

Executive Director's Report

Annual General Meeting

June 18, 2012

Catholic Family Services provided professional counselling, group programming, short and long term planning for children in need of protection and in home support services to 2,171 individuals in the fiscal year of 2011 – 2012. The number of people served is less than we reported last year, primarily due to staff vacancies including a six month maternity leave we were unable to fill.

Our partnership with the Ministry of Social Services continues to support the provision of service to families through the following programs: Family Support Services, Transition Skills Training, Family Conferencing and Family Preservation. New positions funded include one full time Support Worker, .36 added to the Co-ordinators position in the FSSP, as well as, .9 Support Specialist to the Family Preservation Program. This year, the Ministry introduced a standards initiative and also increased funding in recognition of the need to support leadership positions within the agency.

The Ministry of Justice and The Attorney General continue to assist in funding the Family Violence Outreach and Children Exposed To Violence Programs. Family violence is an area in which the need for service remains very consistent and is often masked by other issues upon intake. Also in partnership with the Ministry of Justice – Family Justice Services, we continue to facilitate Parent Information Sessions, supporting families through the process of separation and divorce.

For two years now we have provided services in the School Plus Program with only one full time counsellor. In assessing overall community need and resources available, it would suggest that as a community agency, increasing our support to this population would be warranted.

This past year we have reorganized and streamlined operations at the front desk. Improvements have been noted regarding data collection and statistical reporting, as well as, collection of accounts receivable.

This past year has been challenging specific to staffing. We have had a number of employees on leave, medical and maternity, resulting in increased workloads and the need for cover off. Staffing changes for the year are as follows:

a) Resignations

Florence James (May)	Support Staff
Jessica Seime (August)	Family Violence Outreach
Kyle Palmer (August)	School Plus
Chelsea Derkatch (August)	Children Exposed to Violence

After fifteen years of employment with Catholic Family Services, Linda Osman retired in September of 2011 and unexpectedly passed away the following December.

b) New Employees

Bryce Young (May)	Family Conferencing
Sabrina Studney (July)	Children Exposed To Violence
Jennifer Slezak (July)	Family Support Services
Heather Krissa (August)	School Plus
Cheri Murphy (August)	Support Staff
Marg Tipton (September)	Family Support Services
Marieta Miedema (October)	Family Conferencing

c) Practicum Students

Jamie Jonescu (University of Regina)	Faculty of Social Work
Renee Whyte (North West Regional College)	Youth Care Program
Brittany Penner (Vermillion Community College)	Youth Care Program

d) Staff Years of Service

Shari Wisner	5 years
Gisele L'Heureux	15 years

As a participating member of Family Service Saskatchewan, we have focused on Employee Assistance Program contracts and services, human resources and the community based sector and our partnerships with government. This past year we made a decision not to reapply for funding for Parent Education Saskatchewan and planned then for closure of the program. Our involvement with Family Service Saskatchewan is critical for us as an agency and provides a great deal of support for me in my role as Executive Director.

Catholic Family Services maintains a number of partnerships with regard to both funding and service provision. We appreciate these relationships as they allow us to better meet the needs of the families we serve and make more efficient use of community resources. On behalf of the agency, I extend thanks to the Ministries of Social Services and Justice, the Catholic community, BATC Community Development Corporation, Battlefords United Way, Mr. Brett Wilson and family, the businesses of the Battlefords and area, as well as, individual donors and the community at large.

I would like to extend special thanks to the staff of Catholic Family Services. Your commitment to the highest quality of service is evident and very much appreciated.

As an agency, we are fortunate to have such strong support from our Board of Directors and as the Executive Director, I am especially thankful for your encouragement and guidance.

This year we have celebrated the twentieth anniversary of Catholic Family Services. The growth and success of the agency, is a direct reflection of the commitment demonstrated by all those involved over the years.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Richard B.A., B.S.W., R.S.W. (SK)
Executive Director