



annual report

2004

2005



Durham Family Court Clinic
ASSESSMENT • MEDIATION • COUNSELLING SERVICES

Reflection from the Board Chair and the Executive Director

The 2004-2005 fiscal year was an exciting and challenging one for the DFCC. April 1, 2004, marked a new Ministry accountability, with our service contracts for youth in conflict with the law moving to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services - Youth Justice Services. With this transition, we have experienced tremendous support from Regional Managers, Trish Moloughney and Mark Mikoluff, and Program Assistant, Kathy Holland. The Community Support Team's mandate was expanded to serve youth, who at the time the offence was committed, were 17 and 18 years of age. To address the increased demand for service, we received funding for two additional Community Support Team staff. We also received a one-time increase in funding for Section 34 assessments.

During this fiscal period, we participated in a Regional Planning Process for children's mental health funds and we were honoured to be granted annualized funding for an Early Intervention and Violence Prevention Program. We are tremendously excited about this wonderful opportunity and we look forward to community collaboration in the provision of these services to the Durham Region. Please see page 11 for program summary.

Not surprisingly, the DFCC had a busy year addressing strategic needs including the revision of the organization structure as well as our Policies and Procedures. We also forged ahead in meeting the Health and Safety needs of our staff and clients through policy development and training.

Family Mediation reached a significant milestone during this fiscal period and celebrated five years of operation at the DFCC. Planning is now underway in anticipation of a Fall 2005 call for proposals from the Ministry of the Attorney General.

The Assessment Program had a record year in the completion of Phase 2 assessments for youth in conflict with the law. This remains the only program within the DFCC which continues to differentiate between Phase 1 and Phase 2 youth as per direction of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services - Youth Justice Services. This reality has created a set of challenges which we are working to address in conjunction with the Ministry.

The Collaborative Day Treatment Program has expanded their nutritional program from donations received through

our *Seeds of Hope* campaign. With these generous donations, youth who attend the program are provided nutritious lunches and snacks, and have the opportunity to earn an academic credit.

Our Resource Development Department has been instrumental in accessing funds to expand service provision and meet the needs of existing clients. We are most grateful to all volunteers and donors for their commitment of time and resources to the DFCC. Special thanks to the Administrative Team as well in responding to the needs of each of the DFCC's busy programs.

Although the whirlwind of this activity presents a number of challenges and stressors for staff and associates of the organization, we take comfort and fortitude in having a clear vision. Eleanor Roosevelt noted - "The future belongs to those who believe in their dreams", and Martin Luther said - "Everything that is done in the world is done by hope." The DFCC is committed to the promise of a brighter future for children and families in our community. This is achieved through the fulfillment of the dreams, aspirations, and hopes of the dedicated staff, Board of Directors, our volunteers, and community partners that we are very fortunate to be associated with at the Durham Family Court Clinic.



The DFCC is proud to present our new agency logo. This image was created by our Marketing Consultant, Paul Andrew Smith, in consultation with staff (especially Cheryl Tsagarakis) and volunteers. It embraces our mission's spirit to provide innovative, compassionate and effective community support. In design and principle it complements the agency's *Seeds of Hope* logo and campaign and allows us to enter our next 25 years of service with a relevant, symbolic expression of our commitment to helping children, youth and families discover a sense of hope and renewal.

Vicky Visca, BA, RSSW, Acc. FM (OAFM)

Jim Bradfield

2004 Annual General Meeting

Approximately 100 DFCC stakeholders and community guests attended our June 15, 2004, Annual General Meeting (AGM). Dr. Peter Marshall, a well-known psychologist, national speaker and best-selling author was our key note speaker, who has worked in the field of psychology for over 30 years. Dr. Marshall's topic, 'Resilience, Hope and Overcoming Adversity' was inspiring and reminded us that, as community partners, we can make an important difference when addressing such issues as poverty, abuse, chronic mental illness, separation, divorce and learning disabilities.

Among the AGM's celebratory activities was the recognition of staff for years of service and DFCC supporters for their contributions to the *Seeds of Hope* campaign.

