



Vanier Children's Services Newsletter

November 2013



Greetings to Friends of Vanier Children's Services!

This year, Vanier Children's Services helped over 1,000 children with mental health and behavioural challenges!

1 in 5 kids in Ontario struggles with their mental health – you probably know one.

Vanier has had a busy Fall Season, welcoming many new children into our community programs, intensive and residential services and day treatment classrooms. We are dedicated to providing life-changing mental health services

sooner, and with a focus on achieving strong outcomes. We have a commitment to improving service access and determining appropriate therapeutic supports for children and their families.

Mental health problems can be recognized and treated.

"Our journey with Vanier Children's Services began because our son was having great difficulty going to school, was having horrible outbursts of anger and was just a very unhappy little boy. Our family was broken.

learned so many skills on how to cope with and deal with our son. We learned how to heal our family and how to become a family again.

We started family therapy and, at first, I thought this was not going to work. Boy was I ever wrong! My husband and I

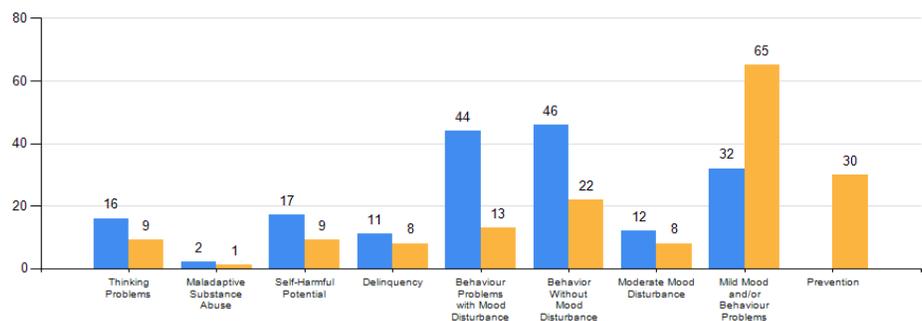
Without Vanier's help, I don't know what would have happened to us. We are very thankful for everything Vanier Children's Services did for us."

Research has shown that early intervention is critical to providing a hopeful and healthy future for kids struggling with their mental health.



871 Trafalgar Street
London, ON N5Z 1E6
P 519.433.3101
F 519.433.1302
www.vanier.com

24 hour Crisis Line
519.433.0334



OUTCOMES
Vanier "Report Card" 2012-13

Vanier Children's Services: A Teaching & Learning Environment.



Vision Statement

Together we will create a caring, emotionally healthy and supportive community where all children, including the most vulnerable, reach their full potential to lead safe, productive and independent lives.

Mission Statement

Vanier helps children to reach their full potential by working with the child and family's unique strengths, needs and culture to prevent or reduce serious emotional problems.

Vanier can help. Call us today.

Vanier is here to help you and your child. We focus on children and youth from birth to 14. Programs and services are flexible to meet the needs of each family.

We welcomed another cohort of students and interns to the agency, in September. Vanier continues to develop its reputation as a "learning organization" by providing multiple training opportunities for newcomers to the field of children's mental health. Our "**Focused Family Therapy & Clinical Training Program**" provides both hands-on experience and in-depth learning for up to 13 professional interns and university students in counselling disciplines. This program now receives funding from The United Way of London-Middlesex, supporting the program coordinator position held by Ms. Terri Lane M.S.W., R.S.W. The program participants, in turn, provide short term family counselling to over 125 community families per year! The positive outcomes

achieved with children having mental health challenges and their families are amazing!

An ongoing partnership with Fanshawe College, specifically the Child & Youth Worker program, places many CYW students into our programs to gain experiential learning while completing their coursework. Vanier staff willingly volunteer to supervise the students at our site. Their enthusiasm and energy permeates throughout the agency during their time with us.

In contributing to the future of an up and coming professional, Vanier builds sector capacity by helping them to develop Children's Mental Health treatment expertise.

The Impact of Your Gift – every dollar counts!

As someone who has donated to Vanier in the past, I hope that you will want to continue to support our community's children living with mental health challenges. Your investment goes a long way to providing hope, supporting healthy parenting, and opening new doors for kids who may not have experienced much success in school, at home or in their neighbourhoods. You are an invaluable part of the solution when your donation supports a child.

Become a new "Friend of Vanier." If you are searching for a meaningful connection to a worthy cause, choose Vanier Children's Services. Your contribution will make a big difference in the life of a kid – it helps in the creation of pathways to making and keeping friends, in experiencing safety and stability, and instilling hope in their future.



If you wish to make a donation to Vanier through Canada Helps, please click [here](#).

HOW WILL YOUR GENEROSITY HELP CHILDREN WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES?

- **PARTICIPATION IN THEIR COMMUNITY:** Vanier provides residential treatment for children (6-12 years). We transport children in our care to community events, appointments, on camping and field trip expeditions throughout the year. Replacement of Agency Vans (3) \$140,000.00
- **ACCESS FUND:** Emergency financial assistance to help families when no other help is available. ACCESS helps to feed/clothe children, provides sport/club registrations and equipment needs, assists with transportation (Bus Ticket Fund) etc. Any Donation is appreciated!
- **VANIER GROUP SERVICES:** We offer specialized children's groups throughout the year. "Kid to Kid" – for children whose parents/family member has a mental illness; "Managing Emotions" – for children who struggle with regulating their emotions; "Children Exposed to Woman Abuse" groups; \$2,500/group (serving 8-12 children)
- **CONSTRUCTION OF OUTDOOR PICNIC & BBQ AREA:** Families and guests enjoy joining their children at meals and other Vanier activities. An outdoor picnic area will provide a lovely informal environment.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers I want to extend my appreciation to all "Friends of Vanier." Your heartfelt support allows us to serve kids and their families to the best of our abilities. You provide the evidence that "**it takes a village to raise a child**", to life.

Our Best Wishes, wishing each of you a very Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Joanne Sherin, Executive Director

