

Ontario Association of Residences Treating Youth (OARTY)



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2018/2019**



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Message from the President

It has been a great pleasure to serve as the President of OARTY over the past two years! I have been continually impressed with the dedication of our members not only to OARTY but to the residential services system as a whole. It has been an honour to work with you to improve the system of care and to push for much needed changes.

There have been numerous changes in our sector over the past couple of years, including the enactment of the Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017 (CYFSA) and the implementation of its supporting regulations. The CYFSA represented a paradigm shift for the sector in that it places the child firmly at the centre of planning and service delivery. We were pleased to work with the Ministry, and our partners in the sector, to ensure that all of the supporting regulations set a framework for service delivery that embraces this paradigm shift.

We continue to work with our partners on the implementation of the remaining pieces of legislation related to the CYFSA including Part X. As of January 1, 2020, children, youth and families will have the right to access and request correction of their personal information held by children's aid societies and other service providers under Part X of the CYFSA. OARTY has been working with the Ministry, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, and other stakeholders to develop information resources to support the implementation of Part X and to ensure that all service providers are aware of their rights and responsibilities under this legislation.

As we move forward, OARTY will continue to advocate for those in our care to ensure that the system of service is appropriately governed and funded to meet their needs. One of our core priorities continues to be workforce development to ensure that those providing services are adequately trained, supervised, and appropriately compensated for the work that they do. Funding has been a long-term issue in our sector as our per diem rates are set at the time of a program's opening, and cannot be changed to provide increases in staff wages or to manage cost of living increases. The dedicated professionals working in our sector are often underpaid for the valuable work that

they do, and with the ongoing funding pressures that are prevalent in our sector, ongoing training can be difficult to implement to support our people. This defect in the funding formula directly impacts service delivery and we will continue to advocate for a fair, transparent, and accountable funding process that ensures the continuation of services for those in our care.

We also continue to advocate for a holistic, seamless, cost-effective system for adults and children in the developmental services system. We envision a system where all individuals have the best opportunity to succeed and reach their full potential based on person-centered planning and freedom of choice. A person-centered model of care for developmental services focused on flexibility of service and the right for individuals to choose service irrespective of whether that service is public or private, would also allow for a seamless transition for children from children's residential care to adult residential services.

The Board of Directors continues to focus on strengthening OARTY's position as a centre of excellence. We strive to ensure high standards and outcomes-informed treatment and care in our sector, with an aim of better outcomes for the children, youth, and adults in care.

To ensure the longevity of OARTY, the Board of Directors approved a change in our organizational structure this past year. We moved from a two-person staffed office environment to a one-person managed virtual office structure. This change was made to reflect the changing demographics of our sector and to ensure that OARTY's funds are utilized in the most effective manner. By moving to a virtual office environment, funds are no longer tied to bricks and mortar and we will be more easily able to scale up or down dependent on our membership base.

I would like to express my gratitude to our Board of Directors for their support and to our Volunteers, Consultants and Members. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for their valuable contributions. I encourage the membership to join me in supporting the new Executive/Board roster for the upcoming year.

Randy Klassen
President



Message from Executive Director

OARTY continues to work with government and other stakeholders to ensure that the policies, regulations and operational procedures that govern residential services meet the needs of the children, youth, and young adults in our care. Throughout all of our discussions, we continue to advocate for increased standards, transparency, and accountability to ensure the highest levels of care and treatment.

We continue to gather data and information to track trends in service and to monitor areas for improvement. Of increasing concern for OARTY, is the closure of long term programs due to issues with the funding policies that govern our sector. These policies have led to increasing financial pressures and have impacted the continuity of services. In particular, we have been advocating for changes to the rate review process to allow for per diem increases to address staff wages and cost of living adjustments.

In their final report to the Ministry, the Residential Services Review Panel (the Panel) recommended that a comprehensive review of current per diems across the province be undertaken by the Ministry, with particular attention paid to the variation in rates across Ontario for similar services, increases in cost of living and the necessary adjustments of staff salaries aligned with such increases, as well as the cost implications of other recommendations included in the report related to human resources. OARTY has been calling for a comprehensive funding review for numerous years and believes that this recommendation from the Panel should be the Ministry's #1 priority.

