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# Land Acknowledgement

The Child Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County acknowledges that we are situated on the traditional land of the Anishinaabe people. The Anishinaabe include the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy.

In times of great change, we recognize more than ever the importance to honour Indigenous history and culture and are committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation, respect and good health with all Indigenous people and our community as a whole.



# Message from Our Chair



"Leading our first year in the Coalition's 2021-2024
Strategic Plan was a creative journey for me, and an honour to help support the work behind our four pillars, dedicated to changing lives through collaboration."

-

Christine VanderByl Coalition Chair We can proudly say that our past year has been a wonderful success with the addition of our new contracted staff, Robyn Pugsley, Executive Assistant and Jennifer Saunders, Coordinator, for the Coalition. Their ability to learn quickly and carry through the first year's objectives I know was much appreciated by you the members. Their ability to build connections, without meeting face to face was a daunting task, yet was accomplished with great ease.

As you work your way through this year's Annual Report, you will see some of the accomplishments achieved by our various committees, tables and groups throughout this past year.

Your support for all children, youth and families to thrive in a strong, nurturing community has always been unwavering as we navigate the pandemic collaboratively and collectively. Thank you all for your support.

I would also like to thank the Executive Committee members for their support this past year as I navigated the chair position through what we hope to be our final year meeting virtually. A heartfelt thank you to our exiting past chair, Claudine Cousins, who's continued dedication to the Coalition and amazing mentorship made it a successful year. A warm welcome to incoming chair Christine Vallis-Page, who's leadership and skill set will be a tremendous asset to this year's goals and objectives.

# **Executive Committee F**

# **Advocacy Committee**



"My profound thanks to the members of the Advocacy Committee and to you all for your guidance and support!"

Lucy Gowers
Advocacy/ Government Relations (Chair)

The Advocacy Committee continues to work hard to represent the members of our coalition and our community. Our primary focus is to keep you up to date on topics of advocacy that are relevant to identifying and addressing emerging needs and issues facing those we serve, and to effectively support vulnerable and marginalized children, youth, and families in our communities. Meeting these challenges means we need to embrace new ways of working and collaborating with each other to meet the ever-changing needs and expectations.

We are still navigating the changes brought on by the pandemic and learning to better understand our connection to the community, to those we serve and to each other. As a committee we continue to evolve, but our aim to improve the delivery and impact of our services remains constant. Understanding what connects us to each other and our community is meaningful and beneficial to the well-being of those we serve. So, we will continue to connect with each other, and work together to deliver a faster and more efficient response to the needs of children, youth, and their families in the County of Simcoe; because building a stronger connection to each other and our community, ensures a brighter future for all!

We are extremely excited about our upcoming workshop in September, as we identify ways to interconnect with each other and build a stronger support network that will bring about positive change for everyone!

# **Advocacy Committee Members**



Lucy Gowers, Youth Haven
Joan Kennedy, Season's Centre for Grieving Children
Danielle Mink, Georgian College
James Thomson, New Path Foundation

# **Member Relations**



"As the new Member Pelations officer, it has been my pleasure to start to get to know all of our existing and new Coalition member agencies."

Stefanie Smith Member Relations Officer This year we have welcomed 3 new agencies to the Coalition; Glowing Hearts, Hospice Simcoe, and the Innisfil Idea Lab. In addition, we have re-welcomed the Orillia Public Library. We look forward to your participation and involvement within our collective community.

As part of the Coalition's strategic plan, we will be developing a member orientation guide to improve the on-boarding process for new members. We know that we can improve this process by providing information and support

to agencies and maximize their involvement with the coalition from the outset. Also, keep your eye out for the new Member Portal that will be launching this fall on the Coalition's website.

We look forward to your on-going submissions for our Member Spotlights – this is a wonderful tool for all Coalition members to get to know the variety of work that is done in our community to support children and families.

# **Member Relations Team**



Stefanie Smith, Mackenzie Health Robyn Pugsley, CYFS Coalition Jennifer Saunders, CYFS Coalition

# Integrated Planning Table



"I am excited about this work and believe this could be transformative for the Integrated Planning Table as well as the Coalition."

