



Continuing the journey together

Impact Report
2018-2019



calgary & area child advocacy centre

The critical issue of child abuse

Children and youth who are abused can suffer a lifetime of consequences, making the issue of child abuse both critical and urgent.

Just under **1 in 3 Canadians** report experiencing childhood physical and/or sexual abuse.

Individuals with a history of childhood physical and/or sexual abuse are at a **higher risk** of negative life outcomes.

1 in 7 victims of physical/sexual abuse report frequent instances of abuse during their childhood (at least 22 times).

Illicit drug use is **2x as common** among those who report having experienced physical and/or sexual abuse.

2 in 5 Aboriginal people report having experienced childhood physical and/or sexual abuse.

Sharing the journey of help, healing and hope

In April 2013, the Calgary & Area Child Advocacy Centre (CCAC) set out on a bold journey to bring together an entire community to change how we respond to child abuse.

In collaboration with key partners — Calgary Police Service, Children's Services Calgary Region, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Justice Crown Prosecutors' Office, RCMP — the direction was clear: to better serve the individual needs of each child, youth and family by pioneering an integrated, collaborative practice model that would set a new standard for how communities support people who have experienced the trauma of abuse.

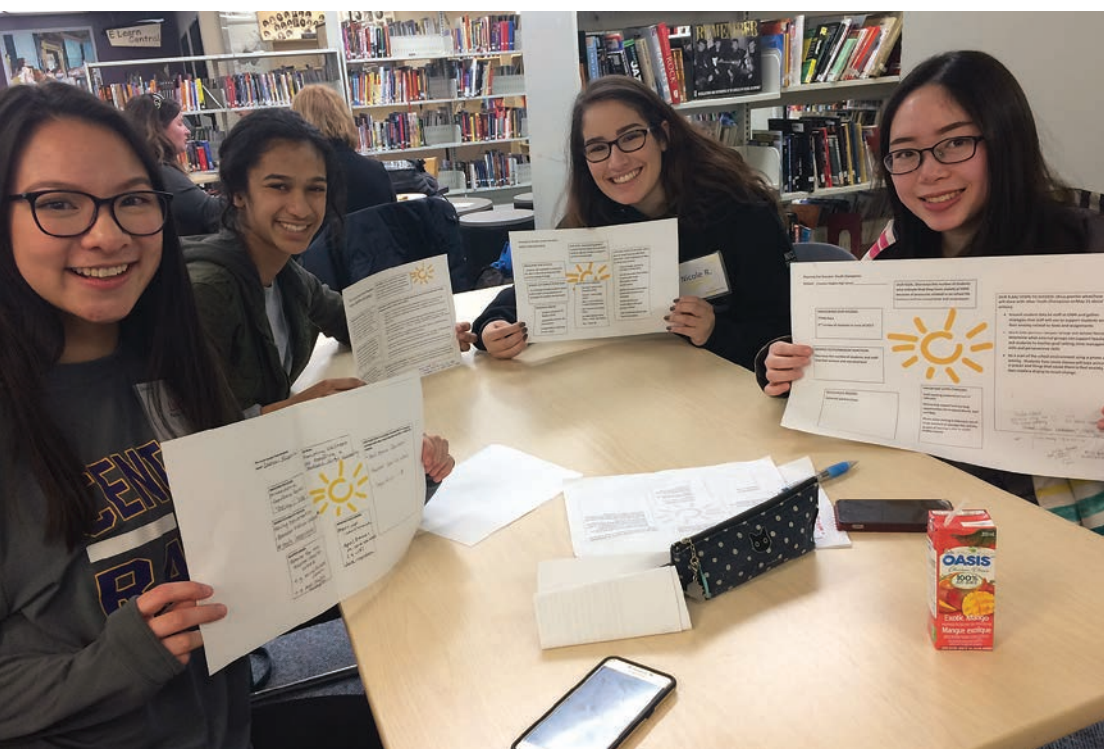
We knew that addressing this complex issue would be a long and sometimes difficult journey, and every milestone reached inspired us to increase our efforts to create meaningful change.