Currently, the rates for private operators are set by the government at the time of licensing through the rate set process and are not revisited unless an operator makes substantial modifications to the program design. This in essence means that unless an operator changes their program design they receive no increases to off-set inflationary costs. There are two distinct but related issues with the current process:

1. The current structure encourages modifications to the program design based on monetary reasons as opposed to outcomes measurement and evidence-informed practice.
2. The current structure does not account for cost of living adjustments or allow rate reviews to address rising costs in terms of 'hard' or 'fixed' costs (for example, rising food and utility costs).

To ensure that the mandate of the Act is being fulfilled and that children and youth in care have access to high quality care and services we need to ensure that this error in funding allocation is corrected. Adequately funding staff wages would assist in the retention of staff and ensure more stable environments and meaningful relationships for the children in our care. As the sector moves forward with improving residential services for children and youth, we must ensure that services are adequately funded.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to OARTY's Board of Directors for their ongoing leadership, dedication and tireless efforts to keep us focused on our strategic priorities and continually moving forward. I would also like to thank all our dedicated volunteers and consultants for their hard work, your combined efforts ensure that OARTY continues to be a vital and effective organization.

I would also like to encourage all members to consider volunteering on a committee to support the important work of the association, and to reach out to inform us of any issues that you are encountering, or best practices that you have to share.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to you, our members, partners, donors, and other stakeholders for your dedication and support. I look forward to continuing to work with you to improve the system of care.

Rebecca Harris, M.A., CAE
Executive Director



Our Members

OARTY members provide homes, support, and treatment to thousands each year. Our members support and care for individuals needing temporary, short term, or long term residential care; including those suffering the aftermath of abuse and neglect, requiring 24/7 care due to medical needs, and those with developmental challenges. OARTY members provide vital support, a place to call home and faces that become family.

The services provided by OARTY members include:

- Residential treatment centres
- Community group homes - parent model, staff model, treatment homes
- Foster care and treatment foster care
- Transitional aged youth programs
- Specialized programs
- Day treatment, tutors, mentors, life skills training and supervised independence apartments and section 23 classrooms

The models of care used in OARTY agencies vary by the diagnosis of the children cared for. In general, agencies implement the following models, under the supervision of psychologists/psychiatrists:

1. Positive Behaviour Supports
2. Relational Child Care
3. Trauma Focused Care
4. FASD/ARND specific treatment (ENEMIES model)
5. Medication
6. Infection control
7. Psychotherapy by certified therapists
8. Attachment in high risk populations (Crittenden model)
9. Intensive case management
10. Wraparound services

Services are funded on a per-diem basis by the Ontario government, through a variety of agreements with transfer payment agencies (TPAs). The all-inclusive per-diem rates are set by MCYS when a home opens. Like all agencies in Ontario providing residential services, OARTY agencies are sanctioned and licensed by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services under *The Child, Youth, and Family Services Act*.



**Become a
Member**

Be a part of something larger and work together to
ensure a brighter future for those in care

2018-19 Members

A Circle of Support
Ariss Place Residential Care & Treatment
Avalon Treatment Programs
Bayfield Treatment Centres*
Betamarsh Incorporated
Blooming Acres
CARE Family & Children Services
CARF Canada - Associate Member
Carpe Diem Foster Homes
Catulpa Community Support Services -
Associate Member
Chamomile Adult Services
Christian Horizons - Central District*
Connor Homes*
Country Haven Acres
DLC Residential Services
Eagle's Nest Foster Care: A Place to Soar Inc.*
Eagle Circles the Nest Inc.
Enterphase Child & Family Services*
Genesis Residential Treatment Program Inc.
Harmony Youth Services
Holloway House
Jen's Place
Johnson Children Services/Johnson Adult
Foster Care
Kennedy House Youth Services
Little House Residential Care Services Inc.
Mon Ami Children's Services
Mutual Support Systems
Nairn Family Homes
OACYC (Ontario Association of Child & Youth
Care) - Associate Member
Oakdale Child and Family Service
Partners in Parenting
Pioneer Youth Services

