



PART



Using Evidence to Promote Excellence in Child Welfare

PART

Annual General Report

2016

»» Our Vision



"To promote the understanding and use of evidence-informed practice at all levels of the child welfare system to ensure the best possible services and outcomes for vulnerable children and families."



»» Our Mission

PART's mission is to increase the capacity of child welfare organizations and practitioners to utilize research to improve outcomes for children and families by:

- Identifying and packaging evidence in user-friendly formats to disseminate to child welfare practitioners and agencies;
- Promoting the use of evidence-informed practice by using a range of program elements such as PARTicles, webinars, learning events and electronic journal access;
- Creating organizational and systemic learning environments in child welfare organizations to promote critical thinking and ongoing use of evidence in practice.



»» Our Team



STAFF:

Kristen Lwin, Ph.D. Candidate, M.S.W.,
Executive Director

Auriole Fernandes, Program Coordinator & Events Planner

Julia Wedeles, M.S.W. Candidate, B.S.W., Implementation Specialist

Aaron Turpin, M.S.W., Implementation Specialist

Sarah Head, M.Sc., B.Sc., Implementation Specialist (maternity)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Gisèle Hébert	Chair
Arijana Tomicic	Vice-Chair, Eastern Zone
Daniel Moore	Treasurer, Grand River Zone
Stephen Doig	Secretary
Mary Ballantyne	OACAS Representative

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Gisèle Hébert	Chair
Arijana Tomicic	Vice-Chair Eastern Zone
Daniel Moore	Treasurer, Grand-River Zone
Stephen Doig	Secretary, Southwest Zone
Richard Lambert-Belanger	Northeast Zone
Janice Robinson	Central Zone
(Vacant)	Northern Zone
David Rivard	Local Director's Representative
Mark Kartusch	Member at Large
Mary Ballantyne	OACAS Representative



» MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

First and foremost, thank you to our PART members - we aim to support you in transparent and responsible child welfare practice and policy development. In order to support your work, this past year we have been focused on the strategic plan. I am pleased to report that the strategic plan has been completed and beginning stages of implementation have begun.

We have learned a great deal through the development of this strategic plan; evidence-informed practice and the use of research is supported throughout child welfare, but many people need support in implementing research in their daily practice. Thank you to Executive Directors and Link PARTners who took the time to discuss your challenges with us. We will work diligently over the next few years to ensure that the strategic plan is being implemented with your needs and the needs of children and families in mind.

Thank you to the Board of Directors. You have played a key role in the development of the strategic plan and I appreciate your leadership and constant focus on promoting positive outcomes for children and families through PART.

Lastly, thank you to PART staff. You have been determined in your quest to support PART members and are consistently focused on bringing research to those who support children and families in our communities. During these changing times in child welfare we need more research evidence than ever. We look forward to the innovative ways that you will bring research to the field. Thank you for your dedication to the field.

Gisèle Hébert
PART Chair



» MESSAGE FROM THE PART EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Thank you to PART members. It is your dedication to children and families that inspires our work on bringing you the evidence you need to provide the best possible services to the field.

Congratulations to the PART Board of Directors for great leadership and moving the field forward in its goal to be evidence-informed. Board of Directors have worked diligently on our strategic plan over the last year. Operationalization of the strategic plan will make PART resources more accessible to child welfare workers, supervisors, and foster parents and promote the use of research within an evidence-informed practice framework. My thanks to Gisèle in leading the Board through the strategic plan and ensuring that we are all keeping the well-being of the children and families in the forefront.

A huge thank you to all PART staff, Auriole, Julia, Aaron, and Sarah. Thank you for your dedication to evidence-informed practice and making research accessible to child welfare workers. It is because of the PART team that I look forward to this work every single day.

Kristen Lwin
Executive Director



» FINANCIAL STATEMENT – DRAFT

PRACTICE AND RESEARCH TOGETHER ASSOCIATION

Statements of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
Revenue:		
Membership	\$ 505,000	\$ 535,000
Sales of resource materials	1,640	1,906
Other	721	69,690
	\$ 507,361	\$ 606,596
Expenditures:		
Salaries & benefits	311,247	258,333
Purchased services	36,664	56,047
Guidebook	9,803	-
Training & development	33,298	12,992
Membership & subscription	12,346	12,685
Travel & meetings	3,571	2,579
Special projects	-	8,853
Office administration	38,549	31,262
	445,478	382,751
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 61,883	\$ 223,845
Net assets, beginning of year	450,563	226,718
Net assets, end of year	\$ 512,446	\$ 450,563

A complete set of draft audited financial statements, prepared by Horn Almand Chartered Accountants, is available by request.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



»» Research Evidence Use

To better understand how we can support our members, over the last year as part of the strategic plan and evidence-informed practice pilot series we surveyed child welfare workers and supervisors. We gained a better understanding of the differences between child welfare workers and supervisors who use research “a little” and those who use research “a lot”. This information will help member organizations identify potential leaders to promote and encourage the use of research in everyday practice.