Michelle Bergin Integrated Planning Table (Chair) This past year has once again been full of unexpected events and changes. I am still new to the Integrated Planning Table (IPT), having joined as a Co-Chair in the fall of 2021. We experienced a change in leadership shortly afterwards when Suzanna McCarthy had to step down to attend to her agency's priorities.

The focus of IPT this year has been our new strategic work plan which included the formation of an Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee. I am pleased to report that the DEI Committee has been very productive and

engaged. They have designed and distributed their Organizational Reflection Tool and are developing a terminology glossary. Another priority item on the workplan for IPT has been to review and update the Tables, Task and Working Groups connected to the Coalition. I am excited about this work and believe this could be transformative for IPT and for the Coalition.

# **Integrated Planning Table Members**



Laura Forget, BANAC
Jim Harris, New Path
Lindsay Hummelink, Waypoint
Kristen Baumann, CTNSY
Sandra Lee, LIP
Stefanie Smith, Mackenzie Health

Heather Wilson, Kinark Rebecca Dupuis, SMDHU Rae Tuckey, Gilbert Centre Megan Legg, Innisfil Idea Lab Michelle Bergin, Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County (Chair)

# Capacity Building



"The Dashboard Committee has identified 3 priorities and is well on its way to achieve and to optimize existing data repositories that will help us understand how we can better serve children, youth and families in Simcoe County."

Dr. Valerie Grdisa Capacity Building Officer, Dashboard Committee (Chair) The Dashboard Committee had achieved its goal of identifying 1-2 indicators by sector to launch the Dashboard and this was validated by the Coalition, in spring of 2021. However, further progress on establishing a webenabled Dashboard was delayed until the strategic planning process was completed. The 2021 – 2024 Strategic Plan established the direction: Increase Coalition capacity to be data-informed and data-driven. The Dashboard Committee had significant change in membership and therefore, the Committee Chair, Dr. Valerie Grdisa, reaffirmed the goals of the Coalition and several new members have joined in 2022!

# **Coalition Dashboard Committee Members**



Victoria Chapman, County of Simcoe Anna Drexler, Family Connexions Dr. Valerie Grdisa, CMHA Simcoe County Branch Rhonda Johnstone, Waypoint Centre Tyler Renaud, BANAC



# Our Strategy & Governance

The Child Youth and Family Services Coalition (Coalition) of Simcoe County is a strategic, collaborative and integrated planning infrastructure, with members working both together and independently to meet the shared vision of improving the present and future well-being of children, youth, and families.

We are now more than 40 members strong and one of only a few Coalition's of our kind in the province. We have continued to successfully grow and evolve as an impactful, inclusive voice for our members and the people they support and serve.

With the implementation of a new Strategic Plan well underway, we look forward to continuing to support and strengthen child, youth and family services in Simcoe County.



# **OUR MISSION**

To maximize the capacity, effectiveness and cultural uniqueness of the child, youth and family services system through collective efforts.



### **OUR VISION**

All children, youth and families thriving in a strong, nurturing community.



### **OUR VALUES**

### **INTEGRITY**

We demonstrate honesty, transparency and fairness in everything we do as a Coalition.

### **RESPECT**

We treat each other with mutual consideration and sensitivity, recognizing the importance of diversity and inclusion.

### **INNOVATION**

We seek new approaches, capitalize on opportunities and amplify the impact of initiatives.

### **COLLABORATION**

We work together through our Values to accomplish our Vision and Mission.

# -ramework ur Strategic

# Our Strategic Framework

As we work through our strategic plan, we can see where our strengths and challenges lie. Work plans continue to progress with many items already completed; other timelines have had to be reassessed to align with more realistic and attainable completion dates. We have made great progress with many of our goals and will continue to strive towards the completion of our 2021-2024 Strategic Plan.



# Address Inequities and Injustices through Collective Action

- **Strategic Actions**
- → Strengthen Coalition members' Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) approach
- → Take action to better support Indigenous, Black, newcomer, immigrant, refugee and non-status children, youth and families.
- → Develop tools, providing education/resources for members to bring back to their own organizations as well as improving the Coalition's own lens in its decision-making, member recruitment, advocacy.



