

RBC Dominion Securities Partners support Young Parent Team

Each year, Investment Advisors at RBC Dominion Securities are invited to participate in the annual RBC Dominion Securities Partners Charity Invitational Golf Tournament with proceeds from the tournament presented to a charity in the region.

Earlier this year, Victoria Walzak, President of the Society's Board of Directors and Associate Portfolio Manager & Investment Advisor, Walzak Wealth Management, RBC Dominion Securities announced that The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton was chosen as the charity to receive 2016 tournament proceeds.

The tournament was held on Thursday, August 4, 2016 at Heron Point Golf Links in Alberton, Ontario and although it was a scorching day with temperatures reaching 36 degrees without the humidity factored in, the RBC Partners drove, chipped and putted their way through the day. At the end of it all, the agency was thrilled to be presented with a cheque for \$20,000 from the proceeds of the tournament which has been directed to a new initiative at the agency called the Young Parent Team.

At the beginning of the year, an agency restructuring of front-line services was



L-R: Tim Henry, Victoria Walzak, Paul Lauer, Teresa Silvestro and Scott Murray

undertaken in order to better serve our community, and as a result, the agency developed the Young Parent Team to focus on providing proactive service to expectant youth in the community. On average, the agency receives 160 prenatal referrals a year, with 108 of those regarding a mother-to-be between the ages of 13-25. Concerns about young moms vary greatly and include lack of supports and/or family, domestic

violence, mental health, cognitive issues etc.

As many of the expecting young women referred to the agency have limited family supports, Child Protection Workers work with these youth to ensure they are receiving appropriate prenatal care, learning parenting skills, learning to identify options available with respect to day care, continuing school,

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2nd Annual Shop With A Cop



Auxiliary Sergeant Matthew Gooch (left), CAS of Hamilton Volunteer Theresa Jones, and Auxiliary Sergeant Dave Nairn (right), were just as excited about the 2nd Annual Shop With A Cop event as this year's recipient.

Two years ago, Aux. Sgt. Dave Nairn, a former volunteer with the Society, won an award for his community involvement through McMaster University and decided to put the monetary portion of his award to providing a special opportunity to a child involved with the Society's P.A.L. Friendship Program.

This year's recipient and her Friendship Program Volunteer had the opportunity to enjoy a guided and informative tour at the Hamilton Police Station, including stops at the vacant holding cells, the records department and the garage with a fleet of cars and other special vehicles. This was followed by a trip to Best Buy for a 'shopping spree' funded by Aux. Sgt. Nairn.

The Society extends sincere thanks to Aux. Sgt. Nairn for his continued support and generosity.

2016 Summer Camp Recap

While many adults will remember this summer for the heat and humidity, there will be many children who will remember it simply for their fun summer camp experience.

A total of 266 camp experiences were provided to children and youth this year. Thanks to changes in government funding, children in care were provided with a summer camp experience thereby enabling the Society to provide 89 children living in their home with the opportunity to attend a week at camp.

Campers enjoyed everything from horse back riding to swimming and soccer, and all kinds of activities in between. New friends were made and new memories established.

The Society would like to extend thanks to all who contributed to this year's summer camp fund.

*A special thanks to the
Spectator Summer Camp Fund at
Hamilton Community Foundation,
Karen & Peter Turkstra Family Fund at
Hamilton Community Foundation,
CHML/Y108 Children's Fund,
and Select Site Donuts & Steeltown Donuts Ltd.
for their generous contributions.*



Grape Expectations Gala: Change is Coming

Over the last 13 years The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton has enjoyed a very successful fundraising event - the Grape Expectations Gala with proceeds supporting educational opportunities and Crown Ward bursaries. This year alone, the agency provided 31 post-secondary bursaries to Crown Ward youth. With the success of Grape Expectations Gala in mind, the agency is excited to announce that changes are in the works. A new, fresh gala event of the same caliber will be held on Monday, May 15, 2017 at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum. Additional information will be available in the New Year. We hope you can join us!

Foster Parent Retirements

The agency's foster parents play a very important role in the lives of children in the Society's care. While the agency is ultimately responsible for foster children, it is their foster families who attend to their day-to-day needs, while providing love, stability and guidance.

The Society is fortunate to currently be supported by 150 foster homes but there is always a need for more foster parents as the needs of children coming into care change, foster family dynamics change and foster parents retire.

Just recently, the Society said goodbye to two very special foster families who, after a combined 64 years of service, have both decided it was time to retire.