Quinte Children's Homes*
Regesh Family & Child Services
Satori Homes Incorporated
Spectrum Foster Care Services Inc.
Stepping Stones Foster
Stewart Homes*
Stratford Children's Services
Susie's Place Ltd.
Terrace Youth Residential Services Inc.
Trillium Residential Services Inc.
Venture Academy*
Youth Centre for Change

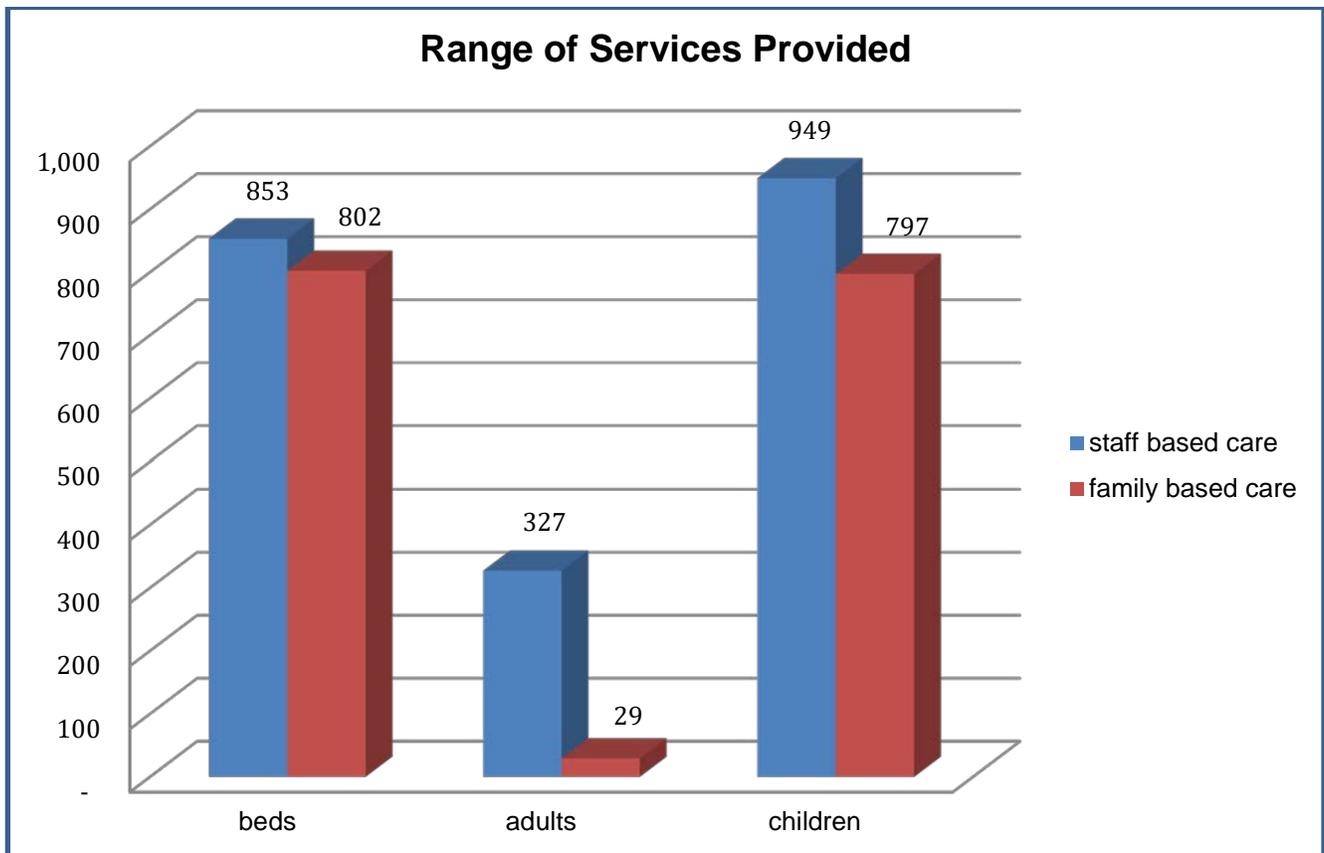
New Members Joining Us for 2019-20

Darling Homes for Kids
Skylark Children Youth and Families -
Associate Member
Paramount Children's Home - Associate
Member

