



inside reach

FALL
newsletter
2021



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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



Fall really seems to be the start of the new year. School begins, children's activities begin and we start looking towards new goals and achievements for the calendar year. REACH sets its goals and strategic plans and reviews them on a regular basis.

We also take into consideration new directions and trends in the field of delivering services to children with a variety of needs.

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) has just released a new framework to better support children and youth with support needs (CYSN) and their families. Research was done in 19 communities and included reports to the Ministry as well as academic research. CYSN has developed a framework and concluded that:

- More services are needed
- Families with resources have an easier time accessing services
- Services that are culturally responsive and trauma-informed are needed
- Family support is desired and beneficial
- Families regard a one-stop, hub infra structure as ideal

From: CYSN Service Framework Development.
Summary of Engagement and Research Findings
2021

REACH is already supporting our families with many of their themes of Accessibility, Eligibility, Equity, Cultural Responsiveness, Inclusion and Family Support. Once again, I feel so proud to be part of an organization that is so cognizant of the needs and supports of our children and youth.

Our Annual General meeting was held virtually on September 19th and 93 staff, friends and families were able to join us on Zoom. Our Board elections were part of the evening, and we have full slates. We welcomed Claire Hatcher to our Society Board. Our Board members bring a great deal of knowledge, experience to the board and understand the many challenges of our families face daily. I am so pleased they are continuing in this volunteer position.

Our REACH Gala was turned into an "Ungala" this year due to COVID. With the support of donated sponsorships and the auction proceeds we were able to raise \$60,000. We are so thankful for everyone's continued support. The funds we raise help support programs and allow us to include more children with shorter wait times. The Kingfisher Oceanfront Resort & Spa Getaway and 50/50 raffle proceeds contributed \$4800 to the total!

On behalf of the REACH Society Board of Directors,

Phyllis With, President

2021/2022 Board of Directors

Reach Child and Youth Development Society :

Phyllis With, President; Angela Keulen, Vice president; Ryan Thomas, Treasurer; Marcia McCafferty, Secretary; Shirley-Ann Reid, Director; Karen Ostrom, Director; Carmel Tang, Director; Stuart Bowyer, Director; Lois Wilkinson, Director; Brent Graham, Director; Pindi Mann, Director; Claire Hatcher, Director

Reach Child and Youth Charitable Foundation:

Denis Horgan, Chair; Katherine Bamford, Vice Chair; Ryan Thomas, Treasurer; Valerie Bartlett, Director; Somi Benning, Director; Laura Dixon, Director, Sharon Schoeffel, Director; Jit Sangha, 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.

Reach for the Stars Ungala 2021



Ocean Trailer's Mack Keay picks up a load of prizes.

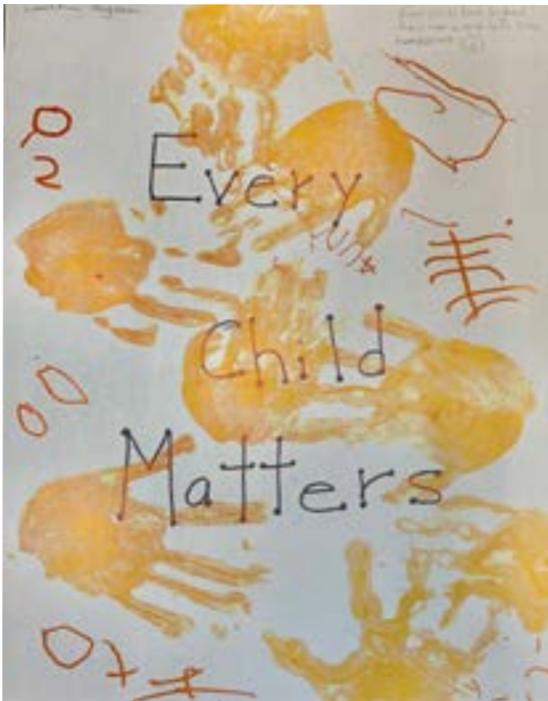
Reach Child and Youth Development Society's Ungala 2021 fundraising virtual auction raised an incredible \$56,100 for children with developmental needs in Delta, Surrey and Langley.

The auction ran from Oct. 2 to 18 and the generous auction prizes were donated by local businesses and individuals in the community. Prizes included travel experiences, epicurean adventures, gift baskets, golf, spa treatments and assorted gift cards. Successful bidders began picking their winnings from the Reach Child Development Centre in Ladner on Oct. 19, 2021.

When the in-person Reach for the Stars gala was postponed due to COVID-19, presenting sponsors Ocean Trailer and Vancouver Fraser Port Authority; gold sponsors Beedie and Westshore Terminals; bronze sponsors Tsawwassen Shuttle, BA Blacktop and Ceres Terminals Canada generously converted their sponsorships to donations to support the Ungala 2021 fundraiser.

