



Our Children, Our Future / Nos enfants, notre avenir 2022-2023 Annual Report

Our Children, Our Future Nos enfants, notre avenir

Our Children, Our Future/Nos enfants, notre avenir (OCOF/Nena) remains committed to securing a better future for children and their families in our communities through positive learning, socialization, parent education, nutrition and food programs. Families have knowledge and access to services, regardless of income, age, race or ability. Services are seamless, welcoming, conveniently located and responsive to each family as needed. There is wisdom in preventive measures; therefore we must invest energy and resources in our children, families, and communities today.

Board of Directors 2022 | 2023

Vincent Lacroix • President

Tina Leduc • Vice President

Marianne Schwendener • Treasurer

Claire Valtins • Director

Alex McCauley • Director

Kathy Longarini • Director

Marlo Desiardins • Director

Natasha Delaney • Director

VISION

Children and families are the heart of our future

VALUES

Development Inclusiveness Collaboration Excellence

MISSION

Engaging children and families in fostering a healthy future for our communities

2018-2023 Strategic Plan

To broaden our community outreach through various marketing strategies.

- Identify and address gaps and barriers in our communities in an advocacy role.
- Pursue funding, grants and fundraising opportunities to expand our services to children from ages 0-18 as well as their families.

To evaluate the feasibility and pursue opportunities related to the development of an OCOF Community Resource Center.

- Conduct feasibility studies on OCOF Head Office / Community Resource Center opportunities.
- Develop realistic scenarios for expansion of OCOF via ownership or lease.
- Pursue funding, grants and fundraising opportunities focused on the development of the OCOF Head Office / Community Resource Center.

To develop a systematic approach to communication within the organization

- Improve awareness of programs, events and site specific offerings through multiple communication methods.
- Improve communication, awareness and referrals between daycares and programs.
- To recognize and celebrate all staff for their service and contribution to the organization.

To recruit, train, motivate and mentor staff to ensure quality services and overall wellbeing.

- Improve recruitment practices to establish consistency in skill, motivation and expectations.
- Act as a model learning organization by providing ongoing professional development opportunities and in-house training for all staff.

Report of the Board President and Executive Director

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give"
Sir Winston Churchill

We are so proud to present our 2023 AGM Report to our members, funders, community partners and sponsors who support our programs. This year we are celebrating our 25th Anniversary. It is hard to believe that 25 years ago in 1998 our Organization changed its name and became an incorporated registered charity. We have grown and changed over the years, however we believe in our Culture of Caring which extends not only to the children and families that we service but to our wonderful team of employees.

Since last year our Board of Directors successfully updated their Governance and Financial Policies. The Board completed its review of our By-Laws to ensure its obligation under the Ontario's Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA). We were also successful in recruiting one new Director filling one of our vacant positions. The Board has worked extremely hard at re-evaluating the Board's oversight and fiduciary duties and setting a plan in place for our Strategic Planning Sessions to take place in 2024.

During this past year, we have expanded several of our child care programs and we are so pleased to announce that our child care capacity is nearly at full capacity. We were successful in our application for the new child care site at Lasalle Elementary School where we will be offering the Before and After School Program in September 2023. Once the construction is complete we will be offering the Infant to Pre-school program in January 2024. This brings our total child care sites to 11 in the Sudbury/Manitoulin Area. We were also successful in being funded by the City of Greater Sudbury to offer a four-week summer program at 1960 Paris for the children in that community.

Our pedagogical journey has built collaborative relationships and strategic thinking among early childhood educators. This approach creates opportunities for continued and sustained professional learning programs through the enhancement of reflectivity and collegial work.

We have expanded our EarlyON and Family Resource programs offering both face to face and virtual programming, providing outreach to the most rural communities such as Killarney, Massey and Levack to name a few. We provide services to the most vulnerable and less fortunate families through our many parent education and food security programs. As part of the Journey Together, we have partnered with our Indigenous Early Years Program both in the City of Greater Sudbury and the Manitoulin-Sudbury District to introduce teachings and resources into our existing programs.

