

A photograph of two young boys of African descent sitting on a wooden bench outdoors. They are both wearing blue baseball caps with the 'Closer to Home' logo. The boy on the left is wearing a dark blue tank top and is giving a thumbs-up. The boy on the right is wearing a grey t-shirt and a backpack, looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred green lawn and trees.

Closer to Home Community Services
Report to the Community 2018/2019

Empowering Families to Stay Together

Message from the Board Chair & Chief Executive Officer

In order to create meaningful social impact for children and families in Calgary, it is so important to stay current with research in our field. Knowledge informs and transforms, better aligns our work, and is evolving Closer to Home (CTH) into a cutting edge social organization. CTH's 15 programs reach deep into Calgary communities. We give parents the tools to ensure healthy development of their young children. We work with youth and their families to positively impact their mental health. And, we engage Indigenous people in strengthening their cultural identity and healing from intergenerational trauma. Many thanks to our Board of Directors, staff, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, donors and funders who continue to support our work; and especially to Elder Kerrie Moore for her wisdom in guiding CTH to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Committee *94 Calls to Action*. Our future is bright as we look forward to new exciting initiatives, partnerships and continuous transformation to make a real difference in the lives of children and families.



Karen Olivier,
Chief Executive Officer



Trish Bronsch,
Board Chair



Families are Staying Together: **92% of families** at risk of having their children removed from their home successfully completed our Family Matters program and stayed together

PRACTITIONER OF THE YEAR:
ARTHUR MURRAY



As an Alternate Teaching Parent in our Community Teaching Homes over the last four years, Arthur has helped more than 31 youth find their sense of belonging with his genuine interactions, care and concern.

100% of eligible practitioners achieved International Certification with the Teaching-Family Association

COMMUNITY BUILDER: **DR. DANIEL GARFINKEL**, REGISTERED PSYCHOLOGIST



Over the past nine years, Daniel has collaborated with CTH to help kids overcome trauma such as abuse, exposure to domestic violence and parental drug use. His expertise and willingness to go above and beyond changes lives.

Countless partners and community resources work with us to achieve the best outcomes for kids and families

DONOR OF THE YEAR:
KEVIN HAUGHTON



As a loyal donor, Kevin says that his contributions go directly to supporting the people that need it most, and have meaningful and lasting impact. For over 10 years, Kevin's support has made a difference to families we serve.

345 donors supported CTH this year

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:
SUSAN HARMAN



Susan connected with CTH when she signed up to volunteer during our Adopt-a-Family initiative. Ever humble, Susan insists she hasn't "done much," but to us, her support has been invaluable.

55 dedicated volunteers contributed **1,291 hours** this year

Award Winners

READ MORE about this year's award winners at closertohome.com/awards2019

Mental Health

Many of the children, youth and families we support struggle with issues that affect their mental health, such as trauma, poverty, abuse, social isolation and more. If mental health issues are not addressed early, they can lead to more problems later in life, including addiction, family breakdown and homelessness.

Youth Mental Health

82% of youth in our Community Teaching Homes entered the program with mental health concerns

Increased Resiliency

92% of parents who received support through our Family Resource Centre said they were better able to respond to daily challenges

"The staff helped me learn skills I never knew. They don't get upset and they are patient. They give me a chance to find my words."

– Youth in Teaching Home

Safer Kids

Safety and well-being improved for **92% of children and youth** in foster care

Improved Social Connections

94% of parents who received support through our Family Resource Centre reported an increased number of friends, family members and others who provide emotional support and assistance

Approximately 4,000 Canadians die each year by suicide.

In 2017, suicide accounted for 36% of deaths among youth aged 15 to 19. Every day, we work with youth experiencing mental health concerns that could lead to self-harm or even suicide without the right interventions.

Healing from Trauma

Cultural identity and knowledge of one's personal identity within the context of history builds a sense of empowerment, resiliency and well-being. Reclaiming cultural pride through connection with Elders, ceremony and traditions brings about healing.

Beginning the Healing Journey

90% of participants reported increased engagement with the traditional knowledge, practice and ceremony needed for their healing journey

Increased Sense of Belonging

86% of participants felt an increased sense of belonging within the Indigenous community

"The facilitator helped me understand Indigenous ways a lot better, and in the process I was able to self-reflect and learn a bit more about myself."

– Program Participant

Feeling Empowered

86% of participants said they felt an increased sense of empowerment and ability to address issues as they arise in their lives

Gaining Historical Knowledge

90% of participants reported an increased understanding of the key concepts of historical knowledge, helping them understand and address the impact of intergenerational trauma

Overcoming Trauma: The average Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) score in our Indigenous programs is 6/10. As ACE scores increase, so do the risks of negative outcomes, such as addiction, depression and suicide. In fact, those with an ACE score of 4 or more are 460% more likely to suffer from depression and 12x more likely to attempt suicide.

Early Childhood Development

Emotional, social, cognitive and physical development of young children directly impacts their resiliency and well-being throughout their lives. Investing in early childhood development by providing the tools, supports and knowledge parents need to raise healthy, happy kids is critical to maximize children's future well-being.

Improved Parenting

93% of parents in our Healthy Families program were better equipped to parent their children with increased knowledge of positive parenting skills

Improved Social & Emotional Development

100% of parents in our Kiwehtata Parenting Program were better able to support their children's social and emotional development through increased knowledge of parenting strategies

"I was welcomed with open arms in a peaceful, safe environment for me to grow and learn."

- Parent

Safer Families

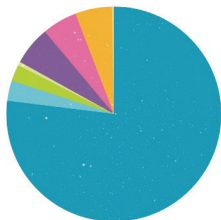
93% of parents in our Healthy Families program improved their knowledge and skills to meet their child's needs and provide a more nurturing, safe environment for their children

Meeting Developmental Milestones

71% of children in Foster Care met or showed improvements in reaching their developmental milestones

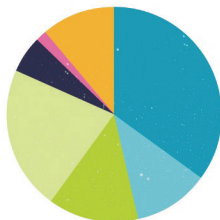
Measuring children's progress on developmental milestones is an important part of our ECD programs. We use rigorous screening tools to assess developmental milestones and social/emotional health. If there are any concerns, we design an individualized support plan with the parent to identify effective strategies to ensure young children reach their full potential.

Statement of Operations for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019



FUNDING SOURCES

● Ministry of Children's Services: Calgary Region	\$4,094,358	77.0%
● City of Calgary: Family and Community Support Services	\$165,864	3.1%
● City of Airdrie: Family and Community Support Services	\$126,375	2.4%
● Delegated First Nations Authority	\$31,573	0.6%
● Homeless Foundation	\$320,305	6.0%
● Other Grants and Revenue	\$280,782	5.3%
● Donations and Fundraising	\$285,236	5.4%
● Investment Income	\$11,357	0.2%
	\$5,315,850	100%

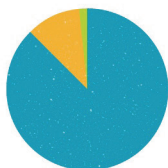


FUNDING USES

● Community Group Homes	\$1,865,073	35.1%
● Foster Care Services	\$611,742	11.5%
● In Home Family Supports	\$712,245	13.4%
● Early Intervention Services	\$1,147,045	21.6%
● Grants and Other	\$308,890	5.8%
● Fundraising	\$75,136	1.4%
● Administration	\$586,502	11.1%
	\$5,306,633	100%

NET INCOME

\$9,217



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

● Program Delivery Costs	\$4,644,995	87.5%
● Administration	\$586,502	11.1%
● Fundraising	\$75,136	1.4%
	\$5,306,633	100%

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Closer to Home is accredited by:



Thank you to our primary funders:



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