

# About CFSGE

Child and Family Services of Grand Erie (CFSGE) is legally mandated to ensure the safety and protection of children and youth in Brantford, Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk, and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

We focus on keeping children safe by supporting families and helping them stay together. Families may contact us directly or be referred during times of crisis. When needed, children may stay temporarily with another caregiver, with the goal of returning home.



**DIVERSE  
INCLUSIVE  
ACCEPTING  
WELCOMING  
SAFE SPACE  
FOR EVERYONE**

You are a part of our community. We offer a positive and anti-oppressive space where every individual, regardless of age, is a valued and respected, whatever their culture, faith, ethnicity, race, ancestry, class, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity.

## Protection Services:

- ✓ Protecting children and youth from harm and neglect is everyone's responsibility.
- ✓ Anyone who knows or suspects that a child or youth may be at risk of harm must report their concerns to their local Children's Aid Society.
- ✓ We all have a **DUTY TO SUPPORT** infants, children, and young people experiencing or at risk of: **Harm** (Physical, Emotional, Sexual) **Neglect** or **Abandonment**.



## HOW WE WORK WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES



*Vision: Children are safe and thriving in their families.*

**Child and Family Services of Grand Erie**  
 Phone: 519-753-8681  
 Toll Free: 888-753-8681  
 Email: [general@cfsge.ca](mailto:general@cfsge.ca)  
 Website: [cfsge.ca/foster-caregiving](http://cfsge.ca/foster-caregiving)



# Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

We value every child, youth, family, and community we serve. Our work is guided by inclusive, anti-oppressive, and strength-based practices that honour dignity, compassion, and respect.

We listen to people's stories, understand their needs and aspirations, and work alongside them to ensure children and youth are safe and thriving in their families.

We also recognize the importance of every CFSGE employee. We are committed to building a diverse, equitable, and inclusive organization where everyone feels they belong, are valued, and empowered to do their best work.



## Truth and Reconciliation

CFSGE is committed to reducing the over-representation and inequities experienced by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples in our service areas. We work with Indigenous children, families, and communities in a respectful, collaborative way and continue to advance Reconciliation through our nine key commitments, including reducing the number of Indigenous children in care and increasing the use of customary care agreements.

# Family Connections

The Society looks to extended family (kin) and community members (kith) to support and strengthen families so children can stay safely at home. When needed, they can also provide safe, nurturing alternate care for children and youth.

## Family Group Decision Making

An approach that empowers families to create their own solutions and safety plans. Children, youth, caregivers, extended family, and community members work together as a team, with the child's and family's voice at the center and a focus on maintaining family ties.



## Alternative Caregivers

Provide supportive homes for children who cannot remain with their families. They work as part of a team and offer care through Kinship Service, Kin Care, Customary Care, or Foster Care. The ultimate goal is always to reunite children and youth with their families.



## Indigenous Services

Indigenous Services Teams provide culturally appropriate support to Indigenous children and families. Staff understand the historical impact of the child welfare system on Indigenous communities and are committed to ongoing Reconciliation. They work collaboratively with First Nations Band Representatives and Indigenous communities to ensure children and families remain connected to their culture, traditions, and community.

## African-Canadian Families

CFSGE is committed to embedding Race Equity Practices, developed by the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies' One Vision One project, into our daily operational practices.

ONE VISION ONE VOICE: Changing the Ontario Child Welfare System to Better Serve African Canadians – [www.oacas.org/what-we-do/onevisiononevoice/](http://www.oacas.org/what-we-do/onevisiononevoice/)

