

Executive Director's Report
April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011
Annual General Meeting
June 20, 2011

Catholic Family Services provided professional counseling, group programming, short and long term planning for children in need of protection, and in home support services to 2,343 individuals in the fiscal year of 2010-2011.

Much effort has been put into the complete and accurate collection of data for all agency programs. In this process we have restructured and streamlined the format and have been working back to enter missing data. This will continue to be a focus for our support staff in the upcoming year.

Catholic Family Services continues to have a strong working relationship with the Ministry of Social Services. In addition to service agreements for the Family Support Services Program, Transition Skills Training and Family Conferencing, we have added the Family Preservation Program. The objective of this new program is to provide direct, intensive support services to individuals and families whose children would otherwise require immediate out-of-home placement to ensure their safety and protection. Family Preservation has been operating in this reporting period for only two and a half months.

In this reporting period the Family Support Services program has had little change. We have reviewed the job share of the coordinators position and reassigned duties in an effort to clarify roles and make the best use of staff strengths. The Transition Skills Training Program has continued to operate with only minor changes to scheduling. The development of the Family Conferencing Program continues with a solid foundation now in place.

Resulting from overpayments received by the Light of Christ RCSD #16 from the Ministry of Education, we experienced a reduction in funding for the School Plus Program. Only one School Plus Counsellor has been funded for the 2010-2011 year. The hope is that this is a temporary situation and the second position may again be funded in the fall of 2012. The program has focused on counselling services for the schools in North Battleford, and although very limited, we have maintained some services in the rural schools. Group programming has not been available.

Funded programs through the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General include Children Exposed to Violence, Family Violence Outreach, and through the Family Law Division, Parent Information Sessions. All of the above noted programs are well established and have been maintained with minimal changes to direct service.

Funded by Battlefords Agency Tribal Chiefs Community Development Corporation, the Grief Support Program was completed in June of 2010. As a result of an overpayment from the SIGA casinos to BATC Community Development Corporation, our 2010-2011

application for the Grief Support Program was declined. For Family Support Services (counseling and group programming) our application for \$25,000 was approved, but was then readjusted by 10% less, also due to the above noted overpayment.

As a community based organization, Catholic Family Services continues to work with a number of partners. These relationships add to the spectrum of services we are able to offer, as well as, the quality of that service. These partnerships also allow us to provide greater access for the families we serve by working in families' homes, our schools, and many other locations in the community.

This year Family Service Saskatchewan has focused on moving forward our sectors' issues through the Human Resource Council for non-profit organizations and on the employee assistance programs. As a provincial organization we have been unsuccessful in renewing our Employee Assistance Program contract with the Co-Operatives (Credit Union Employers). For a number of years EAP services in the health districts were controlled regionally. This year it was announced that the Saskatchewan Association of Health Organizations put out a request for proposals to have the services available through one service provider. FSS did submit an RFP. Many changes are occurring in this area and as an agency we will have to evaluate the benefits against the work involved and the standards required.

So many individuals and organizations, including government, play such an important part in supporting us in the delivery of our services. On behalf of Catholic Family Services and the families we serve, I want to thank our funders, partners, the business community, our volunteers, the board of directors, and the staff. By working together Catholic Family Services has truly made a difference in the lives of so many. By strengthening individuals and families, we strengthen the community we all live in.

In closing, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to be a part of Catholic Family Services of the Battlefords.

Respectfully,

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