This year we have experienced an increase in fundraising revenues. We surpassed our fundraising goal and we are certainly thankful and grateful to our many fundraising sponsors. With the dollars raised through our Healthy Food for Kids initiative we are able to provide food security for many vulnerable children and families who need real help right now.

We would like to acknowledge and thank our Funders, our fundraising sponsors and our community partners and all of our staff who are the foundation of our Organization. A special thank you to our wonderful Board of Directors for their guidance, leadership and forward thinking. To our Leadership Team for their tenacity and patience and out of the box thinking. To our Administration Team for their hard work and perseverance. To our Child Care Supervisors, our frontline Child Care staff and our program staff, we thank you for your commitment to the children and families that we service. Without everyone's dedication and passion, we would not be where we are today.

We look forward to the next twenty-five (25) years knowing that we are creating a brighter future for the children and families in our community.

Vincent Lacroix

Vinent Lauri

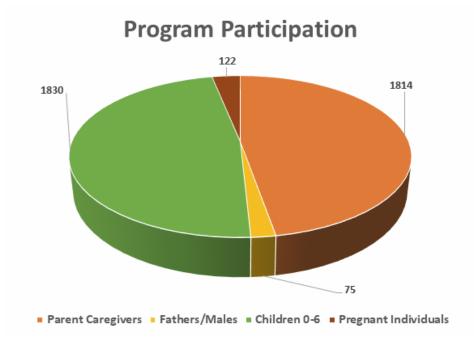
President

Susan Nicholson

Executive Director

Programs for Families

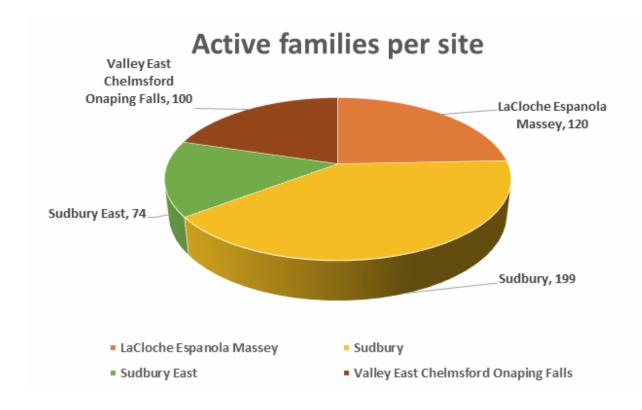
Playgroups Cooking with OCOF Cooking with Kids Steps & Stages Parent Education programs Parent Support Groups Explorer's Club Family Fun Night Dad's Night Creating Healthy Babies **Welcome Baby** Getting Healthy with OCOF Special Events Car Seat Inspections Hearing and Development Screening Transportation Child care



