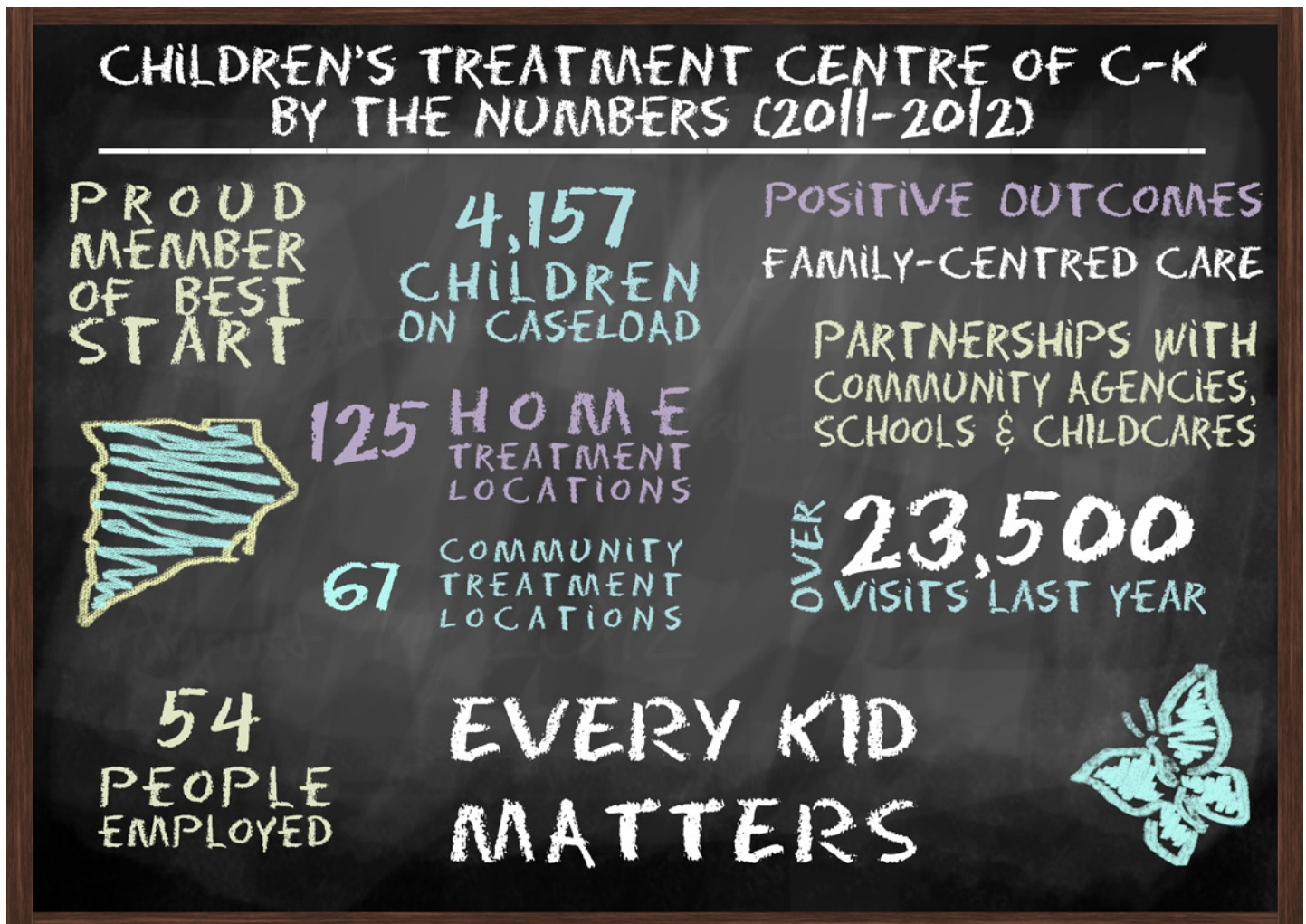
- Darrin & Christine Canniff
- Imperial Eyewear
- Tracy Bultje
- Victory Ford Lincoln
- Pattern Energy – South Kent Wind
- Thompsons Limited
- Jim McLandress
- TekSavvy Solutions Inc.
- Dundee Wealth Management
- Stephanie VanDerMeersch & Peter Jamieson

"CK Kids Can't Wait" General Operations & Special Programs

- Jim & Marian Redford
- Adam Geluk
- Chatham-Kent Police "Platoon C"
- Sun Life Financial, Blenheim
- RBC Royal Bank (Chatham branches)
- RBC Foundation
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities

While our goal is accuracy, it is possible for a name to be missed. Our sincere apologies in advance.

Charitable Registration # 82482 8354 RR0001





Children's TREATMENT CENTRE OF CHATHAM-KENT

Celebrating Abilities, Developing Potential

Our Vision...

We are caring people celebrating abilities and making a greater difference in our community.

Our Mission...

To provide children's rehabilitation services through caring teams, working together in partnership to enable clients to optimize their quality of life.

Our Values...

We value integrity, caring, community, achieving full potential, team work, quality and client focus.

Our Board of Directors:

Beth Cummings, Chair
Paula Grail, Vice-Chair
Glen Reaume, Treasurer
Kevin Allman
Mary Genge
Sandra Mailloux
Mary Lou Martin
Claudette Meriano
Shawn Moynihan

Donna Litwin-Makey, Executive Director
Art Stirling, Foundation Executive Director (ex-officio)

Our Management Team:

Donna Litwin-Makey, Executive Director
Marnie Ball, Team Leader - Client Support
Cindy Gillett, Team Leader - Staff Support
Joe Dawson, Business Manager
Dr. Wendy Edwards, Medical Director
Amelia Morrison, Service Manager
Mabel Thibault, Service Manager
Mary Ann MacKew, Service Manager
Judith Brisbin, Clinical Projects Manager

www.childrenstreatment-ck.com



Children's TREATMENT CENTRE *Foundation* OF CHATHAM-KENT

Our Mission...

To raise awareness of the Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent in the community and, by doing so, raise the necessary funds to enhance its long-term financial sustainability, ensuring children and youth from across the region continue to receive the therapy services they require.

Our Core Values...

We value respect, commitment, passion, integrity, stewardship and accountability.

Our Board of Directors:

Michael Grail, President
Jim McLandress, Vice-President
Maria O'Brien, Secretary
Darrin Canniff, Treasurer
Tracy Bultje

Tom Curtin
Greg Hetherington
Stephen Jahns (resigned during year)
Russell Kopke
Adam Vandermeij

Katy Uher
Bruce Walker
Art Stirling, Executive Director
Donna Litwin-Makey, Centre Executive Director (ex-officio)

www.childrenstreatmentfoundation-ck.com

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Audited financial statements for both the Centre and Foundation are available upon request.



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