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114<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 / 2020



DURHAM  
Children's Aid Society

# MESSAGE FROM STEVE WOODMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To say that it has been an unusual first year for me at DCAS is an understatement. Who could have anticipated COVID19, a workforce almost overnight transitioning to working from home and delivering much of its services on-line? It has been a challenge, but one that I am proud to say our staff approached with flexibility and creativity, always keeping the needs of those we serve top of mind.

At the end of our fiscal year - six months into my tenure - we were faced with a pandemic that has forced us to rethink how we deliver services in a time of social distancing, food insecurity and the wearing of masks.

The resilience of our staff, caregivers and the children, youth and families we serve has certainly been tested. Staff, along with foster and kin families have adapted to new processes and technology while supporting children, youth and families throughout this difficult time.

From March through August we implemented a strategy to ensure that many of the basic needs of our clients were met by buying in bulk baby food, groceries, diapers, hygiene items and recreational items for children. In total the program cost \$183,000, delivering over 1,000 hampers to families.

This effort would not have been possible without the support of several community partners. The Durham Children's Aid Foundation assisted in funding the food and care items, as well as securing donations of backpacks and other items. Mackie Moving Systems proved to be of invaluable help in delivering countless skids of food over several months to our office. We were living our values of providing extraordinary support to families in times of crisis.

There has been a shift in our work with families, with a growing focus on their strengths and ensuring that we listen to the voices of all of the children, youth and families we encounter. I was pleased when I came to DCAS to see that the agency had made a commitment to implement the principles of Signs of Safety. This is an ongoing process that we are weaving into all aspects of our work to ensure that the voices of those impacted by our services are heard and are included in the planning for their own families.

I look for evidence of success in our work. If we are to demonstrate our stated commitment to "front-end" our service by improving our supports to families, then that should be evident in our statistics. I am fortunate to join an agency that has been working hard on this for many years. On March 31, 2010 DCAS had 889 children and youth in care of the society.

One decade later, March 31, 2020 that number was down to 335. Even adjusting for the 68 Indigenous children and youth that transferred to Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiyag the reduction is well over 50%- clear evidence that there has been a significant evolution in the manner that our services are being delivered.

While we can be proud of our demonstrated success, we also realize that there is still much work to do. The Ontario government is in the process of implementing Child Welfare Modernization. This aligns with the work we have been doing, but it is calling not only DCAS, but also our community partners to a much higher standard in addressing the needs of those in our communities.

There is a clear expectation for us to grow our many wonderful collaborations, and to develop new ones, as part of community health and well-being approaches to services. This will be a significant part of our consultation process in the development of a new Strategic Plan for the agency later this fiscal year.

The government is giving us increasing flexibility in how we spend our funding with the clear expectation that child welfare will continue to shift its spending from in-care services to supporting families in new, pro-active and expanded ways. We welcome this direction and challenge.

While we have demonstrated great success in reducing the number of children and youth in care, it is important for us to acknowledge and continue to address the overrepresentation of black children in care. We are benefiting from the willingness of the black community to work with us through a cooperative Community Advisory Council. We recognize that this work needs to be informed and prolonged, and demonstrate tangible results.

As Executive Director I give my personal commitment to this work and I say on behalf of myself and the agency - Black Lives Matter.



Steve Woodman, Executive Director

# PEOPLE WE SERVED 2019/2020

## SERVICES TO FAMILIES

	2019/2020	2018/2019
NEW CHILD PROTECTION INVESTIGATIONS	4,811	4,581
OPEN CHILD PROTECTION CASES AT YEAR END	611	813
FAMILIES SERVED BY PRENATAL SUPPORT	59	80

## SERVICES TO CHILDREN

	2019/2020	2018/2019
CHILDREN ADMITTED TO CARE	97	132
CHILDREN DISCHARGED	173	157
CHILDREN IN CARE SERVED DURING THE YEAR	546	622
CHILDREN IN CARE AT YEAR END	335	465
ADOPTIONS FINALIZED	36	12
ON-SITE HEALTH CLINIC VISITS	1140	737

## DAYS CARE PROVIDED

	2019/2020	2018/2019
TOTAL CHILD DAYS CARE	135,702	160,626
TOTAL FOSTER AND KINSHIP DAYS CARE	15,487	51,864
PURCHASED FOSTER DAYS CARE	22,806	25,197
TOTAL GROUP DAYS CARE	14,609	24,391
CONTINUED CARE AND SUPPORT FOR YOUTH	40,366	48,935
TOTAL ADOPTION DAYS CARE	10,791	11,428
OTHER DAYS CARE	4,811	5,173

