



# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2013/2014





## MISSION

**Boost** is committed to eliminating abuse and violence in the lives of children, youth, and their families. The centre is a registered charity and provides programs and services to children, youth, and their families in Toronto and surrounding areas.

We believe that all children and youth have a right to grow up in a safe, healthy, and nurturing environment. We are dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and violence through education and awareness, and to collaborating with our community partners to provide services to children, youth, and their families.

## CORE VALUES

### **Commitment**

We are passionate about our work, and focused on the best interests of the children and youth whom we serve. We recognize the uniqueness of each child and strive to adapt our services to be responsive and flexible to each situation.

### **Collaboration**

We work closely with our community partners to develop, deliver, and coordinate services. We are dedicated to mutual sharing of expertise and knowledge with other agencies, professionals, and the broader community.

### **Leadership**

We are committed to continuous learning to ensure our knowledge and skill levels are second to none. We are up-to-date on the latest research and developments related to the services we provide, so that we can develop and promote best practices.

### **Integrity**

By putting children's needs first, we work at building effective relationships with children, youth, and their families. By our words and actions, we demonstrate respect for children, youth, and the families whom we serve.

We give kids a lift when they need it most.®



# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This will be the last time that I have the honour of addressing the Boost community as the Chair of your organization. After many rewarding years, I have chosen to step down from the Board of Directors.

My time with Boost has been enormously gratifying. What has been most satisfying to me are the relationships that I have been able to develop with the many people that comprise the Boost community. In my time as a volunteer with Boost I have been continuously impressed with the depth of these relationships among the people associated with this organization. I am firmly of the belief that it is these relationships that have allowed us to both work through difficult times and realize great success.

The achievements of Boost over the last many years have been significant. Most recently, we have opened the doors of Toronto's first Child & Youth Advocacy Centre. This took an enormous effort from many people across many organizations and sectors of society, but in having done so, we have created an organization that will better serve children and their families.

This achievement also serves as an illustration of the very best in our collective nature. To create an organization through the cooperation and goodwill of people from different corners of our community is not easy and requires sacrifice, dedication and leadership. I am and will always be very proud of the role Boost has played in this endeavor.

Abraham Lincoln once famously stated that he had an irrepressible desire to live until he could be assured that the world was a little better for him having lived in it. As I step away from Boost, what makes me most fulfilled is that I have had the opportunity to work with a group of people who embody this high ideal. I want to extend my sincerest gratitude to all those within the Boost community for offering me this privilege.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Ruthard

# A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Writing this message always gives me the opportunity to pause and reflect back over the past year, something that is not always possible given the fast pace in which we live and work. This past year has been a remarkable one in many ways. After more than a decade of planning, we succeeded, with our community partners, in opening Toronto's first Child & Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC). The CYAC brings together skilled and dedicated professionals from police, child protection, advocacy and medical and treatment sectors to offer an innovative approach to child abuse. After months of renovations, developing service models and finalizing cooperation agreements, we opened the doors and haven't looked back. I am confident that everyone at the CYAC would say that we are working more effectively together and providing better service to children, youth and families. I am continually impressed by the compassion, dedication and knowledge that the police and child protection workers, advocates, therapists, managers and nurse practitioner demonstrate on a daily basis. I am deeply grateful to our federal and provincial governments, and the private funders who made the CYAC possible.

While the CYAC may be the most visible accomplishment over the past year, it is certainly not the only one. Boost continuously strives for excellence in all of its programs and services. We incorporated a research component into all program areas so that we can measure our effectiveness and learn more about what needs to be improved. We have developed surveys to seek feedback from those who use our services so that we can strive to meet their needs. Staff development is also an area that we are focused on, and have identified opportunities for knowledge and skill development. Through conferences, workshops and in-service training, we are supporting our staff to learn and grow.

I am constantly amazed and excited by the innovation and creativity of the staff at Boost. This past summer, we created a balcony garden where children and youth could grow plants or just enjoy being in a peaceful place. Our adolescent girls, through the Expressive Arts Therapy Group created a colourful and meaningful mandala that hangs in our playroom.

We held our 16th successful Butterfly Ball®, chaired by Vanessa Mulroney and Daniela De Gasperis, and generously supported by Rogers Communications. In the fall, we hosted the first BOO-st Spooktacular, a fun-filled family event, complete with costumes, games and dancing.

I am deeply grateful to Boost's incredible Board of Directors, talented and dedicated staff, our community partners, government funders and generous donors who make it possible for us to do what we do for the children and youth in our community. As always, I am humbled by the courage, strength and resilience of the children, youth and families that we see every day. They are the true heroes in this battle against child abuse.

Karyn Kennedy





# CHILD & YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE

In October 2013, Boost Child Abuse Prevention & Intervention, together with Toronto Police Service, Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto, Jewish Family & Child, Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, Child Development Institute, SAFE-T Program at Halton Trauma Centre and the SCAN Program at SickKids opened Toronto's first Child & Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC). The CYAC brings together all of the above professionals in one location to provide a coordinated, collaborative response to children, youth and their families when child abuse is reported. One of the unique components of the CYAC is the Child & Youth Advocacy Program. A team of Advocates provide support to children, youth and families from the moment they walk through the door until support is no longer needed.

The following is the story of one young girl and her mother who came to the CYAC.