During the AGM and at a pre-event presentation, DFCC staff member Yvonne Davies, was honoured as the 2004 recipient of the Inspirational Leadership Award. This award recognizes individuals who display the courage to make inspirational change in their personal life and or work towards an inspirational change related to their professional, community and/or volunteer life. Yvonne's inspirational leadership and support has been continuous

throughout her almost ten years of service. However it was her role as Interim Executive Director during a challenging time in the Fall of 2003 that drew her special honour and recognition. Presented by the current Executive Director, Vicky Visca spoke of Yvonne's unassuming manner saying, "Yvonne Davies is the backbone, heart and soul of the (DFCC). Words cannot express my deep appreciation for the leadership Yvonne assumed during a difficult period of transition. Not a day goes by when there are many knocks on her door followed by, "do you have a minute?" Yvonne welcomes each request in a warm and open manner, leaving each person feeling relieved, thankful, with a sense of new enthusiasm and direction. (Yvonne) is a woman of true strength, determination, compassion, dignity, warmth and sincerity. I feel truly blessed and honoured to give recognition to such a deserving and inspirational woman".

The DFCC also awarded the agency's Youth Recognition Award to a very worthy young man (please see below for details).

Youth Recognition Award

The Youth Recognition Award is presented to a youth who demonstrates leadership and perseverance.

(The following is an excerpt from the Award Presentation Speech)

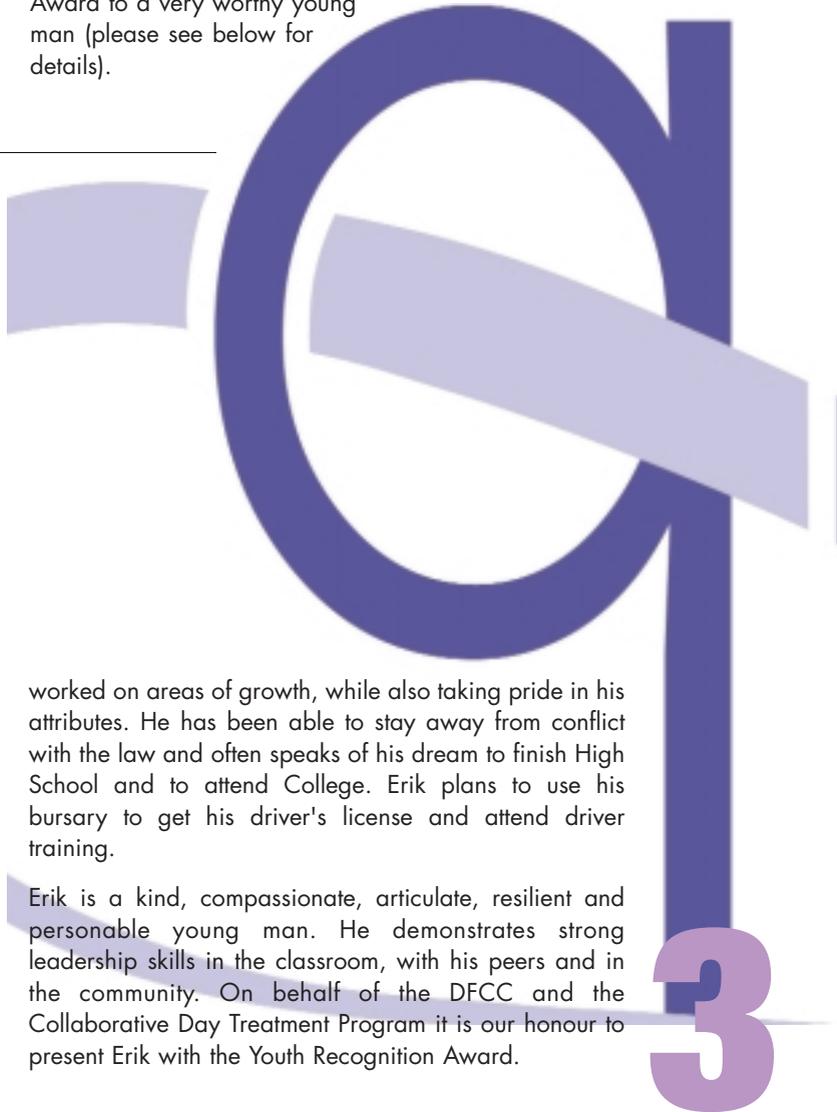
Erik is a sixteen year old youth who has over come many obstacles in his life. From losing his mother to being separated from his seven siblings, moving from home to home and then eventually being separated from his twin sister whom he adores. Despite all of these obstacles, Erik has a spirit that is truly unique. He has the ability to light-up a room with his warm smile and make you laugh when you're feeling down. His charismatic energy has enabled him to always remain positive and continue to move forward even though many other people would have given up and remained stagnant.