# **Strengthen Coalition Infrastructure**

# **Strategic Actions**

- → Highlight the Coalition's strengths and tell the Coalition's story with clarity
- → Increase/diversify Coalition membership in the County and improve onboarding processes
- → Streamline Coalition's structure to advance meaningful dialogue and action



### **Increase Coalition's Capacity to be Data-Informed and Data-Driven**

# **Strategic Actions**

- → Update Coalition's Data Dashboard
- Develop Strategy for cross-organizational data sharing by sector
- → Implement framework for monitoring/evaluating Coalition's impacts



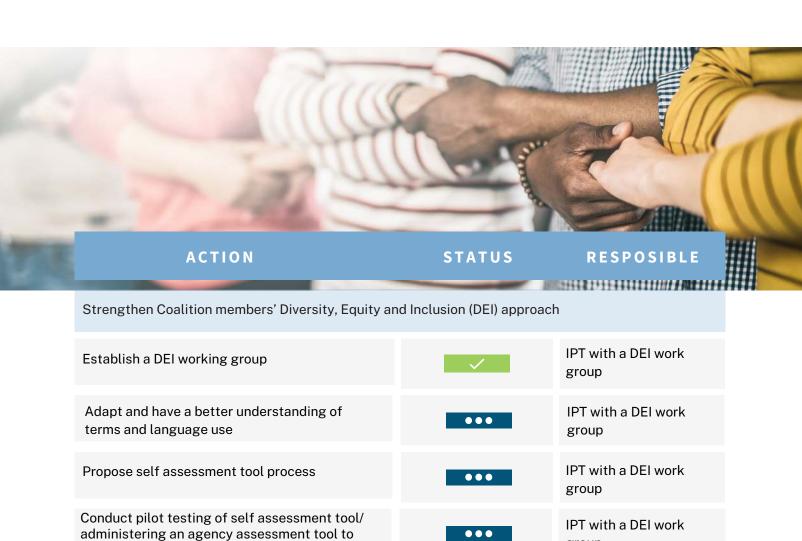
### Play an Advocacy Role in Addressing System Change

### **Strategic Actions**

- → Demonstrate leadership through key partnerships & strategic connections
- Develop network linkages (network of networks approach)
- → Be proactive in engaging with system transformation & emerging needs
- → Work collaboratively to share best/emerging practices and community-focused approaches across Coalition membership



# Address Inequities and Injustices through Collective Action



Take action to better support Indigenous, Black, newcomer, immigrant, refugee and non-status children, youth and families.

Hold space to include an Indigenous voice through an Indigenous led caucus.

inform the development of the tool



**Executive Committee** 

group

Develop tools, providing education/resources for members to bring back to their own organizations as well as improving the Coalition's own lens in its decision-making, member recruitment, advocacy.