Walking off the elevator, seven-year old Madison, and her mother Lisa, entered reception at the CYAC. They were both visibly nervous and do not know what to expect.

*"What's going to happen next? Who are we going to meet?"  
"What do I tell people? Will my daughter be okay?"*

Jenny, the Child & Youth Advocate greeted Lisa and Madison. She spent some time getting to know them and showing them around the CYAC. Madison had some time to explore the family waiting room and began to feel more settled. Taking time to explain what was going to happen, Jenny described the process to Lisa and all of the professionals roles at the CYAC. She gave Madison a police officer sticker. Jenny told Madison that she would be speaking with a police officer in a little while, and that the officer's job is to talk to kids to help make sure that they are safe.

Next, Jenny introduced Lisa and Madison to the other professionals on their CYAC team. While Madison was being interviewed, Jenny sat with Lisa and offered her support and comfort. Jenny understood how difficult this time can be, and she discussed the investigative process with Lisa, as well as potential next steps. Then it was Lisa's turn to be interviewed, and Jenny waited with Madison. Jenny checked in with Madison to see how Madison was doing. Spending time with Jenny in the playroom, Madison had a break from talking about the abuse. While in the playroom, Madison noticed the pictures that other children had drawn and said, "Wow, other kids come here too?" Jenny took the time to explain that lots of boys and girls come to the CYAC to talk about their experiences.

When both interviews were completed, Lisa and Madison were encouraged to contact Jenny with any questions they might have. Madison got to choose a handmade blanket before she left; she chose one in her favourite colour, and also picked one for her younger brother.

Two days later, Jenny followed up with Lisa to see how she and Madison were doing. There were no updates on the investigation at this time, and Jenny explained that sometimes investigations can take longer than expected. Lisa thanked Jenny and said she was grateful for the call, even if there was no news. Lisa remarked that not receiving a call would have made her feel that she had been forgotten. Lisa felt comforted and confident that her CYAC team were all working together to help her and Madison. Before saying goodbye, Jenny encouraged Lisa to call her if she had any questions.

Jenny's next call to Lisa was to tell her that the alleged offender had been arrested. Jenny explained that his conditions prevented him from having contact with her and Madison, or from coming close to their home. Jenny explained that the investigating officer would be in touch with Lisa to explain things further. Jenny briefly described the criminal court process, medical examination and other support services. Lisa consented to a referral to Boost's Assessment Directed Therapy Program and the Child Victim Witness Support Program. A follow-up medical appointment with the nurse practitioner from SickKids was scheduled for later that week.

When Madison and her mom attended the CYAC for the medical appointment, they walked off the elevator confidently. Madison ran straight to the playroom and Lisa made herself a coffee while they waited for their appointment.

*"I've been here before – I know we're safe here."  
"I know Boost can help me. We're going to get through this."*

Jenny will stay involved with a family, even when the police have finished the investigation, the child protection agency have closed the family's file, the medical examination is completed, and counselling has started. She knows that families need support and services at different times in this confusing process. Jenny will help Lisa and Madison every step of the way.

# CHILD & YOUTH ADVOCACY PROGRAM STATISTICS

Since opening in October 2013, the Child & Youth Advocacy Centre has seen unexpectedly high numbers in the first six months.

## CHILD & YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE STATISTICS

458 occurrences have been investigated.  
188 clients received service from the Child & Youth Advocacy Program.  
SCAN conducted 50 medical examinations at the CYAC and SickKids.  
95 individuals have received support from the Mental Health Clinicians.

*"Having the advocate and mental health workers makes a huge difference, the advocates explain things to families, having medical services on site so clients don't have to go all over the place, and then follow up it's so great for families."*  
~ Multidisciplinary Team Member

*"When we have case conferences, we get to hear from all the other agencies involved and we can get a better understanding of the victim and families."*  
~ Multidisciplinary Team Member

*"It is energizing when everyone is working together."*  
~ Multidisciplinary Team Member





# ASSESSMENT DIRECTED THERAPY PROGRAM

(FORMERLY THE ASSESSMENT & TREATMENT PROGRAM)

The Assessment Directed Therapy (ADT) Program offers children and youth who have experienced abuse or violence, and their non-offending caregiver(s), an opportunity to meet with a therapist to explore the impact of the trauma and to learn how to cope and to heal.

The following story is of one young girl who was helped through the program.

Ten year old Mary was referred to the ADT Program following a disclosure of sexual abuse by her biological father. When she first attended Boost, Mary presented as shy, had difficulty making eye contact, and spoke in a very soft voice. Mary completed a trauma assessment to better understand how she felt about what had happened to her, and how this traumatic event may have influenced how she saw herself, others, and the world. The comprehensive assessment was also an opportunity to understand other life events Mary experienced both successes and challenges that may have impacted her understanding of the sexual abuse. At her own pace, Mary shared that although the sexual abuse by her father was difficult, sad, frightening, and at times overwhelming to think about, it was the loss of her mother at the age of three that was at the core of her traumatic experience. Mary indicated that after losing her mother, she and her sister were brought into the child protection system, where she experienced multiple moves until the age of seven, at which point her biological father offered to parent Mary and provide her with a stable, consistent home environment.