* = Agency with one or more accredited
programs

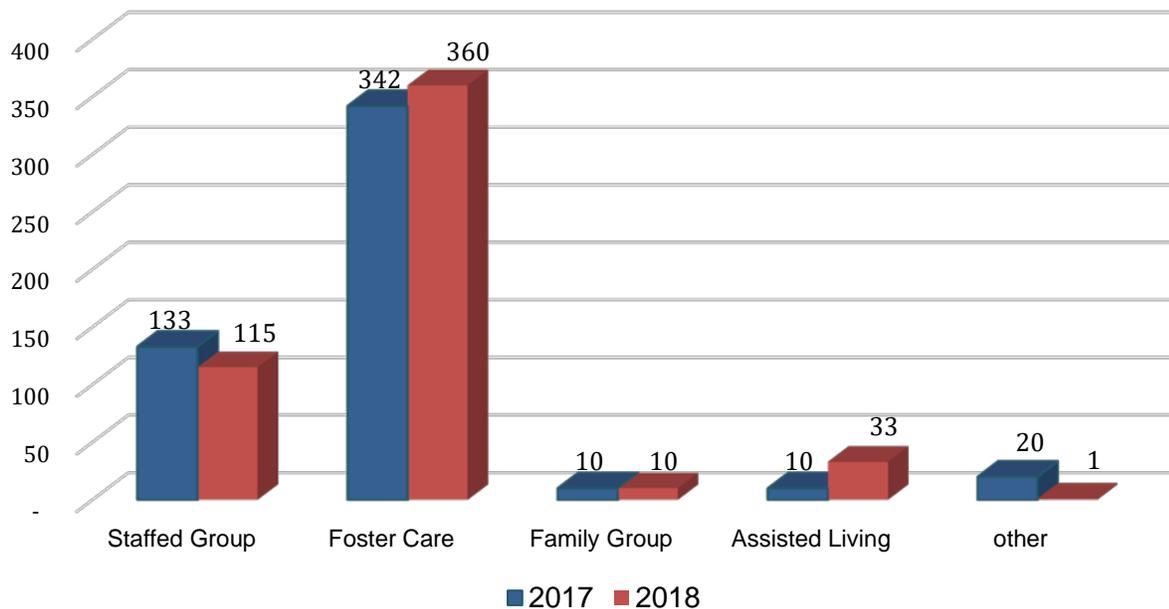
Our Members

Statistics 2018	Group Care		Foster Care	Assisted Living	Open Custody	Grand Total
	Staffed Group	Family Group				
Days of Care	228,755	18,730	187,878	35,120	2,689	473,172
Number of Beds	730	59	743	111	12	1,655
Number of Homes	115	10	360	33	1	519
Number of Programs	115	10	19	33	1	178
Average Per Diem	\$303.68	\$271.93	\$173.70	\$387.14		
Average Occupancy	86%	87%	69%	87%	61%	78%
Number of Foster Families	-	10	360	1	-	371
Adults Served	227	9	20	100	-	356
Children Served	852	67	730	23	74	1,746