Moving beyond milestones in 2018–19

The CCAC's first five years led to remarkable progress and far-reaching impact. The new Integrated Model of Practice — in which all partners work together seamlessly to wrap services around each child, youth and their family — dramatically changed the response to abuse and, most importantly, helped children, youth and families on the road to healing more quickly. Sharing knowledge, collaborating in practice, building on and growing expertise, and refining processes all contributed to better outcomes for those we serve. The CCAC's voice strengthened and catalyzed action in government and in other communities.

The 2018–19 year marked the start of a new phase in our journey. Knowing how far we have come, we are now building on a strong foundation to confidently move forward in our commitment to help transform young lives, and to improve the safety and well-being of children, youth and families.

The year was punctuated by Sheldon Kennedy's departure from the CCAC. We and all citizens of Calgary and area owe Sheldon a deep debt of gratitude for his passionate and personal engagement at a critical time in the CCAC's formation. He was instrumental in opening doors and shedding light on the issue of abuse, and for accelerating progress.



Gathering momentum going forward

While much has been achieved and the CCAC is making a profound difference in lives, we recognize that much remains to be done. Thanks to steps taken to date, we are well positioned to make an even greater difference in the lives of the children, youth and families impacted by abuse. We are committed to acquiring and sharing more knowledge, and to further refining our practices to offer the very best response to the community we serve.

We also recognize that we must respond to ever-increasing challenges in the world around us. Issues such as the reach of social media and the increasing sexualization of children — sharpen the need for continuous learning. Greater engagement of professionals and community members is needed to increase awareness and, crucially, change attitudes and behaviours that keep children and youth safe.

We know we will go farther and have greater impact when we continue the journey together. The following pages of this Impact Report confirm that we are on the right path in helping to positively change the lives of children, youth and families. We are determined to do all we can to continue to make a difference — and to do our very best for our community.



Board members, 2018–19

Debra Mauro, Chair
Nancy Foster
Tom Mauro
Melinda Park
Anita Poscente
Daniel Cheng
Paul Cook
John Dielwart
David Evans
Margaret Fullerton

Suzanne Kendall
M. Ann McCaig
Tara McCool
Toni Morkin
Trevor Peters
Gary Strother
Sara Austin (to Feb. 11, 2019)
Sheldon Kennedy (to Dec. 11, 2018)
Wayne McNeil (to Dec. 11, 2018)