It was with great anticipation that Mary moved in with her father, step-mother and two half-siblings. Her other sister, (not a biological child of Mary's father), remained in foster care. Mary shared her hopes that moving in with her father would fill a significant void in her life, make her feel special, of value and wanted. Unfortunately, her hopes were not fulfilled. During the assessment, Mary shared that she experienced physical abuse by her step-mother, was often neglected and sent to school without food for lunch, witnessed her father misuse alcohol, and was sexually abused by her father. Mary did not feel safe enough to disclose her experiences until she was 10 years-old. Following her disclosure, Mary moved in with her half-sister, Joy. This transition was difficult at first, as Joy had concerns about Mary's inability to ask for help when she had worries or concerns.

During the assessment, it became clear that Mary had many strengths that enabled her to cope with the traumatic events she had experienced. However, it was also apparent that Mary was experiencing many common post-traumatic stress reactions, including re-experiencing elements of the abuse through flashbacks and nightmares, hyper-vigilance,



and isolating herself from others. It was also evident that grieving the loss of her mother continued to be a central theme for Mary. Following the trauma assessment, Mary continued working with the Boost clinician in individual therapy to specifically address the clinical concerns identified in the assessment. The process also built upon her pre-existing strengths.

Through her counselling at Boost, Mary was able to understand why she engaged in certain behaviours while coping with her trauma symptoms. She learned how they made sense in relation to her experiences and realized that if she had the ability to survive multiple traumatic events as a young child, then she had within her the ability to recover from the trauma today. The process of healing was supporting Mary not only to share her pain, struggles, and grief, but it was also a process to connect with her strength and fortitude.

Standardized measures, self-reports, and collateral reports highlighted that Mary demonstrated a significant decrease in the number of trauma symptoms initially identified. The once soft-spoken and shy Mary was now quick to make eye contact, and her voice exuded confidence and strength. Prior to ending therapy, Mary shared that what made the biggest difference for her was realizing that she was of value, significance and importance, and that there were people who would not hurt her and who genuinely cared for her. Knowing that she was worthy of being cared for proved to be the cornerstone of her therapeutic experience.

#### ASSESSMENT DIRECTED THERAPY PROGRAM STATISTICS

97 new referrals to the program.  
81 trauma assessments conducted.  
41 clients received individual therapy.  
10 youth attended the Expressive Arts Therapy Group.



## INTERNET CHILD EXPLOITATION (ICE) COUNSELLING REFERRAL PROGRAM

The Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Counselling Referral Program at Boost provides timely access to counselling for children, youth and families across Ontario who are impacted by sexual exploitation online. Referrals are accepted from police services, victim advocates and other sources across Ontario. Children, youth and impacted family members are connected with a therapist in their community as quickly as possible. Funding is made available through the Ministry of the Attorney General for short-term counselling. Referrals to the program have been increasing annually since Boost began offering the program in 2011.

#### INTERNET CHILD EXPLOITATION STATISTICS

72 referrals for children/youth who experienced sexual exploitation.  
82 referrals for impacted family members.  
Of the 154 referrals, 134 were approved for ICE funding and received individual counselling services.



# CHILD VICTIM WITNESS SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Child Victim Witness Support Program (CVWSP) provides preparation and support to any child or youth who is required to testify in court. Boost offers this program in Toronto and the Central Region of Ontario, and has offices in Barrie and Peterborough. Testifying in court is a difficult and confusing experience, and Boost supports children, youth and their families by providing education to understand the role of a witness and others in court, as well as the court process. Boost advocates for testimonial aids and provides onsite accompaniment and support during the preliminary hearing and trial.

The following story describes the experience of one young boy who had to testify in court.

Logan's abuse began at an early age. It started around age four, with his father yelling at him for simple mistakes, and escalated by the time he was six years-old to shouting in his face and making insulting comments. When Logan was seven years-old, his father's emotional abuse heightened to physical abuse. Forgetting to bring his bike in from the street one time, Logan experienced the wrath of his father's anger. Using his hands and a belt, Logan's father punished him for being, "so irresponsible." The following day, Logan told his teacher about the incident. After an investigation, the police arrested Logan's father and laid several criminal charges.

The investigating officer referred Logan to the CVWSP at Boost and explained to his mother that the CVWSP would track the case until there was a court date set. Supportive of her son, Logan's mother was grateful to learn that there was someone who would help them through the confusing criminal justice system. Several months later, a preliminary hearing was set and a Boost Child Witness Advocate, Nicole, called the family and scheduled a time to meet.

During the court preparation, Nicole explained to Logan why kids have to go to court and what his job was going to be in the courtroom. She talked to Logan about the other people in the courtroom, and what each of them would be doing while he told the judge what had happened with his father. During their meeting, Nicole asked Logan a number of questions about possible fears related to court. Through the Fear/Worry Checklist, Nicole determined that Logan was most afraid of seeing his father and his father's family members in the courtroom. Logan's mother was also being called as a witness, which meant that she would not be allowed in the courtroom while her son testified. When Logan learned this, he became visibly distressed. With this knowledge, Nicole advocated for Logan as a vulnerable witness and requested that he be allowed to testify via



Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) and be accompanied by a Designated Support Person; both provisions in the Canadian *Criminal Code*. With support from the court-based Victim/Witness Assistance Program staff, Nicole was successful in her request for CCTV and was allowed to act as Logan's Designated Support Person during his testimony. Nicole helped to make the long waiting period at court more fun with child-friendly activities, and kept Logan company when his mother was testifying.