Joel and Mary Anne Henderson had a long-held dream of caring for children through fostering. In 1988, when their own two children were mere toddlers, their dream came true. Over the past 28 years of fostering with the agency, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson cared for a

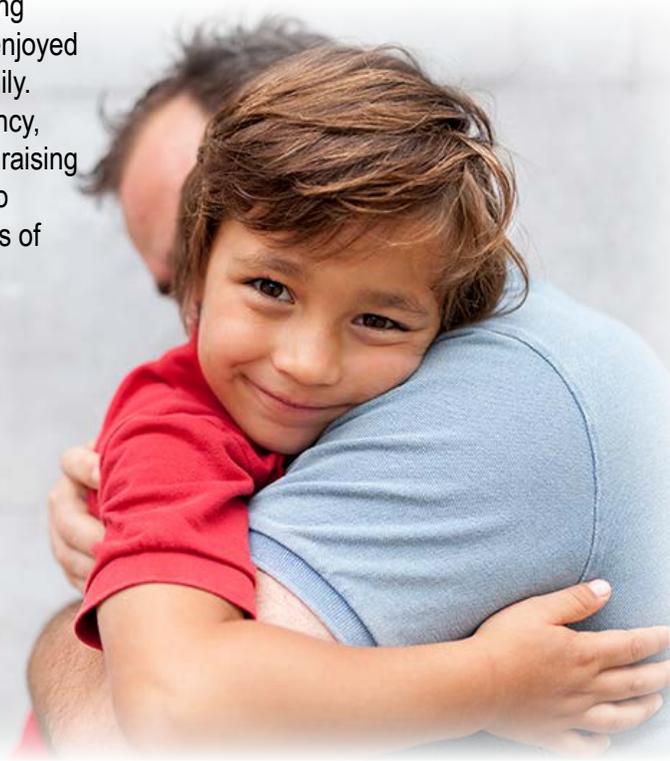
large number of preschool, teen and particularly school-aged children. Even when the couple was at capacity, they would often extend themselves further to accommodate special Society requests such as emergency care, short-term care, keeping siblings together, etc. Together with the support and contributions of their children, the family embraced fostering and provided top-notch care. They were described by their placement worker as dedicated, loving, loyal and integral human beings with good values and high standards for excellent care and supervision.

Aubrey and Tina Neven began fostering with the agency in July 1980 and just recently retired after 36 years of service. Earlier in their fostering career they indicated that they enjoyed children and wanted a large family. During their tenure with the agency, they certainly fulfilled this vision raising their own four children while also providing foster care to hundreds of

infants, toddlers and school-aged children. The Nevens are a very faith focused family who truly believe it should be a way of life to help others in need. They were supported by both their family and church community to continue to do so for such a long period of time.

Later in their career, this couple focused on infants and toddlers more specifically, at times caring for two high needs babies. Their positive attitude and ability to handle the challenges that many of the youngsters possessed is truly inspiring, and the positive impact of their care was witnessed in foster children time and time again.

*The Society would like to say thank you to
Joel & Mary Anne Henderson and Aubrey & Tina Neven
for the incredible service they have provided.
Their compassion and dedication will not only be
remembered by Society staff, but also by the
many young lives they touched.
Best wishes for all of your future endeavours!*





October is Child Abuse Prevention Month: SPEAK UP FOR KIDS

Each year, children's aid societies across the province work together to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect, as well as the community's role in ensuring children are safe and families are supported.

A long-standing myth is that children will be removed from their home if the children's aid society is called. In fact, this couldn't be further from the truth. Children's aid societies work first and foremost to keep families together.

The most recent publication of the *leading academic study on child abuse and neglect shows that children remained at home in 97 percent of CAS investigations throughout the province.

Knowing that you're helping a child or family in need should be reason enough to make a call to a children's aid society. However, if you know or suspect a child under 16 years of age is being abused or neglected it is also the law.

Section 72 of the *Child and Family Services Act* states that the public, including professionals who work with children, has a responsibility to promptly report to a children's aid society any suspicions that a child is or may be in need of protection. Any professional or official who fails to report a suspicion is liable upon conviction to a fine of up to \$1,000.

**Ontario Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect, 2013.*

THE PROBLEM AND HOW TO RECOGNIZE IT

Child abuse has many faces, and while all abuse hurts, different kinds of abuse can hurt in different ways.

You can help a child or a family by recognizing the types of abuse and the signs of abuse. You do not need to be certain to call Children's Aid with a concern.