Erik is a youth who attends the DFCC's Collaborative Day Treatment Program. Since his arrival, he has established many strong relationships with the staff and youth. He enjoys recreation activities, especially going to the park to play 'Keep It Up' and who can forget his participation in the ongoing competition of 'Who can eat the most Subs'?

While at the Program, Erik has taken initiative and

worked on areas of growth, while also taking pride in his attributes. He has been able to stay away from conflict with the law and often speaks of his dream to finish High School and to attend College. Erik plans to use his bursary to get his driver's license and attend driver training.

Erik is a kind, compassionate, articulate, resilient and personable young man. He demonstrates strong leadership skills in the classroom, with his peers and in the community. On behalf of the DFCC and the Collaborative Day Treatment Program it is our honour to present Erik with the Youth Recognition Award.



Seeds of Hope

connecting kids to counselling

This past fiscal year has proven to be of pivotal importance for the DFCC's Marketing & Development Plan. It also places us in the third and final year of our Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, which will conclude in December of 2005. Our Trillium grant has not only supported an infrastructure to raise *Seeds of Hope* campaign funds for programs and services, but has also allowed us to develop new partnerships to strengthen the fulfillment of our agency's mission.

Key accomplishments this past fiscal year include the introduction of 2 new initiatives, Connecting Kids to Counselling and Connecting Kids to Their Community. These *Seeds of Hope* initiatives will help make giving options more streamlined for donors. We also translated needs identified in our 2004 Focus Group for Educators into new after-school group programs. Previous year's presentations to municipal councils set the ground work for our participation on 2 municipal committees, which focus on youth issues. The City of Oshawa also approved a grant to support our Connecting Kids to Their Community initiative.

Recent meetings with Police Services have identified new ways for us to work together to address community safety issues and will likely support a more effective roll out of our new Early Intervention and Violence Prevention Program within our community schools (please see page 11 for details). The introduction of this new program is itself a testament to the *Seeds of Hope* campaign and the powerful impact that our supporters can have on our community. Although this new intervention program is funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the genesis for it comes from our *Seeds of Hope* funded Sibs Project, which ran successfully for 2 years with campaign funding.

Other noteworthy highlights include a growing relationship with

local businesses through Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade networking opportunities. The Whitby Chamber of Commerce also challenged their sister organizations to participate in our Car Rally, with the Clarington Board of Trade accepting. Both the Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce and the Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade selected the DFCC as the recipient of one of their charity events. A new and innovative volunteer partnership has brought Managing Editor Chris Bovie and Managing News Editor Jennifer Paige from Metroland to teach our Collaborative Day Treatment Program youth workshops on English and Journalism. This program has already sparked excitement from our youth and gives them a unique and valuable experience. This year also provided us, for a second year running, the valuable assistance of a Durham College Marketing Field Placement student.

In keeping with our goal to inform the community about the agency and our campaign, over 30 presentations were made this past year to faith groups. Our Nutritional Program has grown by leaps and bounds and is quickly becoming a well established addition to program delivery. The Oshawa Little Theatre once again supported our agency with a benefit performance, offering many of our supporters the chance to enjoy the classic play, *'Dial M for Murder'*. Not surprising, we saw an increase in community groups hosting fundraising events in support of our campaign and we hope that next year will see even more support in this area.