# CHILD VICTIM WITNESS SUPPORT PROGRAM STATISTICS

New Referrals: 871

Children prepared to testify in court: 331

Number of times staff were appointed Designated Support Person by the court: 147

Number of times staff accompanied a child/youth to court: 253





# PREVENTION & PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Prevention & Public Education Program (PEP) offers programs for children and youth to learn skills to reduce vulnerability and how and where to get help. Boost also offers the Making A Difference training both in-person and online to help adults understand how to recognize and respond effectively to concerns of child abuse. The Keeping Kids Safe program helps staff and caregivers learn what is important in protecting children from harm. Boost has delivered primary prevention programs to children across Toronto for 15 years. With the success of the I'm A Great Kid! (8-11 year olds) and I'm A Great Little Kid! (4-7 year olds) programs, there has been a growing demand for programming for older children. This year, Boost developed and piloted a program for youth in grades 7 and 8.

The following is an example of how the PEP team responds to the needs of children/youth.

In 2013, the PEP team began to develop new prevention curriculum for grade 7/8 students. Working with a multi-disciplinary Prevention Advisory Committee and a Youth Advisory Committee, the materials were completed by the end of the year. In January 2014, Boost began to pilot the new program in two classes at a senior public school. As part of the pilot, Boost Prevention Educators handed out blank pieces of paper and asked the students for anonymous feedback about the program (e.g., general feedback about the sessions; feedback on topics that had been covered; topics that the students wanted to learn more about). Several students indicated that they wanted to know more about self-harming behaviour (e.g., "What is self-harm?" "Why do people hurt themselves?"). With numerous requests for information about this topic, Boost staff began incorporating it into the program. Following a number of sessions gently discussing self-harming behaviour, two female students came forward and disclosed that they had engaged in this behaviour. After speaking with them privately and notifying the principal, the parents of both students were made aware of the situation and the girls were connected to the support services they needed.

Following this experience, Boost staff offered to lead presentations on "How to Get Help if You Have a Problem or a Worry" in every class in the school. The principal agreed to this, and beginning in April 2014, each class received the session. Once they attended the presentation, the students indicated that they wished they had more time in the program. The teachers were also grateful and kind in their praise of the Boost program.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Presenting two one-day workshops through the Student Support Leadership Initiative (Toronto): The Relationship Skills for Violence Prevention (RSVP) Program; and the I'm A Great Little Kid & I'm A Great Kid Prevention Programs;
- Presenting the CYAC At Boost at: the Child Advocacy Centre Knowledge Exchange; the National Victims of Crime Awareness Week Symposium (Quebec); King's College (London, Ontario); Toronto Police Service; and two International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect conferences (Dublin, Ireland & Vina del Mar, Chile).
- Presenting the Keeping Kids Safe workshop to: the Durham Police Service Community School Liaison Officers, and a presentation for parents; a community educational forum for parents at the Masaryk-Cowan Community Centre; and parents attending program at the Toronto Catholic District School Board's Parenting & Family Literacy Centres.
- Participating in a "Think Tank" at SickKids – Urgent Mental Health Intervention Grades K-5.
- Conducting a reporting workshop for all staff from all the public library locations in Norfolk County.
- Training ECE students from various organizations and colleges on their duty to report suspicions of child abuse.
- Participating at the Drug Endangered Children conference in Fort Frances and presenting on reporting suspicions of child abuse.
- Conducting two webinars in partnership with Metrac – one on Reporting Suspicions of Abuse and the other one on Keeping Kids Safe.
- Completing the 2nd edition of the The Relationship Skills for Violence Prevention (RSVP) Program.
- Creating a new presentation, in partnership with the ADT: Program Child Abuse: Integrating Impact & Prevention.



# PREVENTION & PUBLIC EDUCATION STATISTICS

2131 school-aged children participated in the I'm A Great Kid!/I'm A Great Little Kid! Primary Prevention Programs.  
15 students attended the Relationship Skills for Violence Prevention (RSVP) Program.  
2,182 professionals and para-professionals received training.  
64 training sessions were conducted.





# RESEARCH, EVALUATION & RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

In 2013, a needs assessment was conducted across the entire agency to determine the research and evaluation needs of each program, and to help develop a plan to execute effective ethical evaluations.

The first evaluation, completed in January 2014, was for the ICE Program. Boost mailed out surveys to all caregivers who completed an intake with the ICE Program between November 2012 and October 2013 for a referral to counselling services. The information provided is being used by Boost to improve service delivery to children, youth and impacted families participating in the ICE Program.

*"This is an essential service for families dealing with issues involving child exploitation. Thank you for helping us [and] helping our child overcome this crisis."*  
~ Parent

In April 2014, Boost surveyed caregivers whose children had been accompanied to court by a Child Witness Advocate from the Child Victim Witness Support Program. The purpose of the survey was to determine if the children found the service useful – the response was overwhelmingly positive.

*"The service I received from CVWSP was very beneficial in preparing me for my trial. Any questions I had were answered to the best of their ability. Being able to take some time to ask questions and look around the courthouse made me feel a bit more confident with what is yet to come."*  
~ Parent

*"[I've] never been part of a court process, without support of CVWSP would be at a complete loss. CVWSP is invaluable, able to answer questions throughout court process, available 24/7. CVWSP takes stress off shoulders, valuable, valuable program. [It] helped to alleviate stress as it was a very stressful time. Barb & Justine were a great support team. Barb is an amazing woman!!"*  
~ Parent



# COORDINATION & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Over more than three decades, Boost has been transformed from a committee that was initially focused on policy and developing practice standards with respect to sexual abuse to a dynamic organization that also offers children, youth and their families vital services to both prevent abuse, and to provide support when abuse does occur.

