



PROVIDENCE
HEALTH • EDUCATION • THERAPY

report to
community
2019

*Providence provides
specialized programs
and services to support
the development of
young children*

our VISION

We believe that every child deserves a chance to reach for and achieve their full potential. Working with the child, family and community, Providence provides the opportunity to build foundations that will last a lifetime.

our MISSION

To enhance the health and development of children and their families.



message from the **BOARD CHAIR & PRESIDENT**

Welcome to Providence's Report to the Community for our fiscal year, September 2018 to August 2019.

The year began with our 75th anniversary Alumni Homecoming in September, inviting former students and staff back for a walk down memory lane. In October, we hosted our first-ever conference for 300 parents and caregivers of young children. With the positive feedback we received, we are planning another conference for the fall of 2020!

Full details of our 75th anniversary celebrations can be found at www.providencechildren.com/75years

Other highlights of the year include:

- increasing support for students with complex communication challenges
- increasing impact by sharing our expertise with the child care sector
- increasing energy efficiency and student/staff wellness with LED lighting project
- enhancing the well-being and resiliency of children and families

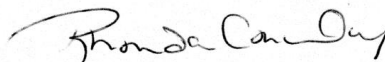
We would like to take this opportunity to recognize our funders, Alberta Education and Children's Services and to give special thanks to our dedicated staff, committed volunteers, and generous donors, who make all of this possible.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting year ahead with the completion of a new strategic plan, a brand update and several new capital and service delivery projects underway. Stay tuned!

Sincerely,



DAVID BOUCKHOUT
Board Chair



RHONDA CONWAY
President and CEO

HIGHLIGHTS

of the year

Increasing support for students with complex communication challenges

Supporting a child to communicate their basic needs is exciting and rewarding. After three years of hard work, our Assistive Technology (AT) Service is now authorized to assess students with complex communication needs to determine their eligibility to receive a speech generating communication device (SGCD) through Alberta Aids to Daily Living.

Our AT team consists of speech-language pathologists and occupational therapists who are specially trained in determining the best form of Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) by looking at a child's abilities, environment and needs. They provide consultation and support to classroom-based teams and families.

Increasing impact by sharing our expertise with the child care sector

Our Supported Child Care (SCC) Team continues to expand, sharing our expertise with early childhood educators across the city. The focus of the SCC program is to enhance caregivers' capacity to support the diverse developmental needs of all the children in their care.

Our SCC program coaches provide modelling, on-site training and professional development in key areas such as: practices that support structure and

predictability (schedules, routines and transitions), communication, engagement of children, inclusive practices, social-emotional learning, leadership and trauma-informed practices.

Our program evaluation shows that with the implementation of these strategies, children experience a more stable environment and child care professionals feel more confident in caring for children with diverse needs.

Increasing energy efficiency and student/staff wellness with LED lighting project

More than 550 fluorescent lighting fixtures were replaced with energy-efficient LED lighting in two of our facilities. The new lighting not only provides a healthier environment for our students* and staff, but will save us hundreds of thousands of dollars in electricity and maintenance expenses over the next decade.

*Children with autism, ADHD, dyslexia and learning disabilities can be particularly sensitive to the flicker in fluorescent lighting and to the type of light they produce. LED lighting does not flicker and produces an even colour spectrum without spikes, closest to natural sunlight.

Enhancing the well-being and resiliency of children and families

Embedding knowledge of brain development into practice

We began the process of incorporating years of research on brain development into how we work with children and families. A growing body of evidence demonstrates that the things we

experience in the first years of life affects how our brains are built. Healthy, positive interactions between children and caregivers create sturdy brain architecture and a strong base that can support more complex structures later in life.

Many Providence staff completed the Alberta Family Wellness Initiative's 30-hour Brain Story certification course over the year. Completion of the course will be a requirement of employment for all Providence staff going forward.

Supporting children who have experienced trauma

Building on the Brain Story science, a group of Providence staff spent the year completing the intensive Neurosequential Model in Education (NME) certification. NME training helps educators better identify and support students who may have experienced trauma. The toxic stress resulting from traumatic experiences can have long-term negative consequences on both physical and mental health.

Enhancing the caregiver-child bond

A group of staff also completed a four-day Theraplay® workshop. The Theraplay® approach helps caregivers create a safe space to purposefully build and enhance attachment, self-esteem, trust in others, and joyful engagement.

Supporting children with language delays

Fifteen Providence staff completed an intensive three-day Learning Language and Loving It™ Certification Workshop. The workshop was delivered by The Hanen Centre, a respected authority on early language intervention for children with language delays. The participants are now certified to teach the Learning Language and Loving It™ program to early childhood educators and preschool teachers, helping them build language-enriched learning environments.





