



O U T R E A C H

A Newsletter for Friends of Catholic Family Services Peel-Dufferin

Our Great Wall of So Many Thanks

To all the businesses, organizations, individuals, employee charitable trust groups, parishes, service clubs and funders who recognize the importance of our work by their continued financial support.

We'd like to extend a special thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of our Silver Hearts Ball. With your help we raised \$14,911.00! We couldn't have done it without you!

Aren Kay Inc.
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Knights of Columbus Council 10283, Bishop Marrocco
Knights of Columbus Council 9108, Heart Lake
Knights of Columbus Council 12372, St.Christopher
Knights of Columbus Council 11337, Sts.Peter & Paul
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Lai Wah Heen Restaurant, Metropolitan Hotel
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St.Francis of Assisi Parish
St.Timothy's Parish
St.Mary's Parish
Stanley Doors
Starbuck's Coffee
Sylvia Samuels
The Second City
The Toronto Zoo
Toronto Maple Leafs Hockey Club
Travelodge Pembroke
VIA Rail Canada
Vickery & Vickery
Wayne Eaves
White Water Ontario
Wild Water Kingdom
Wilderness Tours
Winners Canada & HomeSense
YMCA Mississauga



ShareLife, United Way of Peel Region, Ministry of Community & Social Services, Ministry of the Attorney General, and the Canadian Tire Foundation for Families

SAFER FAMILIES PROGRAM

Catholic Family Services Peel-Dufferin is proud to be the lead agency in this exciting partnership with the Children's Aid Society of Peel and Family Services of Peel. As many of our readers may know, the Ministry of Child and Youth Services has embarked on a massive transformation of the child welfare system in Ontario, with a focus on protecting children through strengthened supports to families. Catholic Family Services Peel-Dufferin and its partners have been at the forefront of the community response in Peel through the Safer Families Program. When the Children's Aid Society (CAS) of Peel receives a report of a child in need of protection due to exposure to domestic violence in the home, they contact the Safer Families Program. We then send out a counsellor who specializes in abuse in families to meet with the family together with the Children's Aid Society, to talk to the mother and children about their safety, to outreach to the man and to help the family receive the support and counselling they need. Safer Families Program counsellors are available to meet with families for as long as they are needed. Our focus is on the safety and well-being of all family members, especially women and children.

We've piloted our program with more than 30 families over the past year and the results have been very positive. Women and children have reported a reduction in their experiences of violence, isolation, and trauma, and an increase in safety and well being. The program directly prevented at least 3 children from being placed in protective care. We've been able to outreach to fathers and involve them in service. We are proud of these results and intend to continue to increase our capacity to help families.

Over the next year we hope to serve more than 400 families, do more outreach to men, and offer a group for fathers who have acted abusively against their partners and children. These are exciting initiatives in Peel!



INDIVIDUAL, COUPLE AND FAMILY PROGRAM

Through individual, couple or family work, this program strives to improve relationships, reduce emotional distress and enhance personal well-being by providing assistance to the following:

- Individuals experiencing loneliness, low self-esteem, anxiety, episodic depression, work concerns, bereavement and other life stressors
- Couples experiencing relationship difficulties including poor communication, lack of intimacy, affairs, extended family pressures, or contemplating separation/divorce
- Families coping with developmental transitions, cultural adjustment, parenting, parent-child and parent-teen conflict, step-family concerns, separation, divorce or other issues

PARTNER ABUSE

Comprehensive services to families experiencing partner abuse:

- Support groups for women who have been assaulted by their partners
- Psycho educational groups for men who have assaulted their partners
- Individual counselling for men and women
- Family counselling

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN EXPOSED TO WOMAN ABUSE

Catholic Family Services is the lead agency for the HEAL Network along with 17 partner agencies. Services include:

- A group program for mothers and their children (newborn to age 12)
- In-School groups for children
- Workshops and groups for adolescents
- Public Education and outreach workshops for parents

ADULTS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED CHILDHOOD ABUSE

Counselling services to women and men who have experienced trauma through childhood abuse:

- Support groups for women who have experienced sexual abuse in childhood and adolescence
- Individual counselling for women and men to explore the impacts of childhood abuse
- Couple and family work to support the healing process

SISTERING PROGRAM

Sistering is a volunteer program for women who have experienced violence, trauma or other oppression. Sisters are at a stage in their own healing whereby they wish to offer support to women who would benefit from having another woman journey with them during the healing process.

Offices

BRAMPTON

10 Gillingham Dr. Ste. 201
Brampton, ON L6X 5A5
Tel: 905.450.1608
Fax: 905.450.8902

ORANGEVILLE

St. Timothy's Parish
42 Dawson Road
Orangeville, ON L9W 2W3
Tel: 519.941.2424

MISSISSAUGA

165 Dundas St. W. Ste. 701
Mississauga, ON L5B 2N6
Tel: 905.897.1644
Fax: 905.897.2467

BOLTON

18 King St. E. Unit D8
Bolton, ON L7E 1E8
Tel: 905.450.1608
TOLL FREE: 1.888.940.0584



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AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**



www.jagori.org
New Delhi, India

info@cfspd.com
cfspd.com