

Safe Children in Healthy Families



Children's Cottage Society Annual Report 2005 – 2006



CHILDREN'S
COTTAGE
SOCIETY

Message From the President

As we approach another Annual General Meeting, we take stock of the many accomplishments achieved by the Staff and Volunteers in the last year, add to the list of things that we would like to get done in the future, and remind ourselves that we must constantly try to minimize the trauma that affects children and families in our Community. It can sometimes be a daunting challenge when we look at the ever-increasing demands on the Cottage and its facilities; we must balance the ability to generate funding for our programs with a desire to solve as many issues as we can.

To keep us on track, the Board and Management of the Cottage review and update our Strategic Plan every year. This process keeps us focused on our vision of "Safe children in healthy families." We have debated the vision statement at length because, on the one hand it seems like a bland "motherhood" statement that doesn't give enough importance to the work done by the Staff and Volunteers. However, for all those dedicated people that deal with serious issues daily, what better dream can we have than the fulfillment of that simple vision? After all, a vision statement is intended to reflect the Organization's ultimate destination, and while the journey can be

challenging, we will never give up in our efforts to ensure that all children are safe and in healthy families.

The Annual General Meeting gives us the opportunity to communicate our vision to the many stakeholders in the Cottage and to thank all the Staff and Volunteers that spend so much valuable time working on our goals and strategies. I would also like to thank the Board for their guidance and commitment to the Children's Cottage; without their dedication we could not possibly achieve so many successes in the lives of Calgary's children.

Safe children in healthy families is a vision that we are all committed to and we hope that all stakeholders can help spread this vision so that the resources necessary to make it happen can be available to the Calgary Children's Cottage Society.

Sincerely,



Ken Pattenden
President

Financial Operations for the Year Ended March 31, 2006

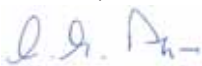
I would like to take this opportunity to thank our funders: Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority, United Way, the Family and Community Services (FCSS) and the numerous corporations, foundations, and individuals who support the necessary work of the Children's Cottage Society.

Operating revenues for 2005 – 2006 were up 6.5% at 1.9 million this year; compared to 1.7 million the previous year. Approximately 56% of these funds was provided through Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority. A further 5% of funds was provided through FCSS and 2% from the United Way of Calgary. The remaining 37% was provided through private donations, grants, and fundraising campaigns. In order to balance the budget, \$143,000 was drawn down from the Children's Cottage Fund.

I am pleased to report that the Children's Cottage Society was able to contain operating expenses for 2005 – 2006 to a small increase. Expenses were up by 0.7% as compared to last year. Program Delivery Costs increased by 1.1% and administrative costs were down by 0.4%.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Board and the Staff for their efforts to ensure the contributions of our funders and donors are managed wisely.

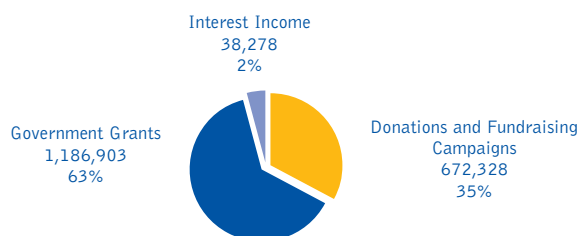
Sincerely,



Art Dyck

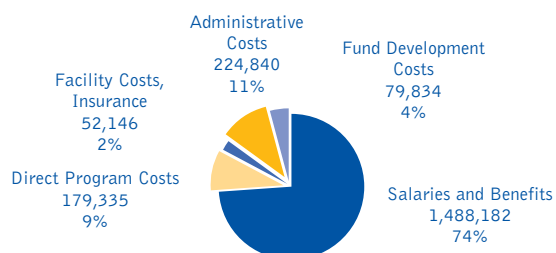
PROGRAM OPERATING REVENUE

Total 1,897,509



PROGRAM OPERATING EXPENSES

Total 2,024,337



Complete April 1, 2005 – March 31, 2006 Audited Financial Statements are available upon request.

Honorary Patrons

Linda M. Anderson, MSW, RSW
Coordinator, Child Abuse Service
Alberta Children's Hospital

Dr. J. Brock Dundas
Pediatrician

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Jim Peplinski

Managing Partner
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Calgary's Child Magazine

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Message From the Executive Director

The past year will be remembered as one where programs and funding remained stable and where the building blocks of change began to form. The population growth in Calgary began to describe a diverse population needing the help of the Children's Cottage. But many things remain constant. Those who are isolated, in poverty, experiencing multiple stressors and complex problems reached out for help. At the Crisis Nursery the success of being a safe haven for 1,284 children was overshadowed by the concern of turning away 1,484 children as the Cottage was full. Those manning our Crisis telephone lines tactfully and with great sensitivity tried to diffuse each crisis. The Child and Family Support Staff worked harder than ever before as stressed children showed their needs in many challenging ways. The calm that such skilled professionals can create from such complex situations is a marvel to behold.

The Community Respite Program continued to show the need to increase the in-home visitation program for high-risk parents with newborns. Respite workers with the qualities

Healthy Families Workers and Family Liaison Workers visited more than 300 homes where they carried the banner of prevention to ensure that complex parents were shown the way to be a strong and healthy family. If you passed these special individuals driving in their cars on the many streets of Calgary and Airdrie, you would wonder what that special glow is around them...the families will tell you that this comes to those who give so much of themselves so that children can be happy.

Volunteers donated an astounding 6,711 hours of service. Seventy-one percent of this time saw energetic volunteers playing cars, dolls, and computer games, singing songs, telling stories, interpreting, shopping for groceries, or baking with our fabulous Cottage Cooks. The volunteers are much more than an extra pair of hands. They are the cavalry who come in to save the day! Without them, the Crisis Nursery would not have the quality programs we can boast of today.