*I absolutely
loved Providence.
It's helped my child
out so much, especially
in the transition to Grade
One. I have recommended
this school to many people
I've come across with a child
with special needs. It's the
best thing that's ever
happened to us.*

~A Providence Parent

by the **NUMBERS**

more than
780
students were
registered in our six
schools

10 universities and colleges from across
Canada sent practicum students to
Providence

3 Autism spectrum disorder research
studies. Providence participated in
these studies led by the University of
Calgary and Alberta Health Services

1519
hours of specialized
support for families
was provided by
our staff

more than
65
child care programs
across the city worked
with our SCC program
coaches. Over 90% of
the participants felt
they increased their
practical knowledge
and they would
incorporate that
knowledge into their
daily practice

more than
4255 HOURS
of professional development attended by
Providence staff



more than
130
children with
complex physical
needs accessed
physiotherapy
services

more than
400
students benefitted
from the use of
Augmentative
and Alternative
Communication
(AAC) resources and
tools to facilitate
their communication
development



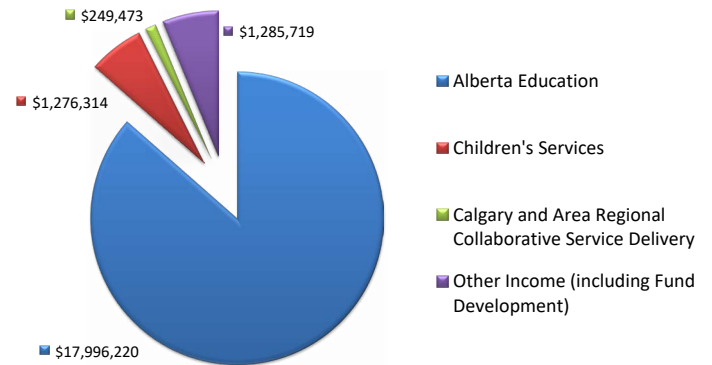
*We feel very fortunate to have had our child
at Providence. Before coming to Providence
we were at a loss for how to help our son.
We are now more confident and stronger
advocates for him! Thank you!*

~A Providence Parent

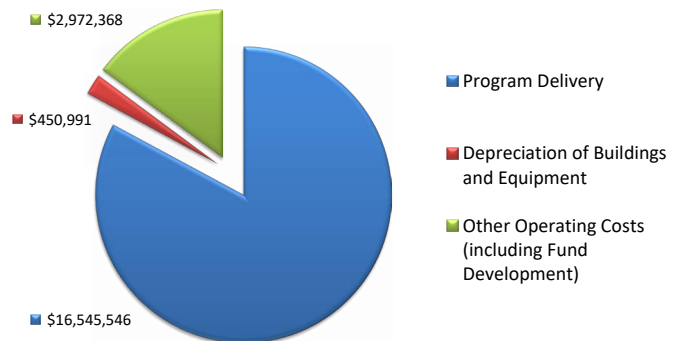


our **FINANCIALS**

Revenue



Expenses



Complete audited financial statements are available on our website at www.providencechildren.com

our **PROGRAMS**

School-based Programs

Early Intervention Ages 19 to 32 months

Preschool Ages 2.8 to 4 years

Junior Kindergarten Ages 4 to 5 years

Kindergarten Ages 5 to 6 years

Community-based Programs

Supported Child Care

Contracted Therapy Services

Regional Collaborative Service Delivery
(RCSD) partner

*Providence
changed our lives
and I will forever
be grateful!*

-A Providence Parent



our **SCHOOLS**

Calgary

Windsor Park

(Main School
and Administration)
5232 - 4th Street SW

Beddington

183 Bedford Drive NE

Falconridge

116 Falsby Way NE

Hawkwood

47 - 555 Hawkwood Blvd NW

McKenzie Towne

325 McKenzie Towne Link SE

Midnapore

104 - 14707 Bannister Road SE

An amazing environment including quality of teaching & therapies! The Providence team went above & beyond in all areas, such as advocating for services such as speech therapy in the community for continued therapy after kindergarten. I always recommend & highly praise Providence! Thank you for the three years of support & dedication, it was a blessing for our family!

~A Providence Parent



board of **DIRECTORS**

David Bouckhout – Chair
William Reeder – Vice Chair
Jeff Weidman – Secretary
Karma Roste – Treasurer
Kathy Reimer – Director
Kent Oczkowski – Director
Chris Dorland – Director
Geri Greenall – Director
Greg Kraminsky – Director
J. Lary Mosley – Director
Craig Flint – Director



For more
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www.providencechildren.com

we
ACKNOWLEDGE

Providence gratefully acknowledges
the help and support
provided in the production of this
Report to Community.

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PRINTING
Dean and Maureen McElhinney of
CBN Commercial Solutions