"REACH donors, guests and sponsors rallied around us as we pivoted from an in-person event to a virtual auction due to the pandemic and the amazing success of the auction clearly reflects the tremendous generosity of spirit that resides within the communities we serve," said Kristin Bibbs, REACH Development Manager. "The new gala date is June 4, 2022, and we very much look forward to seeing everyone in person then."

National Truth and Reconciliation Day



We marked the first National Truth and Reconciliation day on September 30th. Preschool children wore orange in memory of indigenous children taken to residential schools. In addition, they added their handprints and signed their names on a poster reminding us all that Every Child Matters.



REACH Holiday Appeal 2021!



Speech therapy sessions identify, assess and support issues related to communication development in children. REACH Speech Language Pathologist Gina Maslin says “children benefit enormously from the iPad device” and this year REACH is fundraising for hours of speech therapy and the iPads that are such successful tools within the sessions.

In REACH Gift of Speech 2021, you will meet Nicole, who started REACH speech therapy sessions at 3 years old with no verbal language. As REACH SLP Gina Maslin relates, when she graduated from the under 6 program, she was communicating verbally using words and short phrases and was using the iPad to learn to use longer sentences. Nicole is now in the over 6 program and continues to make progress with her language, academic and self-help skills.

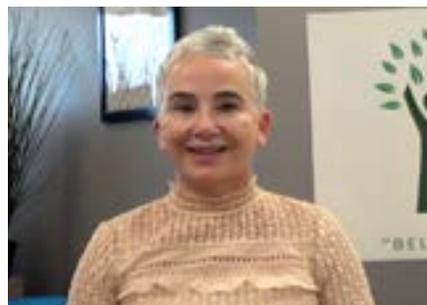
Visit [Gift of Speech campaign page](#) to see our videos!

Speech therapy sessions assess and support issues related to communication development in children. Areas of development include: production and sequencing of speech sounds, learning words and putting them together to produce phrases and sentences, understanding questions and following directions, social communication skills, fluency or stuttering, voice disorders, hearing loss, and, alternative and augmentative communications needs.

Many children have speech deficits that can limit their future and it is critical to provide support as early as possible. Reach Child and Youth Development Society provides speech therapy to children with complex development needs. REACH also uses augmentative tools like iPads that allow children communicate by pressing a button.

As part of their community outreach, the Warner Bros. Superman & Lois cast who film in Ladner, BC joined with us to support the campaign with a donation of 120 hours of speech therapy! In addition, cast member Erik Valdez who plays Kyle Cushing, recorded a personal message to kick off this year’s Gift of Speech Campaign. We are grateful for their support and ask that you consider joining Superman & Lois in giving the gift of speech to a family this holiday season. Your gift of \$50 allows one child to receive a speech therapy session – and 10 sessions are enough to make a meaningful difference to a family.

Envision Financial, a division of First West Credit Union, stepped up to match \$5,000 in funds to support 10 children! We are thrilled to report \$22,000 in donations raised at time of printing!! Sending a big thank you to both these community partners and all our caring donors who are making this fundraiser so successful. To learn more and to donate, visit www.reachchild.org, and click the Gift of Speech 2021 banner on our home page.



Gina Maslin, REACH SLP

Fall Celebrations!



As well as Diwali (front cover), Thanksgiving and Halloween were celebrated by North and South Delta preschools! Visits to the pumpkin patch and dress up parades made October special and here are some highlights.



Safe Winter Activities

It's hard to believe that winter is just around the corner, sometimes it feels like 2021 barely started! Are you looking for some fun things to do with your friends and family of all ages? Here are some ideas that can be safe to do during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

1. Go for a hike! Get the family and your dog (if applicable) and check out these local trails: Boundary Bay Regional Park. Brunswick Point. Burgs Bog Delta Nature Reserve. Deas Island Regional Park. Reifel Bird Sanctuary (one of my favourites, bring bird seed to feed the unique birds!)
2. Complete a puzzle.
Puzzles are a great family/team building exercise. Thrift stores are a great place to look for puzzles! Check out these stores:
Delta Hospital Auxillary Thrift Shop. Talize Thrift Store. The Salvation Army Thrift Store
3. Bake a new recipe!
Find a new holiday recipe and bake it together. It's a great way to teach new skills, reinforce math skills and start a family tradition.
4. Feed the birds!
While plants sit dormant in winter, birds are still active, providing a great opportunity to aid our feathered friends. Kids can have fun making a simple birdfeeder!
Collect pinecones out in a nearby park. Spread peanut butter (if there are no allergies) on the pine cone. Sprinkle bird feed on the pinecone (can be found at Dollarama). Tie a string and hang on your tree!
5. Camping in the living room!
- We can all use a change of scenery! Why not turn your living room into a bedroom and have a family camp out! Create tents with sheets draped over furniture. Make sure to bring some books and read under the tents with flashlights!

FINDS is gearing up for 2022!

FINDS Children's Exchange thrift store will be accepting donations starting January 2022, with the store planned to open 3 days per week in March, providing COVID-19 restrictions allow.

