



"BELIEVING IN POTENTIAL"

inside reach

WINTER
newsletter
2020



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Down Syndrome Group Portraits

Festive portraits were taken at the Down Syndrome Group holiday party. Baby Franco is pictured with proud parents and sister above. See more on page 5...

inside reach

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Submissions are welcome. Children's writing or artwork is welcome. Please include your contact information with your submission. Submissions can be emailed to alisonm@reachchild.org with "newsletter" in the subject line, faxed to 604-946-6622 (please do not fax artwork), mailed or dropped off at the front desk. For more information about the "inside reach" newsletter please call 604-946-6622 ext.337.



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Message from the President



Happy 2020! As we enter a new year and a new decade, we are looking forward to the '20's and hope to see many new milestones and successes for our children, youth, families, staff and volunteers. A new year always brings reflection and hope for the coming year or in this case

the decade.

I am reminded of our REACH Mission to provide timely, accessible and family centered community programs and services for the optimal development of children, youth and adults, where individuals flourish and reach their potential.

- We have expanded many of our existing programs and look forward to exploring new programs as the resources allow:
- Our waitlist for programs has decreased but we are always striving for quicker assess
- We continue to serve the youngest members of our community with the hope of expanding our programs and services to include more youth and young adults
- we have been serving the community of Delta and parts of Surrey but see the need to expand beyond
- we have valued and appreciated the financial support of many individuals, community groups and businesses and hope to see this continued support

I am reminded of the quote by Colin Powell, "A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it

takes sweat, determination and hard work. ... and I believe we have these qualities to see our hopes and dreams come true."

As we look forward, we want to provide our children and youth with a secure future. One of our Board Members, Carmel Tang, has offered information workshops on The Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP) which is a savings plan designated to help people with disabilities and their families save money for their long-term financial security. The government provides grants to supplement your own contribution. This is a program that can start with a \$25.00 RDSP contribution. Please check with your financial institution to begin the process.

In the Fall, many of us enjoyed a "tasty" evening at Tasty Bistro in North Delta as they continue to support REACH. Their food is amazing. We can look forward to the Four Winds Cheers for Children happening again at the Harris Barn on February 8th. It also great food, music and dancing!

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank everyone for all their contributions to Reach in so many ways, financially, volunteering, working with youngsters or just providing a smile to another member of our community.

On behalf of the REACH Society Board of Directors,

Phyllis With, President

2019/2020 Board of Directors

Reach Child and Youth Development Society :

Phyllis With, President; Ryan Thomas, Treasurer; Marcia McCafferty, Secretary; Lynn Haley, Director; Shirley-Ann Reid, Director; Karen Ostrom, Director; Carmel Tang, Director; Stuart Bowyer, Director; Angela Keulen, Director; Lois Wilkinson, Director

Reach Child and Youth Charitable Foundation:

Denis Horgan, Chair; Katherine Bamford, Vice Chair; Ryan Thomas, Treasurer; Tom Siba, Director; Agnes Douglas, Director; Valerie Bartlett, Director; Jeff Scott, Director; Somi Benning, Director; Laura Dixon, Director, Sharon Schoeffel, Director; Inder Saini, Director



Like, follow, look and watch. There are lots of ways to connect to Reach. Visit us at www.reachdevelopment.org to link to all of our social media.

3rd Annual A Taste of Reach

DELTA, BC (Dec.03, 2019) –

A Taste of Reach is one of Reach Child and Youth Development Society's (REACH) most successful fundraisers. Made possible by the Dilawri Group and Tasty Indian Bistro, this evening of mingling featured fine South Asian cuisine paired with wine and beer tasting. A REACH parent shared her experience with the help her son received from REACH services for children with developmental disabilities and delays. Having a speaker with first-hand experience informs and helps reduce concerns of stigma regarding seeking assistance for guests who may have a child with extra needs in their family.

The 2019 event held at Tasty Indian Bistro on December 3rd, 2019, raised \$61,187. Proceeds will support Delta programs as well as facilities at REACH that all serve children with extra needs and their families. Development Manager Kristin Bibbs stated that "REACH is very grateful to everyone from our local communities who came together in celebration and support of helping children reach their potential." In particular, partial funds will make a new Surrey Centre for Autism and Child Development possible to service increased demand in North Delta and Surrey areas. "Our proposed new centre will help vulnerable children to reach their potential, strengthen families and complement existing community services" said REACH Executive Director Renie D'Aquila.

