

## FALL/WINTER 2016

Greetings!

As I look back over the past year, I am inspired when I think of the incredibly brave and strong children, youth and families that came through our doors. These individuals put their trust in our staff and partner agency staff to support and guide them through one of the most difficult times in their lives. Our staff and partner agency staff responded with compassion, respect and dedication and helped these children, youth and families negotiate complicated systems, while providing ongoing support and never losing sight of the best interests of the child or youth.



Karyn Kennedy  
President & CEO

With the generous support of our donors and funders we accomplished a great deal this past year. In 2016, we published a new set of primary prevention books for young children and completed a new prevention program for grade 7 and 8 youth. We refined our assessment-directed therapy program and began preparations to welcome a facility dog next spring that will accompany children to court. We have been able to increase our capacity to respond to young girls who have been victims of sex trafficking and are currently supporting 25 young girls.

We are looking to expand the reach of Boost CYAC to increase access for children and youth across the entire city and are actively exploring ways to do this. In 2017, we will continue discussions with our partner agencies and government funders to accomplish this.

As we look toward 2017, Boost CYAC has some exciting new projects ahead. In partnership with Unity and Ryerson University, we are launching *Sole Expression*, a trauma-informed dance intervention based on hip-hop for youth 12 to 17 years old. We are also partnering with Nishnawbe Aski Nation to develop and implement culturally appropriate programs for youth. Our existing training and primary prevention programs will also be made available online in 2017.

Our Board of Directors has been working hard to advance our goals and raise awareness of the work we do. Going forward, we are committed to building a nation of child protectors.

As the year draws to a close, I wish you and your family a safe, happy and healthy holiday season. Please have a look at some of our recent accomplishments and highlights from 2016.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karyn Kennedy".

President & CEO

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## I'M A GREAT LITTLE KID!

### Primary Prevention Children's Book Series

This fall, we released our new *I'm A Great Little Kid!* children's book series.

The illustrated stories are part of our school-based prevention program that introduces children to six basic themes: self-esteem, communication, making good choices, friendship, touch, and how and where to get help.



### LEARN MORE

#### GO PURPLE!

On Wednesday October 19th, Boost CYAC participated in Toronto's *Go Purple!* day in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Nine Toronto agencies joined forces to break the silence and raise awareness about preventing child abuse and neglect, highlighting that it is everyone's responsibility to report suspected child abuse.

[CTV News](#) | [InsideToronto](#) | [snapd](#)



### MORE ABOUT THE EVENT

#### 4th ANNUAL BOOST SPOOKTACULAR

Every year, children and families in Toronto "get spooky" at the Boost Spooktacular. With games, activities, entertainment and prizes, everyone had a good time! This year's party was a huge hit - even Captain Canuck and Iron Man were there!



### GALLERY

#### TO SHUT THE MOUTHS OF LIONS

Following its Spring 2016 premiere at The Firehall Theatre in Cobourg, Ontario, *To Shut The Mouths of Lions* performed for one night at Harbourfront Centre with all proceeds going to Boost CYAC.

*To Shut the Mouths of Lions* is an original play written and directed by long-time Northumberland Players member Dave Clark. The play tackles important and difficult subject matter in a compassionate and insightful way, using humour, pathos and drama in its portrayal of a family burdened by secrets and assumptions.



[snapd St. Lawrence/Distillery](#)

#### GIVING TUESDAY | #REDSANDPROJECT

November 29th was Giving Tuesday and Boost CYAC, once again brought together some of Toronto's most influential people to raise awareness for child abuse and sex trafficking in our city through a powerful #RedSandProject social media campaign.

Boost CYAC supporter, **Cheryl Hickey** also spoke out against the reality of sex trafficking in Toronto. [Watch her video](#)



## [GALLERY](#)

### HOLIDAY DRIVE

With the generous support of the community, Boost CYAC was able to provide special support to over 75 families this holiday season. Toys and gift cards were generously donated by a number of groups and individuals.



Special thanks to *Silly Goose Toys* and *Steven & Liam's Toy Drive* who ensured every child on our list received a gift.

## [FULL LIST OF DONORS](#)

### YOU ARE NOT ALONE

When a child experiences abuse, they often feel alone and afraid. At Boost Child & Youth Advocacy Centre, we make it our mission to ensure that every child feels supported and believed.

Please consider a donation so that no child feels alone.

## [DONATE NOW](#)



### SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS

By simply sharing this newsletter with 3 friends you are helping us raise awareness for our work. By liking us on [Facebook](#) and following us on [Twitter](#), your network will learn more about us. Thank you for your continued support.

*We give kids a lift when they need it the most®*



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