Release final assessment to partner organizations/ create a DEI toolkit



IPT with a DEI work group

**LEGEND** 







IPT - Integrated Planning Table

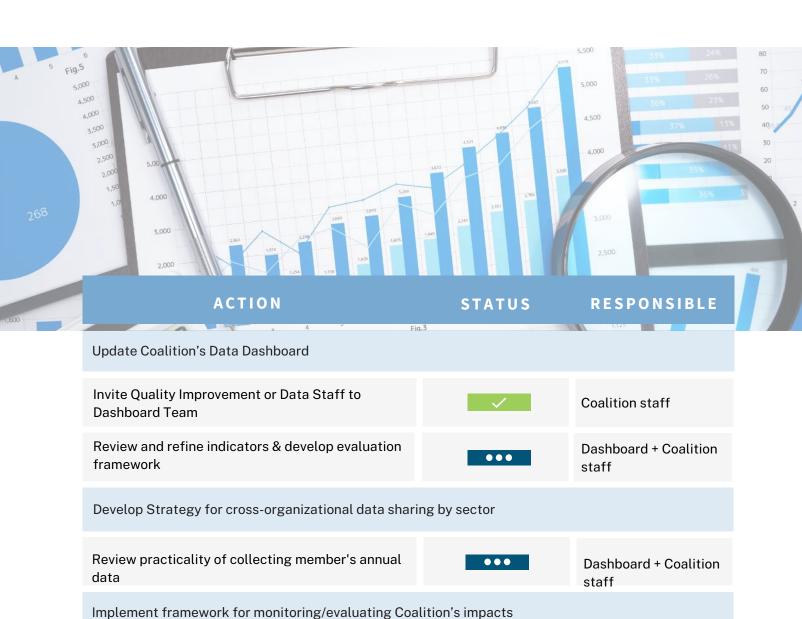


# Strengthen Coalition Infrastructure

	ACTION	STATUS	RESPOSIBLE	
	Highlight the Coalition's strengths and tell the Coalit	ion's story with clarity		
	Establish process for updating material to website	•••	Communications + Coalition staff	
	Develop governance guidance document for executive	<b>✓</b>	Task group + Coalition Staff	
Increase/diversify Coalition membership in the County and improve onboarding processes				
	Review membership criteria and fee structure	$\rightarrow$	Executive Committee	
	Examine current processes and develop New Member guide. To include new members, possibly new positions (ie. welcoming new officers)	•••	Member Relations + Coalition staff	
	Scope of what material to develop, draft and finalize	•••	Communications + Coalition staff	
	Determine strategies required to best serve members	•••	Communications + Coalition staff	
Streamline Coalition's structure to advance meaningful dialogue and action				
	Develop guidelines for social media strategies	•••	Communications + Coalition staff	
	Review of tables/networks and their impact and identify missing agencies	•••	IPT	
	Evaluate effectiveness of current Coalition structure	<b>✓</b>	IPT with a DEI work group	
	Review current processes on how information is shared across the Coalition	•••	Communications + Coalition staff	



# Increase Coalition's Capacity to be Data-Informed and Data-Driven



LEGEND Complete Not Yet Started In Progress

IPT - Integrated Planning Table

Dashboard + Coalition

staff

Identification of success indicators for actions



# Play an Advocacy Role in Addressing System Change





# **Our Members**

The Child, Youth, and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County is a county wide alliance of more than 40 organizations that collectively act to support and strengthen child, youth and family services in Simcoe County.



# 2021-2022 New Member Spotlight





A Coalition membership provides opportunities to exchange ideas and develop collaborative strategies to improve the well-being of children, youth and families in this region. We are committed to providing our members with the support, resources and technical expertise they need to continue improving the well-being of our communities. Coalition members consistently go above and beyond to help us achieve our goals, and their support is the foundation to our success. Learn more

# Award of Excellence 2021

# Sandra Lee

Manager, Simcoe County Local Immigration Partnership (SCLIP), County of Simcoe

"You don't have to have a lot of knowledge, you just have to have a heart that's willing to support all people...don't worry about saying the wrong thing, it's more about getting involved in the conversation."



The Coalition's Award of Excellence is awarded annually to an individual involved with the Coalition who, through a substantial commitment to collaboration, has made a significant impact regionally that has contributed to the outcomes identified in the Coalition's strategic plan.

Sandra Lee has worked as the Simcoe County Local Immigrant Partnership Project Manager since its creation 10 years ago. Since then, she has worked tirelessly to improve immigrant outcomes in Simcoe County. Sandra Lee constantly works to bring immigrant voices to local steering committees, working groups, and other social services community meetings. Over the past 10 years, she brought the newcomer lens to community meetings by participating in the coalition Integrated Planning Tables, Simcoe County Data Consortium, Social and Community Investment Fund (SCIF) Allocation Committee, #ITSTARTS Campaign and many more.

# **Coalition Claps**

The Coalition Claps segment of each coalition meeting, provides the opportunity to acknowledge the ongoing member initiatives that require collaboration and have a positive impact on our community.



## November 2021

The County of Simcoe for their dedicated work towards a more seamless and integrated service for individuals, youth, and families being impacted by homelessness in Simcoe County.