Visit [REACH Facebook page](#) to view more photos.



Crowd at Tasty Indian Bistro



Emcee Marco Ianuzzi



Speaker Sonali Menezes-Sequeira



Guests arriving



Guests arriving



Delta Mayor Harvey buying raffle tickets

Surrey Autism Awareness Event



SURREY CENTRE FOR AUTISM & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Building for Children Together Campaign

On April 22, 2020 REACH will be holding an information evening at the Civic Hotel in Surrey from 5-8pm. We will have autism experts and resources available to Surrey residents as well as launching our new Building for Children Campaign. REACH plans to build a Surrey Centre for Autism and Child Development in Surrey to complement existing services and provide more help to families in the area. Stay tuned for more details on the REACH website.

We have information on the new Surrey Building for Children Together Campaign brochure and website page. Visit www.reachchild.org/surrey or request a printed brochure by calling 604-946.6622 ext. 0 or emailing info@reachchild.org



REACH friends at the event



Just Cakes delicious desserts to follow the amazing Tasty Indian Bistro appetizers and main courses. All photos taken by our dedicated photographer Bob Roche.

Music Therapy Workshops

Music therapy is using music as a tool to work on non-musical goals. It can improve interaction, verbal and non-verbal skills and improve motivational development for children on the autism spectrum. Often, music can be the only way to connect and communicate in a way where individuals with disabilities, feel equal in the interaction.

Music is processed in a different area of the brain than speech and language and it sends a clearer signal that is more easily recognized. This is very powerful for individuals with processing problems. Music therapy harnesses this power and integrates



other skill building with music. For example, a drumming activity also teaches self-regulation and sensory integration and vocalizing to musical sounds improves speech.

This photo was taken in the Music Therapy Workshop held at REACH Centre in Ladner in early January. Our music workshops are made possible by a partnership between Note by Note Music Therapy and REACH.

If this sounds like something your child could benefit from - MUSIC GROUPS ARE RUNNING IN NORTH & SOUTH DELTA NOW!! Contact Katie Scozzavava to join in at 604.946.6622 ext 381 or katies@reachchild.org.

Self Care

During the holidays, parents often find themselves making sure everything is place for family gatherings in hopes that everyone has an enjoyable time together. As we get back into the swing of things and our daily routines with our family, it can be a good time for us to sit back and take care of ourselves... even if it's just for 15 minutes a day. A moment for us to slow down our pace, to breathe and reset. As Keltly Mental Health puts it, "by prioritizing our own mental health and checking to monitor our needs, we make room for peace and happiness in our lives"



Psychology Today suggests some great ways to get started:

- Turn on uplifting music
- Make yourself a nice drink like chamomile tea, hot chocolate or even a smoothie!
- Color a picture in an adult coloring book or color with your kids!
- Go for a walk
- Plan a special date with your child or your loved one

In this new decade, may you find happiness, joy and love in the simple things of life.



SANTA visits REACH Preschool

Preschool South's Christmas Party was held in the last week of class before the holidays. Children performed songs for parents as well as for Santa who magically appeared during the festivities.

REACH Christmas Hampers

REACH Positive Connections team spear-headed an initiative to adopt two families who had both lost dads in 2019 instead of buying each other gifts. This desire to help struggling families at Christmas time continued as funds were used to support 5 families with gift cards from Save-On and Walmart with food and gifts from the REACH emergency fund approved by REACH Board Directors.



received a mountain of food, including all of the fixings for a large Christmas Breakfast and Dinner and baking, as well as a large quantity of non-perishables good to last well beyond the holidays. Each child is also given \$200 worth of gifts that are purchased from their own wish lists.

Lastly, Lehigh Cement donated cartons of non-perishable goods that staff took to families who could use the extras over the holidays. The spirit of giving was awesome to behold!

Development Manager Kristin Bibbs increased the number of REACH families supported by Kennedy's Pub Christmas Hampers to 5 this year. Each family

Canucks for families!



