

Community Briefing

Issue 34, Summer 2017



This issue...

Of our ongoing Community Briefing features coming events, agency news, updates from the field, and our On The Path to Thriving feature.



While school may be out and things may slow down for vacations, here at Thrive, we have been busy as ever. In addition to continuing to serve our many clients (12 children successfully completed treatment this summer!), we have been planning for the fall. This planning work has included developing funding proposals for new initiatives to enhance our services to meet the increasing needs of newcomer children and youth, as well as preparing to renovate our office space to reduce costs and free up resources to deliver services. We have also been busy working on our upcoming AGM (September 25), which will include a tribute to the long-running CAPPY Ride fundraising event, as well as a warm welcome to 5 exciting new additions to our Board of Directors. October is just around the corner and so a great deal of time this summer has been spent planning for our annual major fundraising campaign held in conjunction with Child Abuse Awareness Month. A committee of enthusiastic volunteers is helping us expand our reach with this campaign. Stay tuned! At Thrive, we are grateful for the faithful support and generosity of many groups and individuals in our community. You can read about some of them in this issue. It may sound trite but we truly could not help our kids on the path to Thriving without this incredible commitment of caring. The children and youth who come to us are among the most vulnerable in Hamilton. But we always say, too, our kids are resilient. With the right kind of treatment and a caring, supportive community around them, these kids can and do go on to thrive. At Thrive, we believe thriving children create thriving communities.

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We believe thriving children create thriving communities. To that end, our mission is a community-wide response to childhood trauma that combines excellence in treatment, state-of-the-art education, and community oriented prevention initiatives aimed at reducing the incidence and impact of child maltreatment and promoting the safe and healthy development of children.

THRIVE Child and Youth Trauma Services



We believe thriving children create thriving communities. Please share this community briefing, post it prominently, or use its content to educate others.

Coming Events



This October we are once again holding our October #RealFears365 fundraising campaign. We have put together a committee of enthusiastic volunteers to help us expand our reach this year! Keep a look out for our campaign image and make sure to follow us on social media to get updates on our campaign.



THRIVE CHILD AND YOUTH TRAUMA SERVICES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THRIVE'S 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
...AND TRIBUTE TO THE CAPPY RIDE!

WHEN: MONDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2017
4:30-6:00 P.M.

WHERE: PERKINS CENTRE, 1430 MAIN STREET EAST, HAMILTON

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
PLEASE RSVP TO KATIE GORRIE
BY EMAIL AT [KATIE.GORRIE@THRIVECHILDANDYOUTH.CA](mailto:katie.gorrie@thrivechildandyouth.ca)
BY MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

News!

Family Foundations Supporting Thrive Families

This summer Thrive was a grateful recipient of financial support from two local Family Foundations through the Hamilton Community Foundation. With these substantial gifts, Thrive will serve more vulnerable children and youth than our government funding allows.

Losani Family Foundation Fund

Losani Homes and the Losani Family Foundation have been faithful supporters of Thrive families each year for over seven years. Their annual gift of \$20,000 represents their ongoing commitment to ensure the services that abused children need are there when they need them.

The Losani Family Foundation aims to be socially impactful locally and abroad. The Foundation has raised millions of dollars for local youth and families. Losani goes the extra mile.



LOSANI
FAMILY FOUNDATION

[Check out the Losani Family Foundation Spotlight on our website!](#)

News! Continued

Lillian & Marvin Goldblatt Family Fund Donation

The Lillian and Marvin Goldblatt Family Foundation recently provided a generous gift of \$5000 to Thrive to increase our services for newcomer children, youth and their families. This gift will add capacity to our OASIS program and help us to pilot a new family engagement dimension to our Get Ready! Program. We believe engaging the families of refugee children, will increase positive outcomes not only for the child but for the whole family. We extend our sincere appreciation to the Goldblatt family for this generous gift.

The Lillian and Marvin Goldblatt Family fund supports initiatives that address and build on the concept of family values within the community, especially in the area of seniors, children and youth.

What's Happening?

Lanhack Charity Golf Tournament

In spite of the stormy weather, the 18th Annual Lanhack Charity Golf Tournament was held on August 17 was packed with supporters of children in our community. The golfers played through the rain all day to support the youth in Hamilton. This annual tournament supports two great causes centred on children: Help a Child Smile and Thrive.

The Lanhack Charity Golf Tournament is hosted by local engineering firm, Lanhack Consultants Inc. Every year, Lanhack invites their business associates out for a fun day of golfing and fundraising. This tournament features a full day of golfing as well as some fun "putting contests" where participants pay to test their skills on the mini courses. When the golfing is done, the fun is not over as dinner is served and an auction is held.

This event has raised over \$40,000 for THRIVE since 2010!

As the event wound down this year, Cathie Pead, our Interim Executive Director, gave an inspiring speech about the impact of child sexual abuse and how Thrive helps to heal children from that trauma.

We want to extend a huge thank you to Dave Hacking, Carlo Lancia and Lori Giacomelli for holding and organizing this event. Thank you for holding our cause in a place in your hearts.

Investors Group Annual Golf Classic

On July 27, Investors Group hosted their annual charity golf classic in support of B'nai Brith Canada and Thrive Child and Youth Trauma Services.

On an unfortunately rainy day, guests and supporters participated in the Investors Group Charity Golf Classic. Although damp, the participants were in good spirits as the dinner portion of the event rolled out. Cathie Pead, Interim Executive Director of Thrive, spoke to guests about the work we do at Thrive to the participants and how much the support of these events helps our cause.

This year \$5000 was raised for our programs through this event!

We want to extend a big thank you to Jon Jurus, Janice Jurus and Jenny Lloyd for making this event possible and for making it such a success!

From the Field

Child Sexual Abuse and Males

"One in six boys are sexually abused before the age of 16—yet the issue remains underreported, undertreated, and highly stigmatized." Addressing the Lack of Research on Male Childhood Sexual Abuse

As noted in this straightforward and very accessible article by Dr. Pittaro, limited research exists regarding male child sexual abuse, and sufficient resources are lacking for male survivors. Dr. Pittaro explains, "This is likely because girls are more likely than boys to be sexually abused." (Pittaro, 2017) Statistically, in Canada, the prevalence of female child sexual abuse victims is 1 in 3 vs. 1 in 7 for boys.

Male survivors of sexual abuse face not only possible psychological, physical and emotional issues that can be associated with childhood sexual abuse, they also face the additional stress of stigma associated with being a sexually abused male. "Because of the perceived stigma, many boys do not disclose past sexual abuse and when they are ready to do so, support groups specifically for male survivors are challenging to find." (Pittaro, 2017) Additionally, it can be challenging to find clinicians who are both knowledgeable and trained to address the gender-specific issues associated with male sexual victimization.

In addition to highlighting some of the issues that male children, youth and adults who have experienced child sexual abuse may face in their lifetimes, he also provides important information that debunks myths associated with male sexual victimization.

Read the article here: [Addressing the Lack of Research on Male Childhood Sexual Abuse](#)

On The Path to Thriving

This summer we had a total of 12 celebrations. This means that 12 clients have completed their treatment goals. Treatment is a long process, often taking a year or more. Our clients work very hard to overcome significant hurdles and heal from trauma. At each celebration the client will invite special people that have made their success in healing possible. Cake is served and special tokens are exchanged to celebrate the children's hard work on this healing process.

We are so happy we have had so many clients succeed in their goals this summer! Congratulations!

"You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

— A.A. Milne/Christopher Robin

THRIVE Child and Youth Trauma Services gratefully acknowledges the support provided by our financial partners.



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