Of noteworthy importance is the fact that we have a small, but valued group of volunteers and friends, people who have in recent years, or in some cases for many years, found a way to help the DFCC. Our 2004 charity Car Rally relied on approximately 30 volunteers to make this event a reality. There have also been many people who have met with us, offered advice, opened doors of introduction, volunteered with projects, administration and on our Board of Directors. These people come from every walk of life and we thank each of them for helping us nurture the *Seeds of Hope* to create the *Promise of a Brighter Future for Our Kids*.

In celebration of the 25th anniversary, the agency is launching the final stages of our marketing and communications materials. This project is funded through our Ontario Trillium Foundation grant and includes the introduction of a new agency logo, new brochures and a soon to be showcased website and revamped newsletter. A special thank you to our marketing consultant, Paul Andrew Smith R.G.D from Image communication & design, for all his support throughout this process.

connecting kids to their community

The Promise of a Brighter Future for our Kids

April 1, 2004 - March 31, 2005

The Durham Family Court Clinic gratefully acknowledges the following organizations and individuals for their generous financial and in-kind support

CHAMPIONS (\$5,000 or greater)

The Corporation of the City of Oshawa
McDonald's Restaurants of Durham Region
The Ontario Trillium Foundation
S'port for Kids Foundation
United Way of Ajax-Pickering-Uxbridge

BENEFACTORS (\$1000 - \$4999)

1350 CKDO
BMO Fountain of Hope
Bobby C's Dockside Restaurant
Breakfast for Learning
Canadian Living Foundation
Canadian Tire (Oshawa at Gibb) and
The Canadian Tire Foundation for Children
CAW-TCA Canada Local 222
Detox Environmental Ltd.
Durham Regional Police Services Board
Durham's Child Nutrition Project
The Home Depot, Ajax
KX96 New Country FM
Mackie Moving Systems Corporation
Metroland, Durham Division
Print Three
Sears Young Futures
TD Waterhouse Canada Inc. Discount Brokerage
The William Frank Hayball Charitable Foundation
Thorson's Marketing EVT

SPONSORS (\$500 - \$999)

Bell Canada
Canadian Hydrogen Energy Company Ltd.
Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario, Durham Local
Hardiman, Mount & Associates Insurance Brokers Ltd.
Knights of Columbus Council 6361
Masood Vatandoust - Realtor Royal LePage Frank
New Directions
OETCA Durham Secondary
Optimist Club of Ajax
Optimist Club of Brooklin
Optimist Club of Oshawa
ProtectIt Data Management Inc.
Spirit Sportswear
Syvan Developments Ltd.

CONTRIBUTORS (\$100 - \$499)

Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade
Anne and Paul Arsenault
Annual Ladies' Christmas Tea Members
Jack Barclay
Bonded Cleaning Services Ltd.
Brooklin United Church
Consulting Principles Inc.
Yvonne Davies
Dominion Colour Corporation
Julie Dreger-Jensen
Durham District School Board
Durham Dodge Chrysler Jeep
Durham Regional Police Association Inc.
Excel Auto Detailing
Fraser Ford Sales Ltd.
Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce
Gwen Humphreys
Carol Kennedy
Natalie MacDonald
Madgett, Roberts, Marlowe, Jackson & Associates
McIntosh-Anderson Funeral Home Ltd.
Neighbourhood of Parkridge Inc.
Neil's Service Centre
Ontario Power Generation
Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation
Optimist Club of Pickering
Patheon Inc., Whitby Operation
Rapid Reproductions Inc.
Rotary Club of Whitby Sunrise
Allan Rowsell, Barrister & Solicitor
Dr. Michael Schwartz
Sheridan Chevrolet Oldsmobile Cadillac Ltd.
St. Martin's Anglican Church
Sharon Steel
TD Canada Trust Merchant Services
The Whitby Millennium Lions Club
Cheryl Tsagarakis
Vicky Visca
Maureen Wilson
Worden Insurance Brokers Ltd.
Dr. James Worling

Total Seeds of Hope Fundraising Contributions

Financial & In-Kind**

\$ 176,275

The DFCC gratefully acknowledges all those who have contributed to our *Seeds of Hope* campaign through direct support and/or participation in our fundraising activities. The agency takes great care to accurately record all donations and regrets any omissions or errors. The DFCC publishes individual donor names only when consent has been given.