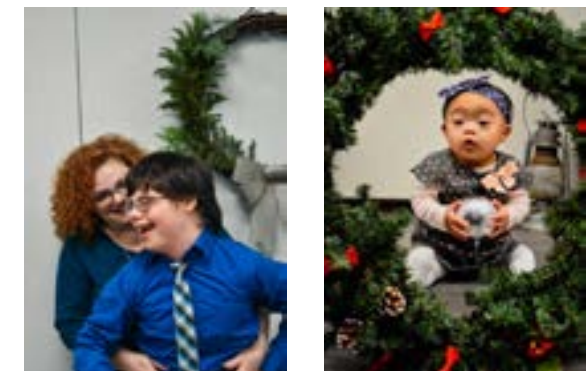
Meet & Greet with Jay Beagle

Canucks Game Meet & Greets – The Vancouver Canucks gave 6 of our families the opportunity to attend a Vancouver Canucks game followed by a meet & greet with one of the players!! As you can see, the grins on these children could not be any bigger!



Meet & Greet with Elias Pettersson

REACH Down Syndrome Group Holiday Portraits



Photographer Marissa Bourne took these heartfelt photos and we are honoured to share them with you. Thank you Marissa!

REACH Family Satisfaction Survey 2020

Family Satisfaction Surveys are extremely important to REACH. They tell us how each program is doing and it's so important that we hear from you. Surveys were sent out mid-January and are due back January 31. If you prefer a printed version, they are available at front desk. Call 604-946.6622 ext. 0. Check out the statistics from last year and lend your voice to this year's!

Environmental Focus

Karen Field, REACH PBS Consultant



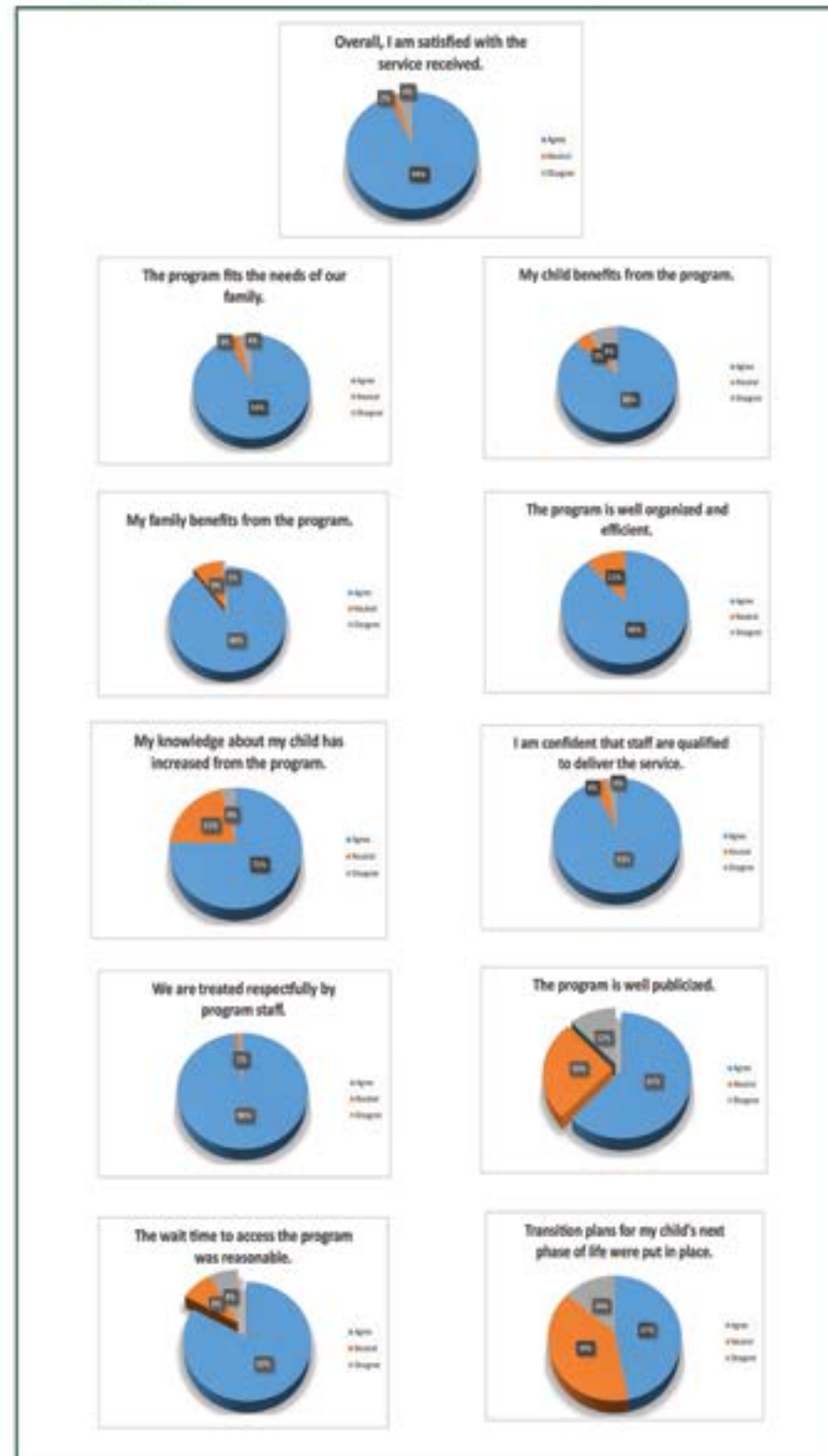
Do you have old glasses that you no longer use and are taking up space in a drawer in your home?