The Cottage has an army of people who help with fundraising, newsletters, this report, Ivrnet keeps our web site in check, and our

programs and services during 2005 – 06. There are so many people to thank, some of whom are acknowledged in this report. Since the Cottage began 20 years ago, the support of the Calgary community has made our mission possible. From the volunteers who rock our babies to sleep or help us keep the Cottage in shape, to the major donors and sponsors, we thank you for all you've done for us. You have helped to make our Cottage the true "home" for children and their families that it is.

This year, some of our significant corporate sponsors and donors include Canadian Oil Sands, First Calgary Savings, Northrock Resources, Taco Time Canada Inc., and Verisystems Inc. In the summer of 2005, SunMicrosystems, as well as the Calgary Stampeder Outriders held their golf tournament and donated the proceeds to the Cottage. We've also received support this year from foundations like the Calgary Minerva Fundraising Foundation, the Prosser Foundation, the Rotary Club of Calgary—Community Service Fund, and the EnCana Cares Foundation.

Our 2005 Radiothon was held on December 1st at The Core—Calgary Eaton Centre/TD Square & Scotia Centre through the Breeze (now California 103). Special thanks to our volunteers from Hopewell who helped coordinate this great event! In total, we raised \$200,000 towards Crisis Nursery, Respite and Community programs.

Every year our fundraising goal increases as the demand for our programs and services continues to grow.

The Children's Cottage Society continues to be Calgary's place of choice to bring their child to safety when things are going terribly wrong. Calgarians continue to wrap their arms around the programs to ensure that together we fulfill the mission that the community cares so deeply about. We truly do make a difference in preventing harm and neglect to children and strengthening families so that we can all rest knowing that thousands of children are safe because of the crisis, respite, and family support they receive.

Sincerely,



Patty Kilgallon
Executive Director

PROGRAM	2005 # of Children	2005 # of Families
<i>Crisis and Respite Support:</i>		
Crisis Nursery	1,284	816
Community Respite Program	1,921	1,530
Child Care Respite Project	127	85
Total	3,332	2,431
<i>Family Support Programs:</i>		
Crisis Nursery—Family Liaison	154	61
In-Home Infant Respite—Family Liaison	97	48
Healthy Families	297	192
Total	548	301
Overall Totals	3,880	2,732

of angels held, rocked, and calmed 1,828 babies. Sadly, 341 babies did not benefit from this child harm reduction program as funding dollars restricted how many families could be helped. Volunteer homes began to resurface as a way to help some of the children that could not get help elsewhere. Right now we have 10 families who are able to help. We hope to increase these numbers to ensure that support is more available when families reach out. Thirty four Volunteer Day Cares offered space to us when it was available. Our two-year Child Care Respite Project saw 127 children placed in quality child care settings to afford them the chance of child-friendly days. Our one-woman coordinator ran from one end of Calgary to another to ensure that children whose developmental stages were suffering due to homelessness or whose parents were overwhelmed with troubles were placed and that the parents were achieving the goals they had set out to achieve.

volunteer committee of two keeps our IT plan current. Together with our mighty maintenance department of one, volunteers came and helped make short work of painting and many other days of caring projects.

The Board of Directors is one of great cohesion and commitment. Led by a passionate president, the strategic direction is clear and the financial plan is solid. Their leadership is admired and I applaud their willingness to share their expertise in an effort to honor the needs of the children.

Every Executive Director needs a strong and dedicated team of managers, fund development, financial and administrative support staff around them. They are the ones that truly get all the balls rolling. They are a small but mighty group who will always go the extra mile. They ensure that the standards are maintained and that the community is confident in all that we do.

With help from our donors, the Children's Cottage Society raised \$630,975 for our

Sincere thanks to all of the donors who contributed to the Children's Cottage Society during this fiscal year. It is only with your support that we can continue caring for vulnerable children. Although we cannot mention all the generous donations, each one is appreciated. Due to space limitations, only the names of those who donated over \$500 follow.

THANK YOU!

628851 Alberta Ltd.— Taco Time	Canadian Oil Sand Canetic Resources Inc.	Hallmark Tubulars Hamilton Hall Soles/Ray & Berndtson Inc.	Monarch Messenger Services Ltd.	RSM Richter (Calgary) LLP
Acumen Capital Finance Partners Limited	Carma Developers Ltd.	Harvest Energy Trust	Virgil Moshansky	RSM Richter LLP
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Alberta Importers & Distributors	Charles R. Stewart Professional Corporation	Barb Heidebrecht	Tricia E. L. Murray	Heather A. Shaw
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Alan Black	EnCana Cares Foundation	Michael Lambros	Perma Insurance Continental, Inc.	The Honourable Order of Blue Goose International
Bonterra Energy Corp.	Enertplus Global Energy Management Company	Michael Lobsinger	Peters & Co. Limited	The Prosser Foundation
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	M. Terry Goulet	John McWilliams	John Rotter	
		Valerie Medvedic	Royal Canadian Legion 275 L.A.	
		Barry Middleton		

If you prefer not to be listed in the future, please contact our Fund Development department at (403) 283-4274 or email at lwallis@childrenscottage.ab.ca

We wish to acknowledge support from our funding partners, including:



The City of Calgary Family and
Community Support Services
(FCSS) program



Calgary and Area Child and
Family Services Authority



United Way of Calgary



CHILDREN'S COTTAGE SOCIETY
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Charitable Registration Number 10691 4534 RR0001

Layout and Design of this Annual
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