** 88% of contributions are financial. In-kinds do not include prize or auction donations
Charity Registration: 13019-6306-RR0001

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We would like to thank...

The DFCC would like to thank the following companies and organizations:

For hosting a charity event on behalf of the DFCC and the 'Seeds of Hope' campaign:

- Ajax-Pickering Board of Trade - 'Twoonie Drive'
- Beate Ritchie for hosting a charity luncheon
- Canadian Tire, Oshawa at Gibb - Family Christmas Tree Fundraiser
- Golf Realty - Charity Auction
- Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce - Food Drive
- Officer's Mess, Ladies Annual Christmas Tea - Food Drive
- Oshawa Little Theatre - Benefit Performance of 'Dial M for Murder'

For providing the agency with discounts:

- Consulting Principles • Canadian Charity Association • Durham Family YMCA • Grand & Toy (Oshawa)
- Edgetown Ford Lincoln Sales Ltd. • Home Depot, Ajax • Sears, Oshawa • Staples, Business Depot Oshawa

The DFCC would also like to thank Nevada for its support and the Ontario Trillium Foundation for its generous three-year grant.



The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives annually \$100 million of government funding generated through Ontario's charity casino initiative.



La Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario, organisme relevant du ministère de la Culture, reçoit chaque année du gouvernement 100 millions de dollars provenant de l'initiative des casinos de bienfaisance de la province.



The DFCC is a proud member of the Imagine Program

Charity.ca

Making charitable giving quick and easy.

Visit www.dfcc.org today to make an on-line donation or call 905-436-6754.

Dear Mom

*All you wanted was for me to see clear'
And now that my goal is near I want you to hear'*

*I hope you see
The change in me
I hope you see
How I've changed successfully
I hope you know
How much I've grown
I hope you know
How many scars I've sewn*

*Now that you've heard
I'm your little girl again
I hope you understand
I will be here now and even then
Happy Mother's Day*

Cheryl T

*For long as I've known you you've always believed in me,
You were there when times got hard,
You told me to get a move on when I wanted to give up,
You put a smile on my face when nobody else could,
You helped me change my life,
You have been my shoulder to cry on many times,
When nobody else would listen you did,
When I need a supportive hug you were like my teddy,
You have supported my progress and my good decisions,
And told me what I could have done or should do next time
with my not so good decisions,
You have helped me in so many ways,
And I just want you to know that I appreciate it,
I know that if I ever need to talk or if I ever need help that
I can always call you.*

Thanks Cheryl, I really appreciate all the things you've taught me. And all things you're helping me fix and realize about myself.

	2002 2003	2003 2004	2004 2005
TOTAL CASES SERVED:	866	824	716
Total # of Children & Youth Served: (not including Mediation)	474	481	446
To High Risk Youth/Young Offenders			
Assessments (Sect. 13/Probation)	30	28	36
Community Support Team	170	190	148
Collaborative Day Treatment Program	73	87	87
Direct Consultation YO	109	114	103
Direct Consultation Non YO	36	21	14
Gender Breakdown/YO & Day Treatment			
Male	70%	64%	69%
Female	30%	36%	31%
Nature of Offences (Young Offenders) (New referrals only)			
Against persons	82	57	111
Sex offences	23	9	26
Against property	72	95	84
Provincial & other	11	17	19
Breaches	55	75	78
Total number of offences	243	253	318
To Separating & Divorcing Families			
Mediation Service:			
Mediation referrals (On & Off site)	418	468	414
Mediation cases closed in the year	375	423	415
Cases mediated	317	393	375
Outcomes:			
Full agreement	56%	58%	55%
Partial agreement	9%	11%	12%
No agreement	35%	23%	33%
% of cases not represented by lawyer	17%	10%	40%
% of cases Court action had started	88%	47%	60%
Information & Referral Service			
Calls	2,758	2,153	1,952
Drop Ins	727	509	763
Parent Information Program	106	91	120
Custody&/or Access Assessment Service			
Custody & Access Assessments	11	3	3
% of clients on Legal Aid	0%	33%	17%
To Families involved in the Child Welfare System			
Parenting Capacity Assessments	34	22	27

