



## Dufferin Wellington Special Needs Strategy for Children and Youth COMMUNIQUE #8–September 14, 2016

### Special Needs Strategy vision...

“An Ontario where children and youth with special needs get the timely and effective services they need to participate fully at home, at school, in the community, and as they prepare to achieve their goals for adulthood”

### What's New from Dufferin Wellington Special Needs Strategy Table?

Our Table has continued to meet almost every week since November, 2014. We remain committed to developing a system across our service area that is easily accessible, logical and easy to navigate for families, youth and community partners. This past summer, we were busy bringing clarity to our **Integrated Rehabilitation** proposal and planning the implementation for our **Coordinated Services Planning** proposal.

### This Communique is focused on our Coordinated Service Planning.

The goal of coordinated service planning is to improve service experiences and outcomes for children and youth with multiple and/or complex special needs and their families through the support of a Service Planning Coordinator who will connect them to the multiple, cross-sectoral services they need as early as possible, and monitor their needs and progress through a coordinated service plan. See end of document for Coordinated Service Planning principles.

### Message from Jennifer Moore, Executive Director, DCAFS:

*As the Coordinating Agency for Dufferin and Wellington, Dufferin Child and Family Services is thrilled to announce that Chris Cianfagna has been hired as our service area's Systems Navigation Lead. Her role will be to work with our partner agencies across Dufferin and Wellington to help us build our implementation plan for Coordinated Service Planning. Chris has many years of experience across the developmental, mental health and child welfare sectors.*

*We will be continuing to seek input from service users and service partners over the next few months as we test our model and the various tools proposed within it. We look forward to sharing a further Communique with you late this fall with details about the model, our implementation plan and when changes are anticipated to come into effect.*

*As part of implementation of Coordinated Service Planning, we are looking forward to providing professional development across all of our sectors as it relates to the model itself, the tools we will be using, inter-professional practice and facilitation skills. Watch your inbox for more information to come!*



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#### Coordinated Service Planning Principles

The coordinated service planning principles are expected to guide the implementation process and be considered in the work to achieve each implementation marker.

#### **1. *Child, Youth and Family-Centred Service***

Coordinated service planning is a supportive, proactive, responsive, and family-centred service. Family-centred service recognizes that each family is unique; that the family is the constant in the child's life; and that they have expertise on their child's abilities and needs. In family-centred service, the family and service providers work together to make informed decisions about the services and supports the child and family receive.

Child and youth-centred service recognizes that young people must have a voice in the planning and delivery of the services and supports they receive, wherever possible. Child and youth-centred service delivery recognizes that young people may have different perspectives and priorities than their families, and that these perspectives and priorities should be recognized and respected during the planning and delivery of their services.

#### **2. *Family and Youth Engagement***

Families and youth are actively and meaningfully engaged as partners and their input is incorporated throughout the system-level planning, delivery and evaluation cycle of coordinated service planning.

#### **3. *Inclusive Planning, Delivery and Evaluation***

The coordinated service planning process is culturally-appropriate, respects the values and meets the diverse needs of children, youth and their families, including linguistic and cultural needs.

The different linguistic and cultural communities within the service delivery area and the service providers who serve them, are actively and meaningfully engaged as partners and their input is incorporated throughout the planning, delivery and evaluation cycle of coordinated service planning.

#### **4. *Leadership and Partnership***

The Coordinating Agency and its partners champion the vision of coordinated service planning, the principles of child, youth and family-centred service and the development of flexible and innovative service delivery approaches. The Coordinating Agency and its partners have strong partnerships and collaborate in the planning, delivery and evaluation of seamless child, youth and family-centred coordinated service planning.

#### **5. *Evidence-Informed Practice and Continuous Improvement***

Best practices and evidence, including demographic, service delivery and performance data, inform system-level service planning decisions. The Coordinating Agency engages its partners in analyzing and evaluating the coordinated service planning process on an ongoing basis and, using the results, works with its partners to make service changes to better meet the needs of children, youth and their families and inform continuous quality improvement at the local level.



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Please see our website for more information at:  
[www.dufferinwellingtonspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com](http://www.dufferinwellingtonspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com)

Or, the Ministries' website at:  
<http://specialneedsstrategy.children.gov.on.ca/login/>

This website is open to anyone who wishes to view it and its many resources, but first you will need to register yourself by creating a login and password.)

### **\*Proposal Table Agencies**

- Canadian Mental Health Association Waterloo Wellington Dufferin
- Central West Community Care Access Centre
- Central West Local Health Integration Network
- Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud
- Conseil scolaire Viamonde
- County of Dufferin
- County of Wellington
- Dufferin Child and Family Services
- Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board
- ErinoakKids Centre for Treatment & Development
- Family Counselling & Support Services of Guelph Wellington
- Kerry's Place Autism Services
- KidsAbility Centre for Child Development
- Service Resolution Wellington-Dufferin
- Upper Grand District School Board
- Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network
- Waterloo-Wellington Community Care Access Centre
- Wellington Catholic District School Board
- Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health

**We invite you to keep connected by calling:**

**1 888 372 2259 ext. 1588**

**Or visiting:**

[www.dufferinwellingtonspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com](http://www.dufferinwellingtonspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com)

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