Boost has many long-standing partnerships with key community stakeholders. The most significant example is the creation of the Child & Youth Advocacy Centre that brought together nine organizations in one location to develop a coordinated, collaborative multidisciplinary response to child abuse in our city.

Boost also has many well established partnerships with other organizations, including the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board, YMCA Canada and police services across Ontario. Boost is seen as a leader in the field and often invited to present nationally and internationally.

Boost staff sit on many committees in Toronto and the Central Region, including:

- Child Victim Witness Program Advisory Committee
- City Wide Sexual Abuse Training Committee
- CYAC Community Advisory Partnerships Committee
- CYAC Mental Health Committee
- CYAC Joint Management Team
- CYAC Research Committee
- CYAC of Ontario Network
- Children's Services of Northumberland
- Community Safety Committee – Toronto Police Service
- CYSIS Database Advisory Committee (Mothercraft)
- Domestic Assault Review Team (Barrie, Midland & Orillia)
- Domestic Violence Advisory Committee (Toronto)
- ICE Conference Organizing Committee
- Northumberland Domestic Abuse Monitoring Committee
- Northumberland Domestic Abuse Monitoring Committee (member of the Executive)
- Ontario Justice Education Network Toronto Committee
- Ontario Safety School Education Officers Community Committee
- Protocol Chairpersons & Training Committee
- SCAN Advisory Committee
- Sister to Sister – Toronto District School Board
- Student Support Leadership Initiative (an MCYS and Ministry of Education committee)
- Student Focused Worker Initiative (an MCYS project)
- Toronto City Wide Intake Workers Committee
- Toronto Sexual Abuse Programs - Intake
- Trauma Services Network
- Trauma Services Peer Support Network Committee
- Victim Witness Support Advisory Committee
- West End Sexual Abuse Treatment (WESAT) Program Committee
- Youth Justice Advisory Panel



# CAMP RAINBOW

Each summer, Boost sends 25 children to Camp Rainbow for a summer camp experience they will always remember, and 2013 was no exception. Twenty-five campers and four junior leaders head out of the city for an opportunity to experience all the benefits of summer camp in a safe and nurturing environment, while taking in the beauty of rural Ontario. Parents are comforted, knowing that their children are cared for and supported throughout the camp, with Boost staff on-site during the entire session. This 10-day experience would not be possible each year without the generous support of Byron Capital Markets. Boost is extremely grateful to Byron Capital Markets for, once again, making Camp Rainbow possible for children and youth.

*"I was nervous about going at first but then we did really exciting and fun things and then I wasn't homesick. Everything there is really the best and I liked making new friends."*  
~ 8 year-old camper

*"For me, Camp Rainbow is a very important and big opportunity for my daughter [as] I cannot afford a camp. She learned so much there and was able to be a part of a group that is very unique. This gives her the opportunity to do so many things she would have never had the chance to do."*  
~ Parent





# EVENTS

## Grand Opening of the Child & Youth Advocacy Centre

Kicking off Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month on September 30, 2013, the Child & Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC) At Boost officially opened its doors. Welcoming over 100 guests, the hard work and collaboration of the nine partner agencies was celebrated by all who attended. Toronto Police Chief William Blair, a strong supporter of the CYAC model, spoke as did Provincial Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Honourable Teresa Piruzza. Following remarks, all of the guests were invited to tour the newly renovated facility at 890 Yonge Street.



## 16th Annual Butterfly Ball®

Each May, Boost hosts the Butterfly Ball®, its largest annual fundraising event. This gala raises funds that support Boost's programs and services. It provides an invaluable opportunity to connect with a widening circle of our community, and thereby raise awareness about the enormous problem of child abuse. On May 30, 2013, Boost hosted the 16th Annual Butterfly Ball®. With the support of the presenting sponsor, Rogers Communications, as well as all other sponsors and donors, over \$270,000 was raised that evening to continue the critical work that Boost does! The evening included a cocktail reception, sit down dinner, live auction, and raffle featuring exquisite jewelry. The nearly 400 guests were entertained by former American Idol contestant, Pia Toscano and singer, Jared Lee who sang beautifully. Boost is grateful to our Honorary Chair, Suzanne Rogers, Co-chairs Daniela De Gasperis and Vanessa Mulroney, and the entire event committee for their support and all of their work to ensure that it was a magical event. Thank you!



## Meeting Blue Jays Pitcher RA Dickey

On August 30, 2013, Boost had an amazing opportunity to send a group of children and youth to the Rogers Centre to meet Blue Jays pitcher RA Dickey. Having experienced childhood sexual abuse himself, Dickey invited the kids to ask him anything from how to throw a proper knuckleball to how he managed the pain around his experience of abuse. The children were thoughtful, curious and sensitive, and came away with a memorable experience. Following the question and answer with Dickey, the group stayed to watch the game and was treated to traditional ballpark snacks!