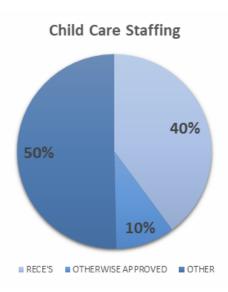


Programs for Families



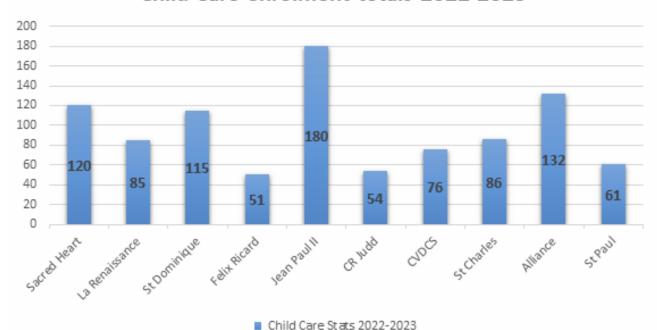


Child Care

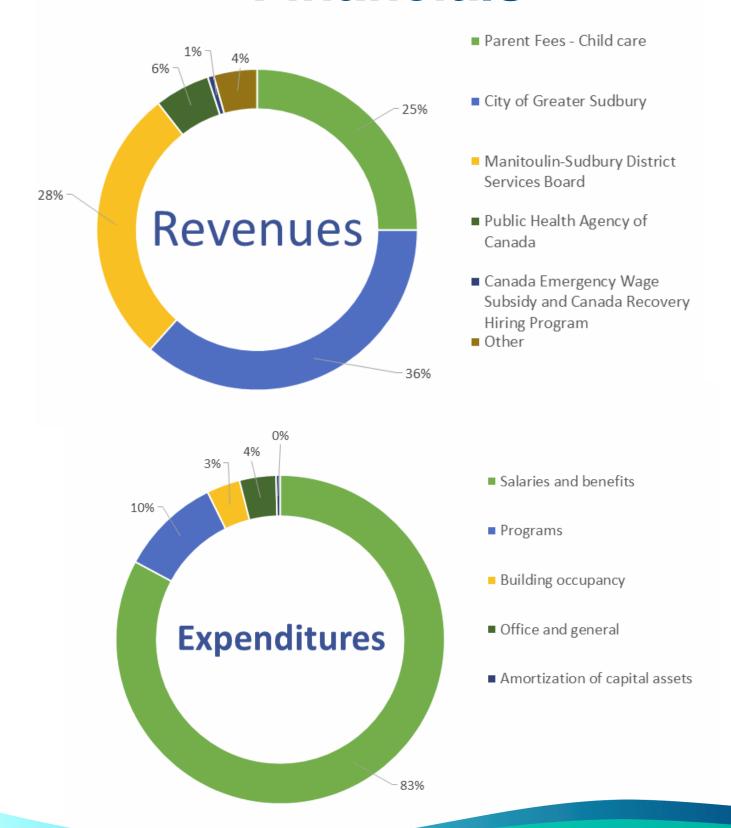




Child Care enrolment totals 2022-2023



Financials



Fundraising Highlights



Since 2016 Delta Bingo and Charitable Gaming has donated over \$143,000 towards our Healthy Food for Kids initiative



Our Calendar of Life campaign raised over \$35,000 for our Healthy Food for Kids initiative



Club Richelieu Sudbury awarded over \$48,000 to host francophone programming



Kinsmen Club of Sudbury awarded \$75,500 to our Healthy Food for Kids initiative since 2014



The Sudbury Food Bank contributed \$30,000 in support of our Food Security Program



Sudbury Charities Foundation and Golf Marathon Sudbury awarded \$43,500 to support our Food Security programs and Dad's Night

Community Engagement

Over 1,000 local children received a new toy under the tree on christmas morning thanks to the following Toy Drives:

Tous'R'Us Tree of Dreams campaign, Hart Department Stores in Chelmsford & Hanmer, the Club Montessori of Sudbury, and Element Electrical & Parsons Dermatology and Cosmetics.



Club Montessori of Sudbury donated \$5000 in support of our Christmas Toy Drive and our Healthy Food for Kids program

Over the last eight years the Winter Clothing Drive campaign powered by Cooper Equipment Rentals has outfitted over 25,000 people with over 100,000 warm winter necessities!

2022





Thanks to the continued support and commitment of our Sponsors Our Children, Our Future / Nos enfants, notre avenir has raised over \$30,000 from these two events