# January 2022

The Simcoe Muskoka Public Health Unit for their ongoing work to keep us informed and safe in throughout the pandemic



### March 2022

The John Howard Society and Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County for their work on getting the warming centres up and running in order to provide a warm, safe environment for those experiencing homelessness.



# May 2022

Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County and the Youth Wellness Hub North Simcoe, who worked with the Central Ontario Health Team for Specialized Populations to implement 1Door.ca and New Path for implementing their Quick Access Child and Youth Mental Health Clinic.

# Who We Are

In order to learn more about our members as well as the various committees and tables that are part of the Coalition, a new segment, **"Who We Are"**, was introduced at Council meetings in September 2021. This years presenters are below.

# **Glowing Hearts Charity**

Coalition Members learned about one of our newest members, Glowing Hearts Charity. They strive to improve the lives of children and youth vulnerable to poverty by providing and facilitating access to food, necessities, educational supplies, education-based opportunities and programs, counselling, and skills training. **Learn more** 

### **Catholic Family Services - Youth Call Program**

We learned about a program for Simcoe County for teens and young adults designed to help them connect with the local services they need to move their lives forward successfully. The free service assists youth in creating and implementing a plan to support their goals and address their current needs. **Learn more** 

### Youth Haven

Youth Haven began in 1987, when a group of concerned citizens realized there was nowhere in Barrie for a youth experiencing homelessness to go for shelter. They began taking kids into their homes, and quickly realized that the need required a better response. **Learn more** 

### **EarlyON Centres Simcoe North**

EarlyON Child and Family Centres offer parents and caregivers with children prenatal to 6 years of age, a range of free core services which can assist them in their parenting or caregiving role. **Learn more** 

### **CYFS Coalition Advocacy Committee**

Coalition Advocacy Committee Chair, Lucy Gowers reminded us about the meaning of advocacy, the importance of building relationships, promoting our organizations and raising awareness about our collective needs and the issues we face. **Learn more** 

# **Hot Topics**

The "**Hot Topic**" is a presentation on new, upcoming or currently relevant programs or issues that are brought to the Coalition Council meetings. A questions and answer period follows. Below are the "Hot Topic" presentations that took place in 2021/22.



# Child Welfare Design: Presented by Danette Blue, MCSS Program Manager

In September, Danette provided an in depth review of the Child Welfare Redesign Strategy. The Redesign Redesign is a multi pronged approach to youth engagement and reflects holistic perspectives of children, youth, families, societies, Indigenous communities and service providers, child and family serving community agencies and municipalities. Learn more



### Family Connexions: Presented by Francophone Community Collaboration Table

Lisette Gagne and Anne-Julie Lippe presentation of the Simcoe Muskoka Situation Table brought awareness to our members about this strategic multisectoral collaboration of child, youth, and family services to Francophones that is guided by common principles and processes, whose objective is to offer active solutions that provides support for Francophone families and individuals who are looking for services that are offered in French. Learn more



### **Persistent Challenges Facing our Sector**

As we continue to adapt to the ever changing, ever challenging, pandemic and post pandemic environment, small group brainstorming sessions took place in breakout rooms with randomized participants from our member agencies. They spoke about the challenges they face and talked through some of the possible solutions. **Learn more** 



# **Dashboard Committee Presentation**

Dr. Valerie Grdisa provided an update on the development of a member dashboard and gave Coalition members the opportunity to provide further input and reaffirm the goals of the Coalition. **Learn more** 



### **Autism - Entry to School (ETS) Presentation**

Kinark Autism Services shared information about the ETS Program, supported by YSAN (York Simcoe Autism Network), a coordinated service network that emphasizes a whole child/family focus, an integrated care approach to service offering an overall high centered quality system that supports transitions from child to youth to adult. **Learn more** 