Board of Directors

Past Chair
Chair
Vice-Chair
Treasurer
Secretary

Sharon Steel
Jim Bradfield
Dr. Carla Baetz
Michelle Musgrave
Susan Baird*
Richard Kennelly

Members at Large

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Jack Barclay
Beate Ritchie*
Jeff Salter
Caroline Smaglinski

Consultants

Computer

Mr. R. Johnston

Legal

Iller Campbell & Associates
O'Flynn Weese Tausendfreund

Auditor

Michael Sullivan CA

Psychiatry

Dr. R. Meen
Dr. Lemke

Psychology

Dr. W. A. Ammons
Dr. P. Marshall
Dr. M. Schwartz
Dr. J. Worling

Web Consultant

Mr. G. Wright

Marketing Consultant

Paul Andrew Smith R.G.D. - IMAGE communication & design

Placement Students

Ryan Gonyea - Durham College

Summer Students

Nicole Fogal
Jennifer Hartford
Jessica Loziuk

Volunteers

Committee & Program

Melanie Banka
Chris Bovie
Rhonda Gagnon
Richard Gauder
Sandi Gauder
Ray Gomme
Keith Hales
Joanne Holmes
Doug Jensen
Linda Laine
Jennifer Paige
Richard Szpin
Greg Wright
Lisa Wright

Day of the Event / Project

Anne Bradfield
Jim Buchanan
Kimberly Chant-Allin
Alex Clarke
Patricia Comm
Kim Copetti
Marcia Corey
Ben Cummins
Linda DaSilva
Ellie Dearmer
Brenda Dickie
Loretta Fisher
Ann Gage
Michael Garner
Steven Garner
Roger Goodwin
John Heczey
Michael Holmes
Blair Humphreys
Jennifer Lowery
Christopher MacDonald
Karen MacQuarrie
Anne Rice
Matthew Salsbury
Tom Seton
Paul Tibit
Reynolds Weigan
Catherine Wright
Josh Wright
Lauren Wright

(Total Volunteer Hours 1584)

fostering a healthy and safe community

providing successful learning experiences

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Staff

Executive Director

Vicky Visca

Business Manager

Yvonne Davies

Service Admin Coordinators

Anne Arsenault

Carol Kennedy

Julie Dreger-Jensen (Receptionist)