Staff Milestones

5 years of service



Jessica Laabs RECE St. Paul



Breana Blanchette RECE La Renaissance



Dana Allen-Lamothe Sacred Heart



Katie-Lynn Joudrey RECE Sudbury East



Marian St.Michel RECE Sacred Heart



Tasha McNichol RECE CVDCS



Rebecca D'Ambrosio RECE Sacred Heart



Angele Berthiaume RECE Jean Paul II



Christine Rose Sacred Heart



Carli Meek RECE CR Judd

10 years of service



Rae-Lynn Bertrand RECE CR Judd



Chantal St. Germain RECE St. Dominique



Gisele Kenya-Sime RECE St. Dominique



Michelle Poirier St. Charles



Chantal Mrochek Jogues Offfice



Kathleen Wynne-McAughey RECE St. Charles



Louise Whyte Jean Paul II



Angel Mayer RECE St. Dominique

15 years of service



Gabriella Neubauer RECE Sacred Heart



Brigitte Landry RECE St. Dominique



Kerrie Waltenbury RECE CVDCS



Sophie Martin RECE St. Dominique

2023

CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN

Desjardins is a cooperative financial group contributing to the development of communities. Their commitment to individuals and communities is based on kindness, mutual assistance and financial empowerment. Desjardins continues to be a valued donor of our Calendar of Life Campaign in support of our Healthy Food for Kids program. Their contributions have helped to care for and feed many infants and children during the past several years. Desjardins has also been generous in supporting our francophone workshops and educational tools for the children who attend our child care programs. We are proud to call Desjardins a partner who shares a common goal – providing our communities access to francophone programming and ensuring that vulnerable children and families in our community have access to healthy food. Desjardins is a true Community Champion.



Club Montessori of Sudbury since its inception in 1960 has donated over a million dollars to assist in educational endeavors within the community school system, has assisted in the advancement of medicine and promoted special projects for the betterment of the community. Club Montessori continues to support our special projects such as the Christmas Toy Drive. With their help vulnerable children and families were gifted with a Christmas Gift and Food Vouchers. We are very fortunate to have incredible service clubs in our community who are so very much concerned about the welfare and well-being of children and families and provide much needed support to not-for-profit organizations such as ours. Club Montessori of Sudbury are true Community Champions.



Mandeigh Ouimette owns and operates Sparkle and Pose located in Chelmsford and is an outstanding member of the community. Over the years Mandeigh has always gone over and above offering her services at no cost also donating balloon props, costumes and linking our Child care with community partners allowing us to provide a fun filled and exciting summer experience for our children. In addition, Mandeigh hosts family galas and all proceeds are directed back into the community to provide Christmas gifts for vulnerable children and families. Her commitment to helping her community is remarkable and we are truly appreciative of her support in making a difference in the lives of the children. Mandeigh is genuine and kind, a true Community Champion.

Congratulations and Thank You for helping us make a difference in the lives of children and families in our community!

GUEST SPEAKER

LOIS MAHON PRESIDENT OF L AND F MAHON CONSULTING SERVICES

Lois Mahon has over 50 years of experience in all areas of "Early Learning and Childcare" including centre-based and licensed home child care, parent-child resource centres, and special need resourcing. Lois was the founding Executive Director of Child and Community Resources in Sudbury, a multi service agency supporting children and families, including children with autism and those in the early years. Lois held this post for 20 years until her retirement in 2014. Throughout her career she has worked with Anglophone, Indigenous and Francophone communities and with educators in remote and rural areas. Lois has worked as a part time faculty in the Early Childhood Education Program at Cambrian College. When Lois retired she began her present post as President of L and F Mahon Consulting Services.

Lois enjoys leading sessions in organizational strategic planning, Board Governance and team development. As a Lego Serious Play Facilitator, much of this work is done utilizing the Lego Serious Play Modality.

Lois is highly effective in system planning, organizational management and leadership. She has proven skills in planning, problem solving and service development. She was part of the nine-member transitional Council that set the foundation for the "College of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario". The College is the first and only self-regulating body for Early Childhood Educators in North America. Lois was elected as the College Council's first president in February 2009, a position she held for 8 consecutive terms. As the founding president of the College, Lois understands the importance of forming a solid framework for excellence in leadership in order to build and run an effective and sustainable organization and system.

Lois was awarded the Andrew Fleck Children's services award for "100 Most Influential People in Child Care". She has participated in many Provincial, politically appointed activities including the "Early Year Advisory Committee" the "Ministry of Educaton's Education Partnership Table" and the "Early Learning Advisory Group". In 2017 Lois was appointed by Order in Council to the "Premiers Community Hubs Framework Advisory Group".