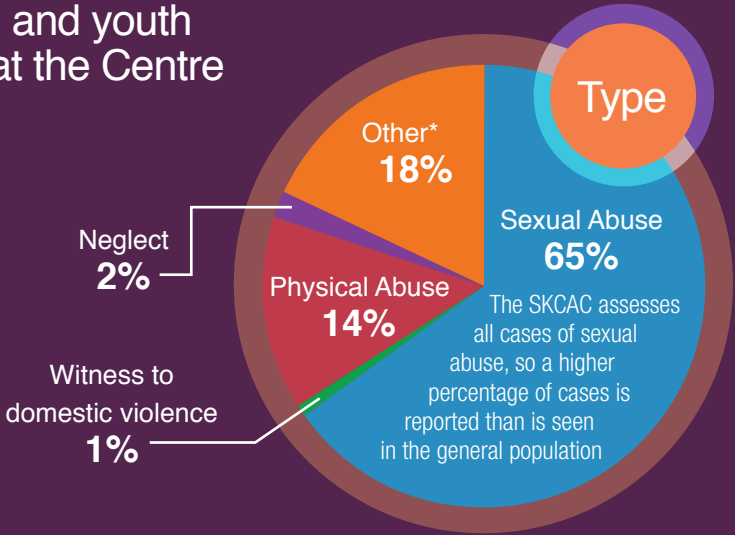
2018–19 Snapshot

1,496/year **133/month**
infants, children and youth assessed

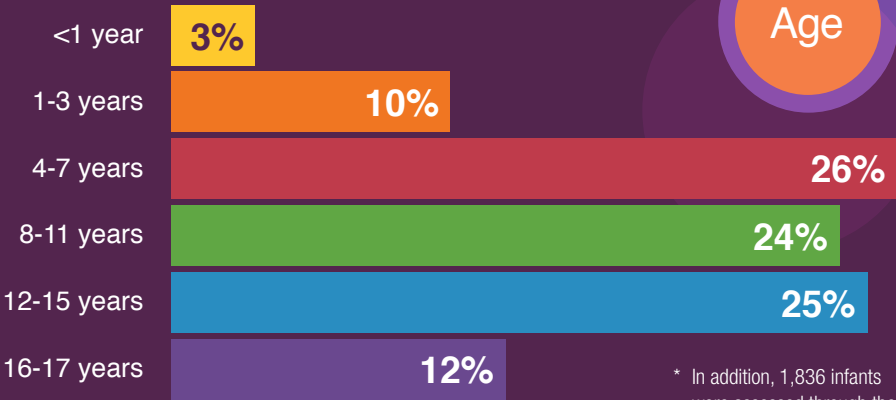
120+
professionals
on-site

Kinds of abuse experienced by children and youth assessed at the Centre

* Other includes emotional abuse, medical child abuse and sexual exploitation

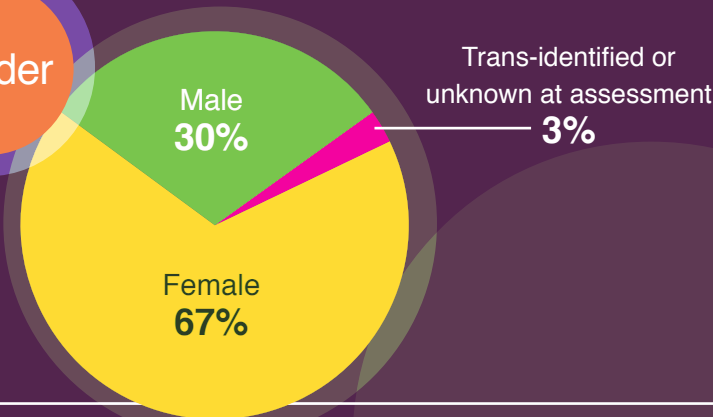


Children and youth served



* In addition, 1,836 infants were assessed through the Alberta Vulnerable Infant Response Team

Gender



Sharing for effectiveness

Working collaboratively and efficiently at the CCAC is crucial for providing the best services in the most timely way, and for helping children, youth and families heal.

CCAC professionals rely on and trust each others' expertise, which makes it possible to do in hours what used to take days, and to centre responses on the needs of those who have been impacted by abuse. Treatment decisions are based on the most up-to-date information because all partner organizations share information and create integrated plans, surrounding children and families with responses appropriate to their needs.

Timeliness is a significant benefit for children, youth and families. When treatment is more informed and access to resources is almost immediate, healing can begin more quickly. Children and youth are safer, and families' stress and anxiety is reduced.

Enhancing efficiency

80% of professionals' time is focused on the child, instead of navigating systems



Timely collaboration

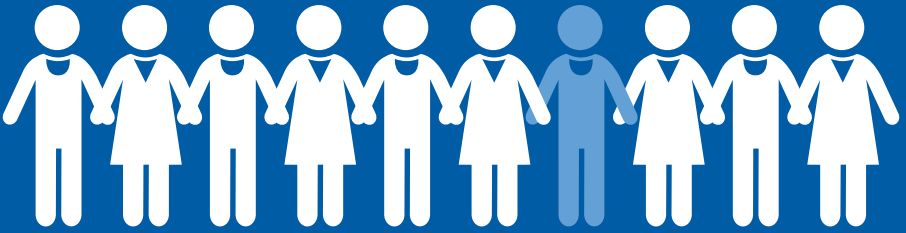
Critical case information is shared across partner agencies within minutes or hours, instead of days or weeks

Collaborating for greater impact

At the CCAC, integrated information sharing among people and agencies has led to better and more-informed diagnoses and treatment — and that results in better outcomes for children, youth and families.