You may want to consider donating them to Third World Eye Care Society, a Canadian Charity since 1995 located in Vancouver. They collect your used eyeglasses and distribute these eyeglasses in conjunction with eye exams given by properly trained individuals. The distribution of eyeglasses is in developing countries where, because of poverty or lack of availability of eye care services, individuals are unable to obtain eyeglasses and primary eye care. They provide glasses for both adults and children. What a lovely way to reduce waste and give someone the gift of sight.

For further information, go to <https://twecs.weebly.com>



Family Satisfaction Survey Results 2019



Orange Shirt Day

Orange Shirt Day (September 30th) is a day when we honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to residential schools in Canada and learn more about the history of those schools



REACH staff display their support

National Bereavement Day

Tuesday, November 19, 2019 marked the third National Bereavement Day in Canada. This is a day for all of us to reflect on the legacies of those who have died, and the connections and relationships that continue to shape our lives.



REACH staff display support in Camp Kerry shirts. Camp Kerry is a non-profit organization that supports bereaved families.

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement at REACH



Here is REACH's official First Nations Acknowledgement statement - "We acknowledge that we are (meeting/working/learning) here today on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Musqueam, Tsawwassen First Nations and Hul'qumi'num speaking peoples, who have been stewards of this land since time immemorial."

Fundraising and Awareness Initiatives...