Community Support Team

CST Manager

Gary Brooks

CST Team

Deborah Benner

Debbie Salsbury

Kim Tilden

Cheryl Tsagarakis

Siblings

Jarek Baginski

Kim Tilden

Assessment Manager

Karyn Dingle

Assessment Team

Jennifer Barnett

Derek Forster

Bea Hancock

Bev LeMay

Andra Norberg

Anne Sheehan

Early Intervention/ Prevention Program

Program Coordinator

Jarek Baginski

EIP Worker

Laura LeRoux

Collaborative Day Treatment Return Ticket Program

Program Manager

Karen Augustin*

Jarek Baginski

Day Treatment Team Leader

Peggy Van Staveren

Youth & Family Workers

Kyle Blanchard*

Rhonda Gagnon

Lynne Goulborn

Laura LeRoux*

Josanna Melheic*

Paul Paget

Linda Raggett*

Jennifer Upton*

Diane VanDerster

Teachers

Jackie Garvey

Rich LaFoy

Linda Kennedy

Ann Henderson-EA

Family Mediation & Info Service

Mediation Coordinator

Tracey Sayer

Info & Referral Coordinator

Elaine Ellison

Alison McArthur

On Site Mediators

Al Wilkinson

Mary-Ann Cocchetto

Ayse Hitchins

Alison McArthur

Leanne Shafir

Roster Mediators

Heather Baker

Warren Briggs

Karyn Dingle

Sal Garofolo

Valerie Hazlett-Parker

Ayse Hitchins

Darlene Murphy

Alison McArthur

Andra Norberg

Marianne Perz

Tracey Sayer

Terri Van Exan

Parent Information Program

Andra Norberg

Jonathan Paynter

Resource Development

Manager

Natalie MacDonald

Event & Volunteer Coordinator

Gwen Humphreys

promoting healthier attitudes

9

Agency Mission

The Durham Family Court Clinic (DFCC) is an innovative community based organization dedicated to fostering a healthy and safe community by enhancing and supporting

the well being of children, youth and families who have, or may have involvement, in the legal system.

Services Provided

The DFCC has extensive expertise in issues pertaining to separation and divorce, child welfare, and young offender matters. Assessment, mediation, counselling and psycho-educational programs are provided.

Issues of domestic violence, poverty, the lack of resources for parents and families are common themes, which underlie many of our clients' need for service. Children and adolescents seen by the DFCC often have un-addressed mental health and victimization issues as well as educational deficits. Understanding and addressing systemic and underlying issues for youth and their families enable community groups, like the DFCC, to create effective programs and partnerships to promote viable solutions which foster a healthy and safe community.

Services Available to the Public:

Early Intervention and Violence Prevention Program provides early intervention to adolescents at-risk of victimization and/or violent and offending behaviour. One component of the program is to provide tailored workshops in schools to meet their specific needs. The program also includes a peer mentoring component. Individual and family counselling is offered to siblings of young persons in conflict with the law or moderate risk youth and to youth identified through school workshops as needing individual counselling.

Family Mediation and Information Services provides separating and divorcing clients with both free On-site (at Court) and affordable Off-site family mediation, a resource and referral service, and a free Parent Information Program.

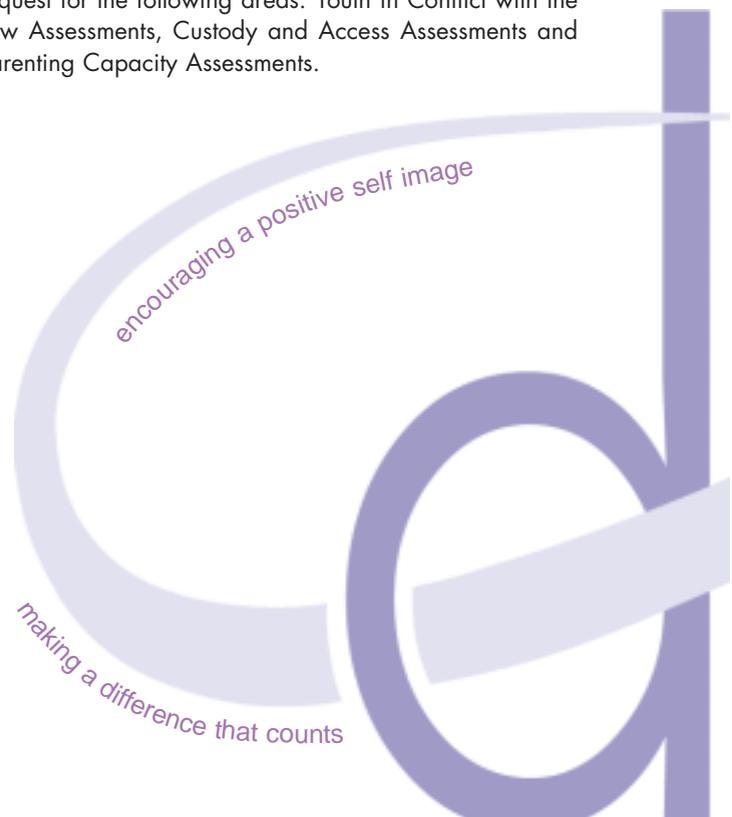
Custody and Access Assessments are available directly to the public on a fee-for-service basis for the purpose of providing clinical reports and recommendations to the Court regarding the best interests of the child(ren) in separation and divorce matters.

