



Brant Family and Children's  
Services Foundation

# 2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

[www.brantfacs.ca/home/brant-foundation](http://www.brantfacs.ca/home/brant-foundation)

2015-2016

## Message from the Foundation Board President

The Brant Family and Children's Services Foundation was created to strengthen families and ensure our children are able to enjoy as many opportunities as possible. In accordance with the Agency's mission and vision, funds may be allocated to individual children and/or used to strengthen neighbourhood communities which in turn strengthens families and provides a better environment for children.

Financial sustainability was strengthened a number of years ago with the purchase of a number of local properties in the downtown core. These properties provide a unique symbiotic model where the Foundation benefits from an ongoing revenue source and Brant Family and Children's Services enjoys the ability to manage building costs—at market value or lowered—which helps with the bottom line of both organizations.

There is, however, never enough money. Ministry funding provides the basics. Additional revenue is raised through grants, community donations, and fundraising events. Foundation funds in 2015-2016 were used for:

- **Educational Assistance**—Funding was provided to four current and former Crown Wards who are pursuing post secondary studies to help cover the cost of tuition, text books and supplies.
- **Community Suppers**—Held twice a month, this program is helping to build community connections, encourages people to share stories and support one another, increases engagement with staff, and makes people feel more comfortable in asking for food donations throughout the week.
- **Healthy Together**—Families were given blenders and supplies were made available at Resource Centres so smoothies could be made for breakfast. Children are encouraged to try new foods and live healthy lifestyles. Parents experiment together in how to cook different foods.
- **Monthly Birthday Parties**—These events are sometimes the only celebration a child will have. It includes food, cake decorating, party games and a gift.
- **Snuggiebugs**—Funds were used to purchase educational toys, cd players, instruments and supplies used in sensory play, infant massage, and relaxation activities that help with parent/infant bonding and attachment.

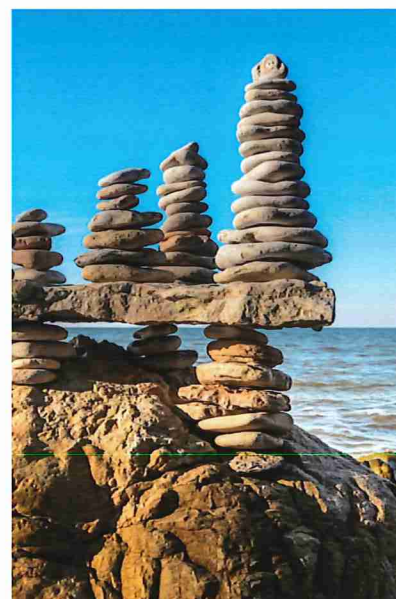
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*"The well-being and safety of children and youth is our primary focus.*

*Together with our community, we strive to protect children and youth and strengthen families."*

*- Brant FACS Mission Statement*

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- **Youth Lead**—This program provides an opportunity for older children to serve as a mentor to younger children who are going through similar experiences. It includes team-building exercises, confidentiality training, group dinner planning, craft making activities, etc. It is hoped that participation will grow and that this group will become an effective voice of advocacy for children in care.
- **Camps**
  - **Summer Camp**—\$70,000 in funding was provided, \$10,000 more than the previous year, in order to extend the program to community and kin service children. In total, 346 children participated (33 more than in 2014), including 229 children from protection families (31 more than in 2014). Eight children benefited from 1:1 care. Eleven residential camps were used along with eighteen different day camps. Transportation and special needs seem to be the major barriers.
  - **Kamptastic**—\$9,200 in funding was used for programs carried out in partnership with the Brantford Parks and Rec Department. Day trips included; Mohawk Park, Echo Bowl, and Bell Homestead. Attendance for the two weeks offered at three sites totaled 172.

## Fundraising

### Community Donors

We would like to thank all of the local organizations who have provided much needed funds and/or donated products to support Brant Family and Children's Services children in care, as well as Foundation programs and activities. Some of these include:

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|--|---|
| • Al Dente Pasta Pizza Grill                                   | • Jonathan Rigby                              |
| • Bank of Nova Scotia  | • Kinsmen Club of Brantford                   |
| • Brant Community Foundation                                   | • Kiwanis Club of Brantford                   |
| • Brantwood Farms  | • Millards Chartered Professional Accountants |
| • CentreCorp Management Services Ltd.                          | • Minotaur Stormwater Services Ltd.           |
| • Hensen Foundation  | • Rotary Club of Brantford                    |
| • Hydro One Inc. Employees' and Pensioner's Charity Trust Fund | • Rotary Club of Brantford Sunrise            |

### Upcoming Events

Following the retirement of long time employee Paula Loube, a Fundraising Consultant was engaged. Leslie Barker plans to continue the annual Tapas, Tastings and Tunes fundraiser which is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, Sept. 27th, 2016 at Al Dente Pasta Pizza Grill.

## 2015-2016 Brant FACS Foundation Board of Directors

### Executive:

Dave Wiedrick, President  
Dru Summers, Vice-President  
Mike Alford, Treasurer

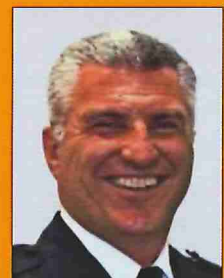
### Board Members:

Drew Bielawski  
Harry Emmott  
Todd Glaves  
Bill Hampel  
Kevin Hodge  
Susan E. Holyome

### Executive Director:

Andrew J. Koster

E-mail: [foundation@brantfacs.ca](mailto:foundation@brantfacs.ca)



Dave Wiedrick, President  
Brant Family and Children's Services Foundation  
2015-2016