FINDS welcomes gently used donations of children's clothing, books, toys and baby supplies! We offer a wide variety of gently used and well organized items to our community.

Please drop donations off at our Ladner location: 5050 47 Ave., inside the Lois E. Jackson Kinsmen Child Development Centre between 9am and 4 pm Monday to Friday.



Kristin Bibbs, Christine Grange

Southlands Toy Drive

On November 20th, Century Group Southlands hosted a Christmas at Southlands event where 800 registrants helped light an enormous Christmas tree and enjoyed caroling, festive crafts and community. A toy drive for Reach Child and Youth Development Society was part of the event. Christine Grange gathered 100 toys for REACH children at the event. Development Manager Kristin Bibbs picked up the toys from Christine at the Southlands Grange Building December 2nd.



Manisha Kaila, Renie D'Aquila

Coast Capital

Sending a big thank you to Coast Capital Credit Union in Tsawwassen for their donation! Manisha Kaila, Assistant Manager, Member Services, presented a \$1500 cheque to REACH Executive Director Renie D'Aquila on November 26, 2021 to support our programs and services.

Fundraiser Donations!

So appreciative of all those who participated in the Kingfisher Resort and Spa and 50/50 raffles! We raised \$4,800!! Raffle winners were Peter Edwards and Naimh Plaxton.

reach raffles | Kingfisher Resort & Spa
until Dec. 02, 2021 50/50



Donation Update: REACH CONNEX program

Camille Netherton, REACH CONNEX Program Manager

In September 2021, REACH was able to allocate donated funds to launch our new Family Connections Program. Currently this program has one consultant working one day per week. We often get call and emails at Reach requesting service for children and youth who may not otherwise fit criteria for our funded programs, this is where the Family Connections Program is filling that gap. Since September 2021, this program has already served 13 families.

REACH Family Connections provides service to families who have children 3 through 19 and have concerns with development, challenges with behaviour or who are struggling to find resources in their community.

In conjunction with families, Family Connection Consultants utilize the strengths of the child and the family to work on the families' priorities to improve quality of life. Consultants may help a family through the diagnostic process, refer to other services in the community or offer direct, attachment focused assistance to build parent capacity or, if warranted, trauma informed behavioural support.

As Consultants we respect where you are in your parenting journey and aim to help you move forward towards your objectives. We know families are the expert on their child and we work together, one on one with parents, to determine not only what strategies will work best in their family but also to prioritize goals and plans.



Preference will be given to families whose children do not have a diagnosis or who do, but have no access to funding.

The REACH Family Connections Program is a free, family-centred service, funded through fundraised dollars. REACH Family Connections serves families in the Surrey, Delta and Langley communities.
"

Environmental Corner

Karen Field, REACH PBS Consultant



We understand that glitter can add a special festive touch. However, did you know that most glitter is made from plastic? Very tiny, can't-recycle pieces of plastic. Don't forget that it can be part of greeting cards, wrapping paper and other packaging you receive during the holidays. This causes contamination with these items — a mixture of material — so they aren't accepted for recycling. Aim to reduce your use of anything glitter-adjacent to ensure you can recycle more.

New Hearts



Renie D'Aquila, Kristin Bibbs

We have added two new hearts to our recognition wall. Dave McMillan, prior president of the Tsawwassen-Ladner Kinsmen Club, was instrumental in helping the REACH Ladner Children's Centre become a reality! Dave's heart to our wall commemorates his contribution as he has sadly passed away and is missed by us all. We do look forward to seeing Dave's wife Deanne at REACH events where she has often volunteered!

Our second heart is in honour of Tom Siba, who has served on REACH Boards of Directors since 2012. He is retired from his treasurer roles on both the Society and Foundation Boards and we honour all his industry on REACH's behalf delivered with a gentle demeanour and dry sense of humour.

Holiday Cheer!

REACH staff got together for holiday festivities at the beginning of December and Christmas spirit was visible! Linda Wong, Rae-Anne Schneider and Brittany Bentley made outstanding hats for the event and we're delighted to share them with you.



Linda Wong, Rae-Anne Schneider, Brittany Bentley

Community Wellbeing - Feelings First, Poverty Reduction

We ran Child Health BC's Feelings First campaign from May to August this year in order to promote the Social Emotional Development that starts in infancy. It was intended to increase social competence and emotional security in children 0-6. It's a very important time for development and caregivers and parents reported a 94% increase in knowledge and confidence because of the Feelings First simple messages like "Be present, not perfect." Learn more at <https://www.feelingsfirst.ca/>

Calling residents of Delta, BC! There is a Community Well-being survey from City of Delta at <https://letstalk.delta.ca/povertyreduction> REACH has paper copies available if needed.



Take the

Community Well-being

Survey

AND HAVE YOUR SAY!

The City of Delta is developing a Poverty Reduction Action Plan and wants to understand the unique needs and struggles of Delta residents to better support everyone to **THRIVE!**

COMPLETE THE SURVEY:

- Use the link or scan the QR code to take the survey online