## VOLUNTEER SERVICES

	2019/2020	2018/2019
TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS (AT YEAR END)	135	140
TOTAL KILOMETRES DRIVEN	1,156,979	1,410,523
VOLUNTEER DRIVES COMPLETED	17,702	18,459
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS OF SERVICE		27,695

# 2019/20 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## OPERATING REVENUE

	2019/2020	2018/2019
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO	59,407,857	62,715,005
BALANCED BUDGET FUND	890,638	0
OTHER	5,768,026	6,029,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66,066,521</b>	<b>68,744,855</b>

## OPERATING EXPENSES

	2019/2020	2018/2019
SALARIES AND BENEFITS	33,417,262	34,840,702
BOARDING AND CLIENT SERVICES	25,128,352	26,629,768
ADMINISTRATION	6,660,422	5,566,101
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65,206,036</b>	<b>67,036,571</b>

	2019/2020	2018/2019
FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING OF YEAR	5,894,470	4,186,186
(DEFICIT) / SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	860,485	1,708,284
FUND BALANCES, END OF YEAR	6,754,955	5,894,470

# HONOURARY MEMBERS

MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY.

George Ainsworth	Lucy Hudson	Tim Pelyk
Norma Ainsworth	Mary Jameson	Cecil Perryman
Deborah Bacon	Wayne Jameson	Carol Povinsky
Eleanor Bain	Ben Jarvenpaa	Wendy Sue Reid
Bernadine Birchall	Tony Johnson	Bob Roche
Pat Boon	Linda Jones	Ron Rollauer
Suzanne Bradbury	Stephen Jones	Bud Ross
Jan Brazier	Jackie Kent	Kathy Ross
Jim Brazier	Gabe Kozma	Maret Sadem-Thompson
Bob Brozina	Karen Lelievre	Lisa Sarsfield
Rick Bunt	Leonard Lelievre	Dario Savio
Bertha Chipman	Dean Lewis	Wanda Secord
Barbara Clarke	Eric Lewis	Joan Skelton
Donald Curran	Barb Luciano	Tim Smart
Patricia Curran	Sam Luciano	Howard Smith
Jim Dubray	Rob MacFadden	Arlene Snyder
Florence Dykstra	Dorothea MacQueen	Ed Snyder
John Dykstra	Ron MacQueen	Jacqui Steer
Rick Felstead	Jim McConnell	Kathie Steffler
Wendy Felstead	Valerie McConnell	Marie Steiner
Martine Fournier	Beverly McDougall	Kevin Sullivan
Joyce Fuller	Charlie McDougall	Sharon Swain
Peter Fuller	Carol Martel	Bev Swartz
Judy Gallagher	Sylvia Martone	Howard Swartz
Kevin Gallagher	Gary Mason	Brian Thornton
Laura Green	Heather Mason	Marilyn Thornton
Lynn Gyltyiuk	Sharron Morrison	Julie Vendetti
Stan Gyltyiuk	Ted Morrison	Jackie Vieira
Oswald Harmon	Beverley Muir	David Wade
Patricia Harmon	Tracey Newall	Blair Walters
Jordan Hepp	Dennis Norton	Gary Wilson
Jodi Hewett	Mike Peace	Jeff Wood
Deanna Hill	Sue Pelyk	Wendy Wood

(updated August 25, 2020)

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR STAFF 2019 - 2020

## OFFICERS

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President  
Robert Royer

Vice-President  
Robert Woskosky

Treasurer  
Joseph Idegwu

Secretary  
Davina Dixon

Past President  
Sonia Munoz

## OTHER DIRECTORS

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Dawn Ashford  
Bryan Buttigieg  
Andrew Campbell  
Laura Colwell  
Aisha Delpêche  
Elaine Forde  
Shafina Juma  
Vera Mercier  
Gabrielle Provencher  
Peter Spratt  
Piraveena Tharmalingam

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT

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Executive Director  
Steven Woodman

Director of Services  
Dawn Walcott Parris

Director of Children, Youth and Family Connections  
Diren Narendra

Director of Family Services  
Barbara Gracey

Director of Intake Services  
Isabel Khalaf

Director of Residential Services  
Max Kryukov

Director of Finance and Administration  
Veronica Adetoye

Director of Human Resources  
Melissa Beckett-Batchellor

Director of AOPDEI and Community Engagement  
Rona Jualla van Oudenhoven

At March 31, 2020