Michelle Prata, Toronto Blue Jays photographer

## 1st Annual BOO-st Spooktacular

On October 27, 2013, Boost hosted the 1st Annual BOO-st Spooktacular. The family fun Halloween party took place aboard the docked Captain Matthew Flinders Cruise Ship and was hosted by Cityline's Tracy Moore. The more than 100 children and family members who attended enjoyed Halloween themed food, activities, dancing with Magen Boys Entertainment, costume contests and a Monster Mash! The event was a success, raising nearly \$8,000 and created a fun and safe Halloween activity for young families!





# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

On April 25, 2013, Child Witness Advocate Kaye Torrie received the 2013 Victim Services Awards of Distinction. These awards recognize “the exceptional achievement of dedicated professionals and volunteers in the field of victim services.” Presented by Premier Kathleen Wynne and former Attorney General John Gerretsen, Kaye was recognized for her work as a Child Witness Advocate at Boost, as well as her contributions to her community through sitting on the Board of Directors for the local Children’s Aid Society, and her work with other agencies that serve victims of family abuse. Congratulations Kaye!

On June 20, 2013, the Manager of Prevention & Public Education Program, Audrey Rastin, was recognized and presented with the Staff Outstanding Achievement Award. At Boost for 17 years, Audrey is always able to carefully consider the issues in prevention in an extremely passionate and thoughtful way. Audrey cares deeply about the work that she does and always puts children and families first, both professionally and personally. Congratulations Audrey!



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Mike Ruthard**  
*Chair*

**Laurence (Larry) C. Murray**  
*Vice Chair*

**Lucy Iacovelli**  
*Treasurer*

**Tamara Costa**  
*Secretary*

**Allan Brown**

**Joanna Beaven - Desjardins**

**Campbell Becher**

**Bryn MacPherson**

**Lesley White**

**Mark Daniel**

**Mary Juric**

**Nancy Dale**

**Senthuran Sivananthan**

**Tanya Smith**

**Thomas Rowe**

# STAFF

**Karyn Kennedy**  
*Executive Director*

**Helen Vozinidis**  
*Manager, Assessment  
Directed Therapy Program*

**Heather Gregory**  
*Child & Family Therapist*

**Judith Montreuil**  
*Trainer*

**Linda Arwich**  
*Manager, Child &  
Youth Advocacy &  
ICE Programs*

**Kathy Barrett**  
*Finance*

**Sharon Hart**  
*Prevention Educator*

**Julie Moore**  
*Child & Youth  
Advocate*

**Giselle Garcia**  
*Manager, Intake*

**Nicole Biros**  
*Child Witness Advocate*

**Nicole Inwentash**  
*Court Support Worker*

**Jennifer Parker**  
*Court Support Worker*

**Lindsay Jolie**  
*Manager,  
Communications &  
Community Relations*

**Karen Deutch**  
*Prevention Educator*

**Catherine Kates**  
*Child & Family Therapist*

**Sandra Pribanic**  
*Child & Family  
Therapist*

**Tamara Jordan**  
*Coordinator, Research,  
Evaluation and  
Resource Mobilization*

**Janet Donaldson**  
*Intake Worker*

**Ariel Littlejohn**  
*Psychometrist*

**Lorraine Rotz**  
*Finance*

**Barb McIntyre**  
*Manager, Child Victim  
Witness Support  
Program*

**Dr. Jasmine Eliav**  
*Consulting Psychologist*

**Alison Laverty**  
*Clinical Intake Worker*

**Atiquah Syed**  
*Prevention Educator*

**Audrey Rastin**  
*Manager, Prevention  
& Public Education  
Program*

**Lynn Factor**  
*Child Witness Advocate*

**Dr. Queenie Lo**  
*Consulting Psychologist*

**Kaye Torrie**  
*Child Witness  
Advocate*

**Pearl Rimer**  
*Manager, Child &  
Youth Advocacy Centre*

**Corrine Fadyshen**  
*Child & Youth Advocate*

**Carrie McIlwain**  
*Child & Family Therapist*

**Beth Weingarden**  
*Child Witness  
Advocate*

**Lea Farinas**  
*Court Support Worker*

**Sherry Mackereth**  
*Child Witness Advocate*

**Ann Williams**  
*Executive Assistant*

**Kayleigh Gliedt**  
*Child Witness Advocate*

**Lia Marks**  
*Program Assistant*

**Jenny Yuzon**  
*Child & Youth  
Advocate*

# STUDENTS

**Joe Blake**  
*George Brown  
College, Child & Youth  
Worker Program*

**Alison Laverty**  
*University of Guelph Humber,  
Family & Community Social  
Services Program*

**Lindsay Miller**  
*George Brown College,  
Child & Youth Worker  
Program*

**Alison Walters**  
*University of Guelph  
Humber, Family &  
Community Social  
Services Program*





# DONORS & FUNDERS

Every year, Boost supports more than 700 families through trauma assessment and therapy, court preparation and accompaniment, and advocacy through the investigative process. Hundreds more children receive our primary prevention programming in their schools. Thousands of professionals and para-professionals receive the training and education necessary to work with children, youth and families. All of this is made possible by the support of our generous donors and funders.