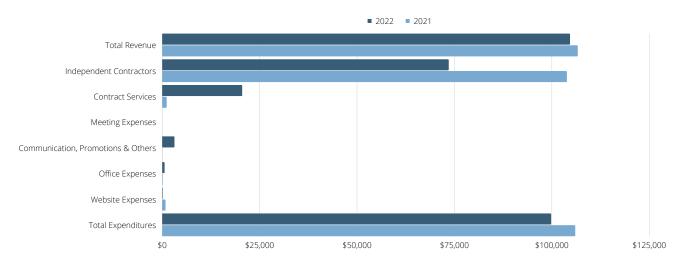
# Financial Report



This past year much of the work undertaken by the coalition executive focused on the roll out of the new strategic plan. This, coupled with the ongoing Covid pandemic, limited our ability from a finance perspective to spend the funds which were allocated towards professional development opportunities. Thankfully the funds set aside for this purpose will be rolled over into the upcoming fiscal year; and as of the timing of this report, a member wide workshop will be implemented in September of 2022. The first of many we hope!

While Covid and a focus on the strategic plan roll out limited planned spending activities, work from a Trustee perspective continued with a much needed review and update to our budget and tracking processes to ensure more clarity when presenting financial statements to the Coalition's Executive and membership.

Financially the Coalition remains sound. Continued support from our member organizations ensures that we are in a very good place to continue our work in 2022/23.



# Financial Report

April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
Member Fees	\$104, 654.61	\$106, 640.95
Other Revenue	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue	\$104, 654.61	\$106, 640.95
EXPENSES		
Independent Contractors	\$73,529.83	\$103,845.18
Contract Services	\$20,492.03	\$1157.00
Meeting Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Communication, Promotions & Others	\$3103.30	\$50.00
Office Expenses	\$567.37	\$131.27
Website Expenses	\$131.27	\$808.00
Total Expenditures	\$99,806.62	\$105,991.45
Current Year	\$4,847.99	\$649.50

# What's Next

As we move through our work plans, we have some exciting things to look forward to this upcoming year.

# **Advocacy Workshop**

On September 22nd, 2022 we will be holding a "Connection to Community" workshop, organized through the Advocacy Committee. As part of the Advocacy Committee workplan, this is the first in a series of workshops to take place.

### **Diversity Equity & Inclusion**

An organization reflection survey has been developed and distributed by the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion working group. The results of the survey will help guide our work moving forward.

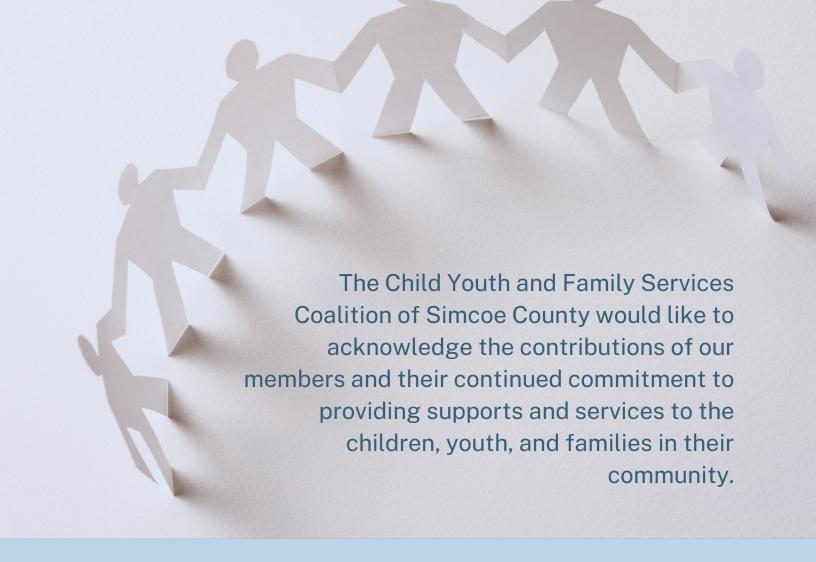
### **Member Portal**

To better serve our members, we are developing a member portal on our website which will serve as an information repository for relevant information our member organizations may be seeking. It will also provide links to other sources of information and answers to many Coalition based questions. We hope to have it in place late fall.

### **Coalition Website Refresh**

Our website is undergoing a refresh in order to provide a more streamlined, user friendly and relevant source of information.

Members, as well as other organizations seeking information on the Coalition, will be able to readily find out more about our member agencies and the services that they provide.





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