SIGNS OF ABUSE

NEGLECT	
Physical Indicators	Behavioural Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » poor hygiene » unattended physical or medical needs (e.g. glasses, dental work) » consistent lack of supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » pale, listless, unkempt » frequent absence from school » inappropriate clothing for the weather, dirty clothes » frequently does not bring a lunch
PHYSICAL ABUSE	
Physical Indicators	Behavioural Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » injuries that don't fit the explanation » presence of several injuries that are at different stages » facial injuries in infants and preschool children » injuries don't fit with the child's age and developmental stage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » cannot recall how injuries occurred or offers an explanation that doesn't fit » wary of adults » may cringe or flinch if touched unexpectedly » infants may display a vacant stare » extremely aggressive or extremely withdrawn
EMOTIONAL ABUSE	
Physical Indicators	Behavioural Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » bed-wetting that is nonmedical » frequent psychosomatic complaints, headaches, nausea, abdominal pains » child fails to thrive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » severe depression » extreme withdrawal or aggressiveness » overly compliant, too well-mannered, too neat or clean » extreme attention seeking » displays extreme inhibition in play
SEXUAL ABUSE	
Physical Indicators	Behavioural Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » unusual or excessive itching in the genital or anal area » torn, stained, or bloody underwear » pregnancy » injuries to the genital or anal areas (e.g. bruising, swelling, or infection) » sexually transmitted disease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » age-inappropriate play with toys, self, or others displaying explicit sexual acts » age-inappropriate sexually explicit drawing and/or descriptions » bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge » seductive behaviours

For more information on Child Abuse Prevention Month please visit: www.hamiltoncas.com

Christmas Is Coming

Even though Christmas is months away, now is the time to start planning ahead if you would like to help make the season special for those in need.

Last year, with the community's support, the Society provided to more than 300 families in need during the holiday season. The families supported find it difficult to make ends meet during normal circumstances and the holiday season brings with it additional stress and worries.

It is the agency's hope that with the community's support, we can once again help ease families' stress and help make Christmas a special and memorable time. Community members can get involved through the Christmas Hamper Program, the Toy Room or by making a monetary donation.

Who benefits from the hamper program?

Child Protection Workers refer families and young adults involved with the agency who are deemed to be 'in need'. In need is defined as having a significant lack of basic needs such as food and clothing, as well as limited extended social and/or family supports.

What is included in a hamper?

The agency aims to fill each hamper with grocery gift cards, a Walmart gift card, children's pajamas and socks, mittens/gloves, a blanket, Christmas chocolate and/or candy, hot chocolate, toys and/or family games and wrapping paper. Hampers are compiled based on donations and the size of the family.

How do families obtain their hamper?

Hampers are delivered directly to families by Child Protection Workers and agency volunteers.

Do I have to provide all the items included in a hamper?

No. Donors are not expected to purchase all items that will make up a Christmas Hamper. Volunteers will assemble hampers based on the size of the family from all the items donated or purchased with monetary donations.

What is offered in the Toy Room?

The Toy Room is filled with donations for children and teens. These include new toys, clothing, toiletry items and gift cards.

Who can access items in the Toy Room?

Child Protection Workers provide items from the Toy Room to children and youth who are not being supported through the Christmas Hamper Program and who are living in their own home or with kin.

If you have any questions about the program please email christmas@hamiltoncas.com or call 905-522-1121, ext. 6152.



The Christmas Support Program drop-off opens November 1, 2016.

It is located at the agency, 26 Arrowsmith Road, Hamilton on the Arrowsmith side of the building. Just look for the flag!

Hours are Monday to Friday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm.



A Positive Space for All

During Pride Week in Hamilton, the Society celebrated a public declaration of its commitment to understanding, accepting and affirming the LGBTQ community.

Staff from the agency's LGBTQ Advisory Committee, along with the agency's Executive Director, Dominic Verticchio, were pleased to see the agency's new Pride logo displayed prominently at the front entrance of the Society's office building. The placement of this logo is an intentional message to those who come through the agency's doors that this is a welcoming organization for all.

Note: LGBTQ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Two-Spirit, Intersex, Gender-non-Conforming, Queer and Questioning

RBC Support

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to provide specialized service to this demographic with the ultimate goal of providing best outcomes and permanency. The thoughtful and generous support of the RBC Dominion Securities Partners will truly make an impact on this new initiative.

A special thank you is extended to tournament organizers, Scott Murray, Assistant Branch Manager & Investment Advisor (Hamilton), and Paul Lauer, Assistant Branch Manager (Waterloo) for their compassion for the children and families in the Hamilton community and for their dedication in presenting a very well organized and successful event.

The Society is thankful for the support of all the members of the RBC Dominion Securities Partners who sponsored, golfed, donated or participated in any way to help make this tournament a success.

CONTACT US

905-522-1121

After Hours Emergency Service:
905-522-8053

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You can do this by:

Phone: 905-522-1121, ext. 6414
email: tsilvestro@hamiltoncas.com

Charitable Business Number 11885 2136 RR 0001

Your support makes a difference...



Name _____

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To receive agency correspondence electronically, please provide your email address.

Yes, I would like to contribute:

Please indicate payment by:

Children's Fund \$ _____

Cheque Visa M/C Amex

Christmas Support \$ _____

Card No.: _____

Crown Ward Bursary & Educational Fund \$ _____

Expiry Date: _____

Summer Camp \$ _____

Wherever Needed Most \$ _____

Signature: _____

Total Donation \$ _____



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