## Government of Canada

- Department of Justice



Department of Justice  
Canada

Ministère de la Justice  
Canada



## Government of Ontario

- Ministry of the Attorney General
- Ministry of Children and Youth Services
- Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services



## City of Toronto

- Community Support Partnerships Program

## DONORS

### **\$50,000 and over**

Atkinson Charitable Foundation  
Byron Capital Markets  
Lillian and Don Wright Foundation  
Rogers Communications

### **\$25,000 to \$49,999**

CIBC Children's Miracle  
Hedge Funds Care  
Robert Kerr Foundation  
TD Securities

### **\$10,000 to \$24,999**

Barrick Gold Corporation  
The Bitove Foundation  
The Children's Aid Foundation

Frederick and Douglas Dickson  
Memorial Foundation  
Masters Insurance | Financial  
Norton Rose Fulbright  
ONEX  
RBC Capital Markets  
The Phelan Charitable  
Foundation

### **\$5,000 to \$9,999**

Ace Canada  
AirSprint Private Aviation  
AON Risk Management  
Burnaby Business Solutions  
Carla De Gasperis

Daniela & Robert De Gasperis  
Deloitte  
Etlin Daniels  
Forest Hill Orthodontics  
Halton Forming Ltd.  
Holt Renfrew  
Sheldon Inwentash & Lynn Factor  
Charitable Foundation  
Rebecca Kacaba Leon  
Lafarge  
Long Development Corporation  
Shanin Lott & Will Hutchins  
Metrus Properties  
Vanessa & Mark Mulroney  
National Bank  
Kimberley Newport Mimran



Orchard Global Asset Management  
PJ Phelan Sailing Foundation  
Lynda Prince  
Proform Industries  
RSA Insurance Group  
The Room – Hudson’s Bay Company  
John Shannon  
Beth Weingarden & Paul Stein  
Worsley Urban Partners

#### **\$1,000 to \$4,999**

Tamara Costa  
Cresa Partners  
Mark & Rita Daniel  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Desmarais  
Marie Garneau  
Daniel Greenglass  
Robert Heyding  
Lucy Iacovelli  
Bill Keay & Jordan Johnson  
Greg Johnston  
Adrian Lang  
Christie Love Thomas  
Priscilla Low  
Irving Marks  
Max Mara  
Mike Mills  
Gary L. Miles  
Laurence & Nancy Murray  
Ian Putnam  
Nicola Romano  
Danielle Royal

#### **Up to \$999**

Sharon Anisman  
Tom & Collette Barber  
Christina Benedet  
Donald Blue  
Peter Brauti  
Babette Buck  
Janice Campbell  
Imad Canavati  
Adine Carter  
Peter Coates  
Emily Cockerton  
Marci Cook  
Elizabett Cordeiro  
Anonietta Corigliano  
Jamie Courchesne  
Caitlyn Craig  
Daniel Dale  
Belise Deffett  
Ryan Doersam  
Arielle Eby  
Gail Fabiani

Sasha Firestone  
Robert Fletcher  
Erika Floysvik  
Janet Forsyth  
Desiree Furlong  
Cathy Gatlin  
Nature Gibner  
Rob Godfrey  
Max Gotlieb  
Steve Hayman  
Scott Henderson  
Holy Blossom Temple Sisterhood  
Kara Hunter  
Jessica Hutton  
Infologistix  
Keyanna Jackson  
Sharlene Kalteis  
Sarah Kaufman  
Glen Killoran  
Robert Klarer  
Katherine Knight  
Graham Knill  
Linda Landers  
Evergreen Lee  
Robert Lewin  
Barbara Lounder  
Alexandra McClay  
Jan McClelland  
Susi McCord  
Charlene McGlaughlin  
John Sydney McMin  
Barbara Ann MacPherson  
Bryn MacPherson  
Anita Marks Bernstein  
Tracy Martel  
Lucia Mazzucco  
Megachaga  
Jocelyn Merkle  
Tanya Miller  
Nadine Moffatt  
Brennan Mulcahy  
Mel Need  
Heather Nichols  
Kathryn Nichols  
Liz Oke  
Colleen O’Connor  
Mary O’Reilly  
Kaleb Overbeck  
Deena Pantalone  
Pamela Patterson  
Leonard Pearce  
Mary-Elizabeth Peckham  
Donna Polley  
Dona Ree  
Kara Reed

Morvarid Rohani  
Sandra Royds  
Nicholas Ruest  
Sandra Rutka  
Alex Salek  
Julia Sapiano  
Natalie Shannon  
Max Speirs  
Jennifer Stone  
Lori Sugarman-Li  
Shireen Suleman  
Carrie Tait  
Adriana Tattoni  
Adrian Tauro & Sloan Mauran  
David Taylor  
Tomy Thisdale  
Roberta Thomson  
Mary Vallis  
Andrew von Teichman  
Katherine Wasserman  
Wheat Sheaf Tavern  
Courtney Wise  
Kim Yeomans

#### **In Kind**

Bellosound  
Birks  
Blakes, Cassels & Graydon LLP  
Damiani Jewellers Ltd.  
Four Seasons Hotel  
Holt Renfrew  
Sheldon Inwentash  
Keith Jolie  
Jo Malone  
KP Graphics  
Kumaris  
Lou Goldberg Jeweller  
McNabb Roick  
Mark Mulroney  
Harold Perry  
Porter Airlines  
Power of Privé  
Rizon Studios Ltd.  
Rogers Communication  
The Room – Hudson’s Bay Company