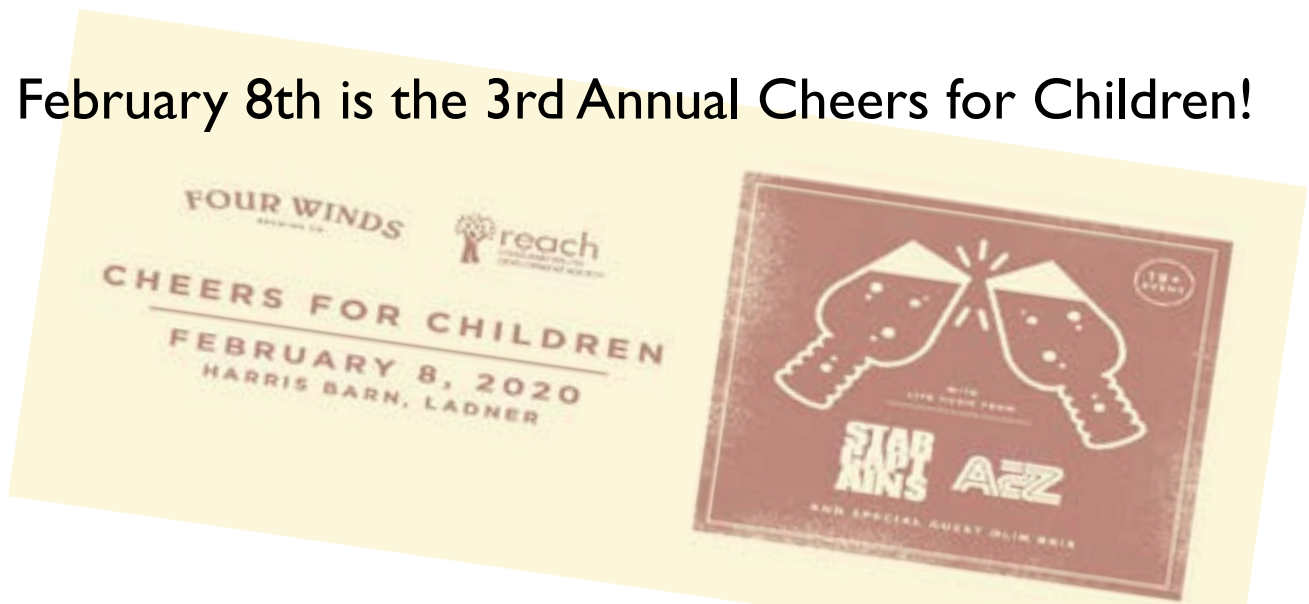


RED FM is supporting REACH community messaging by having Dr. Miriam Elfert speak about autism and treatment to raise awareness of needs and speak about REACH's new Surrey building. Monisha Jassi, REACH Behaviour Consultant, will also participate and translate REACH messaging into Punjabi as needed. The interview and discussion will take place on March 18th during the prime time show the Harjinder Thind Show from 9:24 to 10:25 am.



Boston Pizza at Tsawwassen Mills has a special Valentines Day project going on! Sales of Kids Cards, paper hearts and \$1 from every heart shaped dessert will be donated to kids at REACH. Boston Pizza Tsawwassen partnered with REACH to provide hors d'oeuvres at Mingler at the Mills last year and after learning more about what we do at REACH, owner Darin wanted to send more support our way - thank you!

February 8th is the 3rd Annual Cheers for Children!



Join us for an evening of great music and beer for an amazing cause. On February 8th, 2020 Four Winds Brewing Co. will be holding our annual fundraiser for the Reach Child and Youth Development Society at Harris Barn in Ladner featuring music from Olin Brix, A2Z, and Star Captains. Along with a great selection of Four Winds beers, we will be featuring brews from our friends at Luppolo Brewing Company, Strange Fellows Brewing, and House of Funk Brewing Co. (more breweries to be announced shortly) as well as a cider from Greenhill Cider.

Cheers for Children also boasts a 50/50 draw and a series of prize draws with the grand prize being a two-night stay at the The Georgian Court Hotel with tickets to the Feb 22nd Vancouver Canucks game vs. the Boston Bruins (provided by Inbox15b Co-working space in Tsawwassen, BC). The value of this prize pack is over \$1000! We will also be giving away a bunch of other stuff including a Four Winds Keg with a party pump rental, FW merchandise and other goodies from some generous local companies. Age 19+ event. Visit [EVENTBRITE](https://www.eventbrite.com) to purchase tickets.

Preschool North

ਪਸੰ-ਆਹਾਰਤਿ, ਲਸੀਸੁਦਾ ਪੁਰੀਸਕੁਲ=

- ਬਾਲ ਵਕਿਸ ਮਾਹਰ
- 4 ਘੰਟੇ ਦਿਨ ਦਾ ਵਕਿਲਪ
- ਸਾਰੇ ਅਧਿਆਪਕ ECE ਪੁਰਮਾਟਰ ਹਨ
- ਅਸੀਂ ਸੰਭਾਵਿਤ ਤੌਰ ਤੇ ਵਕਿਵਾਸ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਾਂ!

Play based licensed preschool:

- Child Development Experts
- 4 hour day option
- All teachers are ECE Certified
- We Believe in potential

Preschool Open Houses and Registration

REACH preschools are in process of planning for another year! Open houses for Preschool North and South were held January 22 and 23. Registration packages are available at Preschool North and South for pick up now.

Community registration begins on Saturday, February 22. Registrations will be taken in person that morning from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. After February 22 registration will be ongoing and can be done in person or by mail.

Check our new sandwich board signs outside both preschools for the latest information. The visual shown is our new bi-lingual sign for the North Delta Preschool.

Visit our website for upcoming events and workshops:
www.reachchild.org/events-workshops