Building trust and uniting professionals across sectors sharpens the focus on providing the best possible services, seamlessly and without barriers. It inspires creative responses that better serve the community, and can help to prevent trauma in the first place. Early intervention programs that work with parents who are dealing with particular issues or challenges, for example, can help make those parents more successful and can keep their children safer.

In cases of abuse, the CCAC strives to ensure children and youth are not re-traumatized by the systems offering support. Because they are interviewed once, they do not have to relive and retell their story. At the same time, better and more-comprehensive interviews lead to better court outcomes, so there is less risk that children and youth are re-traumatized by the court process. Direct referrals to needed supports also help reduce a family's stress.



Reducing trauma

90% of children and youth are interviewed once, instead of multiple times

Reducing fear and stress

A child life specialist helps reduce anxiety, so medical exams take less time and are less stressful



Wrapping around children, youth, families

Abuse and trauma impact everyone differently, therefore every response by the CCAC centres on meeting unique needs. The Integrated Model of Practice ensures the right support is delivered at the right time by the right professionals.

Comprehensive treatment and response plans wrap around people, focusing on what's best for healing. Integration ensures no one slips through the cracks between systems. Relationships among CCAC partners help foster relationships with children, youth and families. This eases concerns and opens the doors to questions, and to meeting potential unseen and unmet needs.

Because the CCAC is one place offering one integrated response, that response is individualized, and considers many factors. The impact of culture, for example, is taken into consideration by partners and "cultural brokers" are being developed.

Focusing on children, youth and families in a friendly, comforting environment helps reduce stress and minimize re-traumatization, and advance court preparation helps reduce anxiety and fear — all leading to better outcomes.

Offering comfort

Two trained assistance dogs reduce stress for children attending court and during forensic interviews



More-immediate responses

Children, youth and families begin therapy 60% quicker

Growing knowledge to enhance support

Continuous improvement — striving constantly to know more and to better serve those impacted by abuse — lies at the heart of the CCAC. Partners are recognized experts in the field of child abuse, and bringing this wealth of knowledge and expertise together into one location offers unparalleled opportunities. Working, learning and sharing together every day breaks down barriers and ensures the treatment plans for children, youth and families are integrated and coordinated.

As it continues to grow, learn and evolve, the CCAC expands the capacity of people at all levels and in every partner organization. This expansion of knowledge, in turn, ripples out from the CCAC across the city, province and nation. For partners such as the Calgary Police Service, for example, fully half of the people who have worked on-site at the CCAC now work in the community.

Constantly expanding knowledge leads to better, more-informed decision-making and treatment plans, and improved outcomes for children, youth and families. It is essential for better serving those impacted by abuse — and for fostering the safety of children and youth throughout the community.



Increasing safety

Children, youth and families are safer when there is more knowledge about risks, and greater capacity to respond quickly

Sharing knowledge

115 professionals from across Alberta have taken part in child forensic interview training offered by the CCAC



Becoming more trauma aware

The research showing the life-changing impact of trauma on mental and physical well-being grows every day. This emerging understanding is crucial for developing the comprehensive, multi-faceted responses that enable children, youth and families to heal.

Heightened awareness of trauma's impact is prompting a fundamental shift in thinking and practice, and also casting the light on a need for greater engagement community wide.

The CCAC is reaching out to engage people who play central roles in the lives of children and youth. Providing teachers, for example, with the knowledge and tools to recognize and respond to abuse empowers them to help change the trajectory of a child or youth's life.