Services Offered on a Referral Basis:

Community Support Team provides long-term, mobile and multi-systemic therapeutic counselling support to youth in conflict with the law and their families. By building a trusting relationship with clients, an interdisciplinary team encourages the development of coping strategies, life skills and self-confidence to direct positive change. Also provided are various individual, group and family therapy programs and a therapeutic camp program.

Collaborative Day Treatment Program provides, in partnership, a therapeutic milieu for youth experiencing chronic difficulty coping in the educational system. Through individualized therapeutic and academic approaches, the program strives to establish a successful learning experience that will promote the youths' knowledge, skills and values and to enhance their life options.

Clinical Assessment Services provides clinical reports and recommendations to the Court upon their request for the following areas: Youth in Conflict with the Law Assessments, Custody and Access Assessments and Parenting Capacity Assessments.



Seeds of Hope pilot project grows into a New Annualized Funded Program

Early Intervention and Violence Prevention Program (EIP AND VPP)

In the winter of 2004, the Durham Family Court Clinic participated in the Durham Region Priority Planning and Service Recommendations for Children's Mental Health Funds. The DFCC is very pleased to announce that as a result of this process the agency will now receive annualized funding from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services to provide Early Intervention & Violence Prevention Programs for adolescents. The expected results of this program will result in hundreds, if not thousands of young people receiving supports through school based initiatives.

The genesis for Early Intervention & Violence Prevention Programs comes from the success of our Siblings Project (highlighted in the DFCC's 2004 Annual Report). This project offered siblings of high-risk youth and their families targeted individualized interventions to reduce and/or prevent sibling involvement in criminal activity and/or their victimization. Our new Early Intervention Program (EIP) is a modified and expanded version of the Siblings Program, which was funded through a federal Community Mobilization Program Grant and the agency's Seeds of Hope campaign.

The EIP mandate has been extended beyond the Siblings Project mandate to include other at-risk youth 12 to 18 years of age with identified attitudinal, behavioural, familial or environmental factors that increase their risk of developing violent characteristics or being prone to delinquent influences, or victimization. Program objectives include: increasing youth's chances of success and well-being; delinquency prevention; abuse prevention; anti-violence awareness; enhancing school success; and assisting at-risk youths and their families in addressing problems potentially predisposing young people to delinquency. Individual, group, and family-based interventions are also provided. Annualized funding for the new EIP comes from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

The Violence Prevention Program (VPP) is a newly created program also receiving annualized funding from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and runs as a complementary program to EIP. The VPP provides a message of violence-alternative solutions to students and teachers at their schools, and youth in other community settings. The VPP offers workshops and training, facilitated by our counsellors and youth co-leaders. These facilitators will visit community schools with an awareness campaign designed to

change mindsets about violence. Workshops provided in the school settings will address topics such as: anti-bullying; conflict resolution; dating violence/healthy relationships; diversity/anti-racism; gang violence; homophobia; and customized presentations to address school-specific issues.

The Durham Family Court Clinic is tremendously grateful to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services for the opportunity to continue to deliver and expand services for at-risk youth in the community. Our new Early Intervention & Violence Prevention Programs are truly in keeping with our *Seeds of Hope* campaign's goal to nurture *The Promise of a Brighter Future for Our Kids*.

The DFCC would also like to thank the East Metro Toronto Youth Services for their support in developing the service model and training for our new Early Intervention and Violence Prevention Program.

the promise of a brighter future for our kids

The DFCC gratefully acknowledges the Ministry of Children & Youth Services- Youth Justice Services, the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Ministry of Children & Youth-Children Services, the Ministry of Education/Durham District School Board, Human Resources Development Canada, Durham Children's Aid Society and Family Guidance International for their continuous support for the children, youth and families of our community.

Copies of the audited statements for the year ending March 31st, 2005 are available upon request from the Durham Family Court Clinic



Durham Family Court Clinic
ASSESSMENT • MEDIATION • COUNSELLING SERVICES

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