»» Evidence-informed Practice Pilot Series for Individual Child Welfare Workers

The Evidence-informed Practice (EIP) pilot for individual practitioners and supervisors concluded in April. In meeting with eight supervisors and over 50 child welfare workers, we learned a great deal about the development of individual’s understanding and use of EIP in every day child welfare practice. The pilot was developed through the examination of theory and evidence from social work, adult education, business, and medical evidence-informed decision-making fields. There is a gap in the individual EIP child welfare literature; however, with the creation and evaluation of this pilot, we are contributing to the knowledge base.

»» Guide to Being Evidence-informed and using Research

Because using research in practice and being evidence informed is new in the field, we have developed several guides for child welfare workers and supervisors. These guides are to support the appropriate use of research in practice, matching research question to methodology, and implementing research within the context of individual families. These guides support critical thinking within every day decision-making in child welfare.



>> Learning Event and Guidebook

The learning event took place in the summer of 2015 and focused on Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in child welfare. The successful event included presentations on the prevalence of exposure to IPV in child welfare, the differing experiences of women involved with child welfare who have experienced abuse, engaging men, and how IPV affects children and women. We developed a corresponding guidebook that reviews the literature in each of the above areas.



Collaboration:

>> Increasing Research Capacity of Child Welfare Organizations in Ontario – University of Toronto

PART has supported Principal Investigator, Dr. Barbara Fallon, in her goal to support child welfare organizations to increase their ability to conduct and use research via a Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Connections Grant.

>> Organizational Supports to Increase Evidence Use – W.T. Grant Foundation

PART is named as a partner in a grant awarded to Principal Investigator, Dr. Crystal Collins-Camargo, and her co-investigators, Dr. Emmeline Chuang and Dr. Bowen McBeath, in their project to evaluate organizational supports to increase evidence use in child welfare organizations.

MEMBER AGENCIES & LINK PARTNERS:

ONTARIO:

1. Children's Aid Society of Algoma – Krista Budau
2. Brant Family and Children's Services – Gissele Taraba
3. Chatham-Kent Children's Services – Lori Weber & Ashley Parker
4. Dufferin Child and Family Services – Marianne Breadner; Celine Reed & Kim Evans
5. Durham Children's Aid Society – Carrie Shannon & Sharon Dorcas
6. Family and Children's Services of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington – Linda Braithwaite
7. Bruce Grey Child & Family Services – Julie Lipsett & Chad Zimmerman
8. Family and Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County – Anne Marie-Simpson & Laurie Thyssen
9. Children's Aid Society of Haldimand and Norfolk – Kim Burns & Anne-Marie Watson
10. Halton Children's Aid Society – Donna Miles
11. Catholic Children's Aid Society of Hamilton – Alexandra Mlekuz & Sabrina Palumbo
12. Children's Aid Society of Hamilton – Kristin Roe
13. Highland Shores Children's Aid – Angus Francis
14. Huron-Perth Children's Aid Society – Maxine McCaulay
15. Valoris for Children & Adults of Prescott-Russell – Madeleine Lalonde, Myriam Legault & Sylvie Duchesne
16. Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society – Jennifer Rodman & Laura Quibell
17. Family & Children's Services Niagara – Sarah Milmine & Dee Neuman
18. Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Nipissing and Parry – Erin Truswell
19. Children's Aid Society of Ottawa – André Fontaine, Carmela Savoia & Christian Hackbusch
20. Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies – Sharon Evans
21. Children's Aid Society of Oxford County – Tina Diamond
22. Peel Children's Aid Society – Helen Doulos, Danielle Ungara, Jolanta Rastenienė & Prasad Nair
23. Family and Children's Services County of Renfrew, City of Pembroke – Suzanne Elliott
24. Family & Children's Services of St. Thomas and Elgin County – Adri Hewitt
25. Children's Aid Society of the Districts of Sudbury and Manitoulin – Ginette Demers & Julie Moore
26. North Eastern Ontario Family & Children's Services – Catherine Simunovic & Tina Kerr-Hardy
27. Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto – Kate Schumaker, Tanya Morton & Domenic Gratta
28. Children's Aid Society of Toronto – Connie Cheung, Nancy Ansong-Danquah, & Michelle Egan
29. Family and Children's Services of the Waterloo Region – Jill Stoddart, Angela Perkins & Leyco Wilson



MANITOBA:

- 34. Winnipeg Child and Family Services – Alana Brownlee
- 35. General Authority of Manitoba – Patricia Cox, Daphne Penrose & Del Bruneau
- 36. Office of the Children’s Advocate – Ainsley Krone

NUNAVUT:

- 37. Government of Nunavut – Mark Arnold & Syd Parlour

BRITISH COLUMBIA:

- 38. Government of British Columbia – Jennie Ireland; Rhonda Shears & Michele Melville-Gaumont



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