Sharing evidence with medical students and other professionals puts the issue of child abuse front and centre, and significantly expands people's ability to help. Creating youth and community champions helps keep young people safer.

When more people are aware of abuse — when the community is more trauma aware — help can be provided more quickly and, most importantly, abuse can be prevented.



Expanding awareness

400+ people took part in the online Being Trauma Aware initiative launched by CCAC in Fall 2018

Going national

Funding has been received to take Being Trauma Aware across Canada to increase awareness

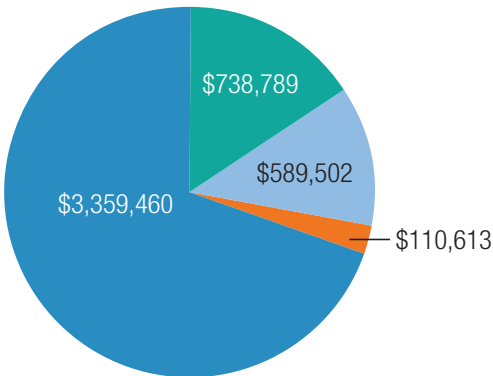


Financial highlights 2018–19

Statement of Financial Position

	as at March 31	
	2019	2018
Assets	\$	\$
Current		
Cash	2,330,917	1,355,828
Short-term investments	3,282,288	2,885,062
Inventory	17,405	-
Accounts receivable	363,185	293,594
Prepaid expenses	12,556	22,374
	6,006,351	4,556,858
Long-term investments	-	403,235
Property, equipment and rights	1,255,796	1,533,534
	1,255,796	1,936,769
	7,262,147	6,493,627
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	367,676	171,102
Deferred contributions	1,197,100	1,048,263
	1,564,776	1,219,365
Net assets		
Invested in capital assets	1,255,796	1,533,534
Unrestricted net assets	4,441,575	3,740,728
	5,697,371	5,274,262
	7,262,147	6,493,627

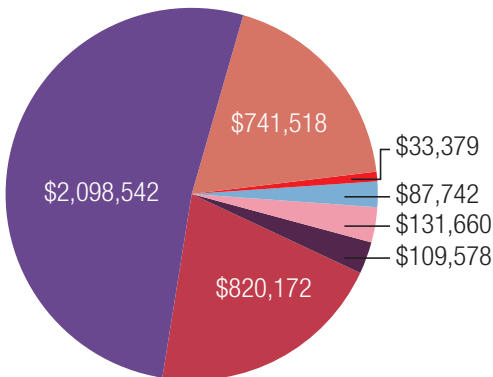
Complete audited financial statements are available by contacting the Calgary & Area Child Advocacy Centre.



Revenues

\$4,798,364

- Donations
- Partner contributions
- Grant revenue
- Other income



Operating Expenditures*

\$4,022,591

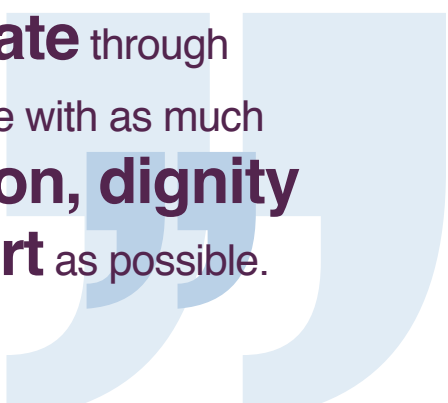
- Salaries and benefits
- Occupancy costs
- Fundraising and donations
- Program development and evaluation
- Advertising and communication
- IT support
- Other (office, professional fees, training & development)

* excluding amortization costs



I have said many times that it is **truly sad** there is a **need** for the CCAC.

But at the same time, my family is indescribably **grateful** to have the Centre to help us **navigate** through this experience with as much **compassion, dignity** and **support** as possible.



Vision

Empowering those who are impacted by child abuse to lead healthy and productive lives by creating a community that responds collectively to child abuse.



calgary & area child advocacy centre

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