# VOLUNTEERS

*Rabia Ahmed  
Melanie Amadasun  
Vanessa Amadasun  
Elayna Andersen  
Tina Athanasoulis  
Emily Badgley  
Linda Badgley  
Jenna Bitove  
Joe Blake  
Katrina Bogus  
Kristen Bones  
Mariah Brenders  
Jaffree Brown  
Lexi Brown  
Cathy Buckingham  
Matthew Buckingham  
Anita Budzilo  
Jessica Burns  
Cassie Byron  
Ouna Byron  
Kristina Carmichael  
Lisha Cash  
Christina Hye Kyong Cheon  
Nicholas Christensen  
Mary Dailey Desmarais  
Daniela De Gasperis  
Tigh De Gazon  
Jordan DeAgazzio  
Emily Delbecchi  
Myna Denov  
Natlle Di Matteo  
Johanna Diplock*

*Hawa Egal  
Angelique Esguerra  
Marie Garneau  
Nicole Gillespie  
Jessie Green  
Andrei Gutalj  
Andrea Hall  
Jane Hanrahan  
Gisela Haryanto  
Oneda Hoxha  
Nadiyah Hussain  
Sara Illidge  
Kathy Ip  
Gabriole Jangze  
Keith Jolie  
Sherri Jordan  
Rebecca Kacaba Leon  
Angela Kerr  
Megi Kokalari  
Inna Korostin  
Max Kowalski  
Sarah Kurash  
Kieu Le  
Lisa Le  
Andrea Long  
Shanin Lott  
Lisa McGoey  
Loretta Merritt  
Spencer Merritt  
Tanya Miller  
Jennifer Miniaci  
Michael Miniaci*

*David Moskowitz  
Hayley Moskowitz  
Natalie Moskowitz  
Vanessa Mulroney  
Zaib Nakhuda  
Karnaz Obaidullah  
Sarah O'Leary  
Lili Pazanin  
Lindsay Perry  
Jennen Phelan  
Lynda Prince  
Jamie Rastin  
Mike Rego  
Kinley Rigzin  
Ron Rimer  
Jarid Robbins  
Amie Rocket Munk  
Severyn Romanskyy  
Sandra Rukovo  
Tinotenda Rukovo  
Brendan Schnurr  
Lauren Silver  
Leslie Smith  
Natalia Stanojevic  
Leigh Stemerman  
Karma Thsering  
Sara Townsend  
Shellyann Williams  
Sam Wiseman  
Suzanne Wiseman  
Hoursa Yazdi*



# FINANCES

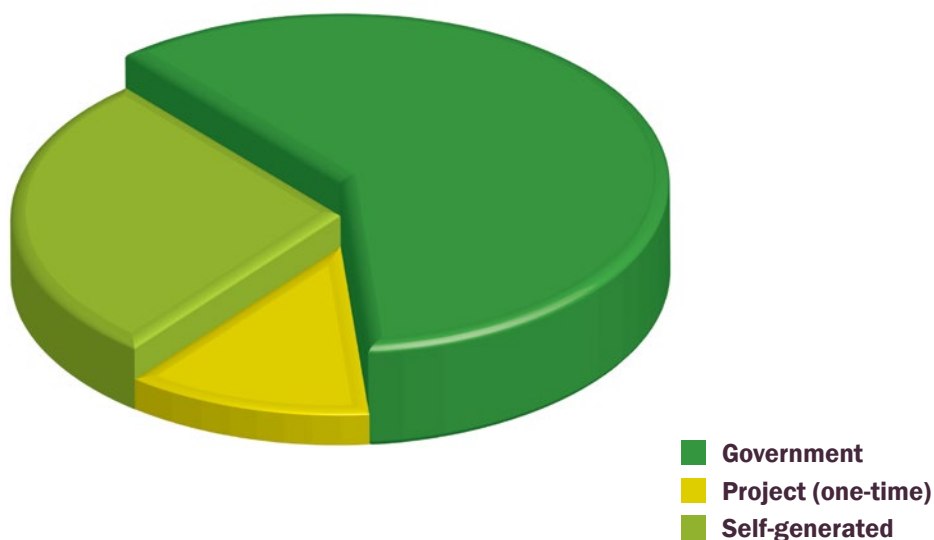
<b>Revenue in 2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Government Grants	\$1,436,246	1,160,342
One-time Project Grants	271,827	138,327
Fundraising & Donations	621,167	116,095
Self-generated	159,016	77,489
Interest & Other	4,398	4,731
Boost for Kids Foundation	64,119	150,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,556,773</b>	<b>1,855,382</b>

<b>Expenses in 2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Assessment & Treatment	\$546,000	503,987
Child Victim Witness Support	446,831	406,171
Prevention & Public Education	438,645	375,004
Co-ordination	81,797	137,615
Child & Family Support	59,275	59,900
Child & Youth Advocacy Centre	411,046	222,538
Internet Child Exploitation Counselling Referral	185,229	137,005
Administration & Development	306,916	123,371
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,168,823</b>	<b>1,965,591</b>

Excess of Expenses and Contributions Over Revenue for the Year	81,034	(110,209)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	111,392	221,601
Net Assets, End of Year	192,426	111,392





CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

890 Yonge Street, Suite 1100

Toronto, Ontario M4W 3P4

T: (416) 515-1100

[info@boostforkids.org](mailto:info@boostforkids.org)

[www.boostforkids.org](http://www.boostforkids.org)

