

FSC NATIONAL NEWS

Newsletter for members of Family Service Canada



Message from the Board

The Board, as part of our strategic work together has developed our “Why” narrative. The “How” and the “What” are common ways that organizations attempt to describe themselves. Simon Sinek reminds us that great leaders and great organizations, who inspire, have a clear sense of their “Why”. We hope that you can see yourself in this aspiration.

Why We Exist

As a national network of community-based social service agencies, we know that we are stronger together and that Canada’s diverse families are stronger because we are here. We connect the established and emerging leaders of our member agencies as they support people facing some of the most difficult issues of their lives: poverty, family violence, addiction, mental health, racism and exclusion. Because our member organizations work on the front lines, deeply embedded in the communities they serve, we see new issues and opportunities coming. We adapt. We mobilize early to address them through a people first family focused lens, building and delivering evidence-based, effective and affordable services that individuals and families trust and, more importantly, that they access.

Family Service Canada formed over 25 years ago out of a generosity of spirit among our founding member organizations. We began with a commitment to learning from each other, sharing, collaborating and supporting each other through challenges and opportunities. As we have grown, these founding principles have endured. Today, we focus on supporting the leadership journeys of our members, and with each new agency that joins our network, our ability to serve more Canadians in their moments of need, where they live, is strengthened.

Together, we are stronger. Together, we are helping to build healthy and resilient families across the country.

The File and Resource Sharing Member Site for Family Service Canada

Did you know that there is an online portal where you can exchange resources and documents with other members of Family Service Canada?

Our web portal allows member agencies to share material and information, and is available to every member of the organization. As part of your membership with FSC you will have been provided with a username and password to access this collaborative space. If you have not received your user name and password email it@familyservicecanada.ca

You can start exploring and using this resource by going to <https://familyservicecanada.org> and clicking the “Member login” link at the bottom of the page.

There is an instruction manual that will be sent to shortly, demonstrating the basic functions of the site. Again, please feel free to direct questions about the content to IT Support at it@familyservicecanada.org.

CEO Spotlight: Carlene Donnelly

Carlene Donnelly has over 25 years as an executive leader and consultant in the non-profit and social services sector. She has led an organization through significant change and growth, participated in high profile research and advocacy projects and is asked to speak internationally about her work and experience. Carlene believes that non-profit and social sectors have much more potential to scale up positive outcomes for children and families and that by adopting a business framework and applying current brain science they will be able to be achieve larger impact.



Carlene has taken an innovative approach in non-profit, by using the practical application of business to increase the impact of the organization and has yielded many significant advances. In her fifteen years as Executive Director of CUPS, Carlene has been able to transform the organization from a grassroots non-profit with a budget of \$650,000 to a credible \$14 million organization with diverse funding sources and driven by a business framework. CUPS is now a new member to FSC.

Additionally, she chaired a \$20 million dollar capital campaign to relocate the organization, within 10 months and during a recession, to accommodate their significant growth. Carlene negotiated with provincial health systems to ensure comprehensive primary and specialist care could be offered to all CUPS participants in order to ensure wraparound supports. Carlene expanded CUPS' newly opened child development center into a two-generational model and opened a prenatal to three child development center in order to align with current science and have a proven more sustainable impact for families. Under her leadership CUPS developed program plans tied to demonstrable outcomes and the data infrastructure to prove those outcomes. This move positioned CUPS favourably in being able to speak credibly about the work they do and also secure additional funding to continue to have positive impact for vulnerable families and individuals in Calgary.

Carlene was raised in Prince Edward Island and completed her BA degree of Psychology from the University of PEI. She also completed a MA of Education from the University of New Brunswick and a MBA from the University of Phoenix. She has completed her Coaching Skills Training, Prosci Change Management training and Frameworks Institute Training. Prior to becoming Executive Director in 2003, Carlene held the Director of Operations role at CUPS, rounding out her over 20-year tenure with the organization. Prior to her work with CUPS Carlene had consulting contracts within the provinces of Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia. Since 1996, Carlene has been involved with numerous advisory and steering communities working with all levels of government on developing strategies, policies & recommendations surrounding the challenge of poverty and trauma for vulnerable citizens.

Prostitution Offender Program at Family Service Regina

Commonly known as John's School, the Prostitution Offender Program in Regina has been running at Family Service Regina since 2017. When we explored taking on this program we started with an overview of the program and its overall objectives asking ourselves if it fit within our mandate and mission. The objectives of the Prostitution Offender Program are to achieve pro-social shifts in attitudes, increase levels of knowledge about sexual exploitation and human trafficking, understanding of the consequences of solicitation, and achieve diversion of arrestees from the justice system through a restorative justice process.

In Saskatchewan, the Prostitution Offender Program is an alternative measures program under the auspice of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, Policing and Community Safety and the Regional Crown Prosecutors office, exploited persons, their families and the community. Individuals charged under sections 211,212, or 213 of the Criminal Code of Canada (CCC) may be eligible to attend John School. To be eligible, individuals must accept responsibility for the offence they were charged with. Individuals will not be eligible to participate if they have a significant or recent history of criminal convictions, if they have been charged with an offence related to children less than 18 years of age; or if they have participated in a prostitution offender program, anywhere in Saskatchewan, within the past three years. In the province of Saskatchewan, the Highway Traffic Amendment Act, 2001, was introduced. It provides police with the authority to seize and impound vehicles they have reasonable grounds to believe have been used in committing certain offences related to procuring sexual services and prostitution.

The program structure follows a reintegrative shaming theory which emphasizes the importance of shame in criminal punishment. The theory holds that punishments should focus on the offender's behavior rather than characteristics of the offender. It was developed by Australian criminologist John Braithwaite at the Australian National University in 1989. Reintegrative shaming communicates disapproval within a continuum of respect for the offender; the offender is treated as a good person who has done a bad deed. This differs from stigmatization which is disrespectful shaming; the offender is treated as a bad person. Stigmatization is unforgiving - the offender is left with the stigma permanently, whereas reintegrative shaming is forgiving. Put another way, societies that are forgiving and respectful while taking crime seriously have lower crime rates; societies that degrade and humiliate criminals have higher crime rates.

The John school is facilitated by two individuals who deliver the core programming that emphasizes sexual addiction and compulsive behavior; relationships; accountability; healing and wholeness; and community resources. Additionally, there are presentations on a variety of subjects by a wide cross-section of presenters including a John School graduate, Regina Police Service, a community health nurse, former sexually exploited women and family members of sexually exploited women. John School concludes with a sharing circle; safety check; identifying community resources; and invitation from our coordinator to follow up with participants.

The program had run every two months with an average group size of 10 -12 offenders. The age range to date in the groups has been from 17 to 82, from all socio economic backgrounds, education levels and family structure. For the facilitators of the program they have reported that, for the majority of those that participate in the program, there is a visible shift in attitude and understanding of the harmful impact their actions have had those that they solicited from, their families and their community.



Kelly Banga

Program Coordinator
Interpersonal Violence Outreach Worker