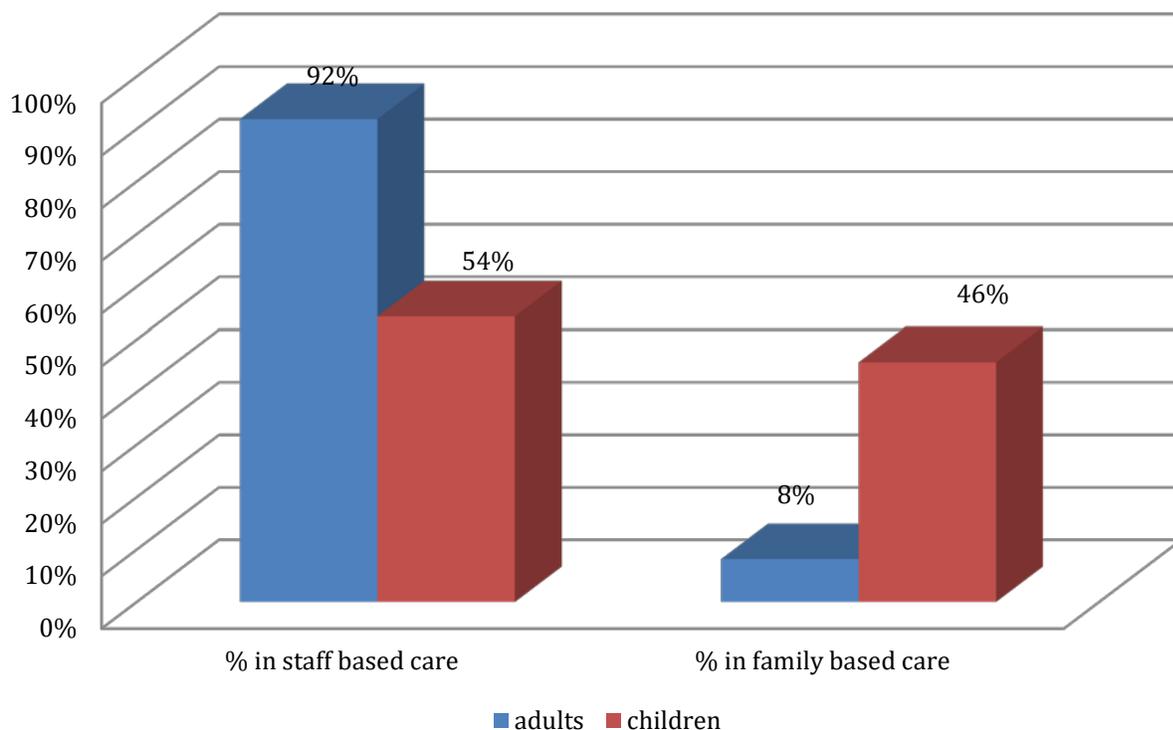


Our Members

Number of Homes in the OARTY Spectrum of Service by Type

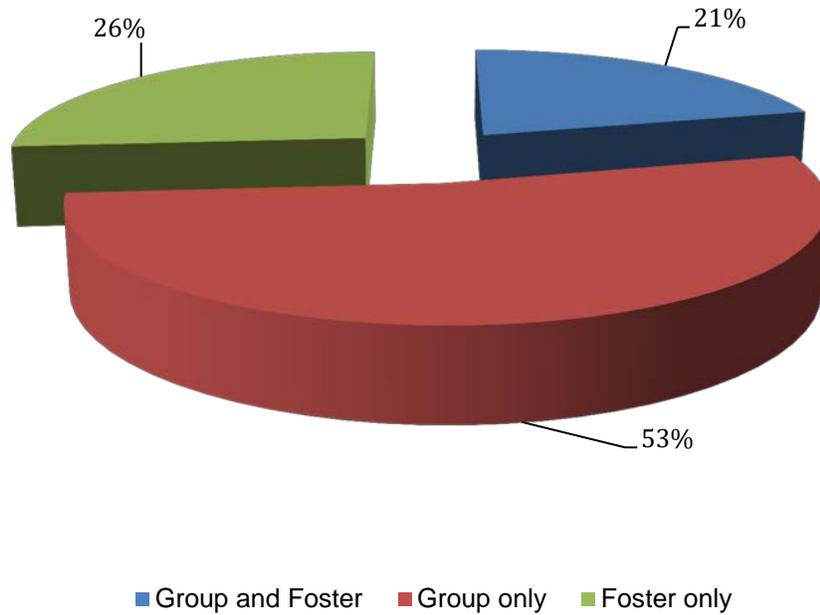


% of Adults and Children in Different Types of Care

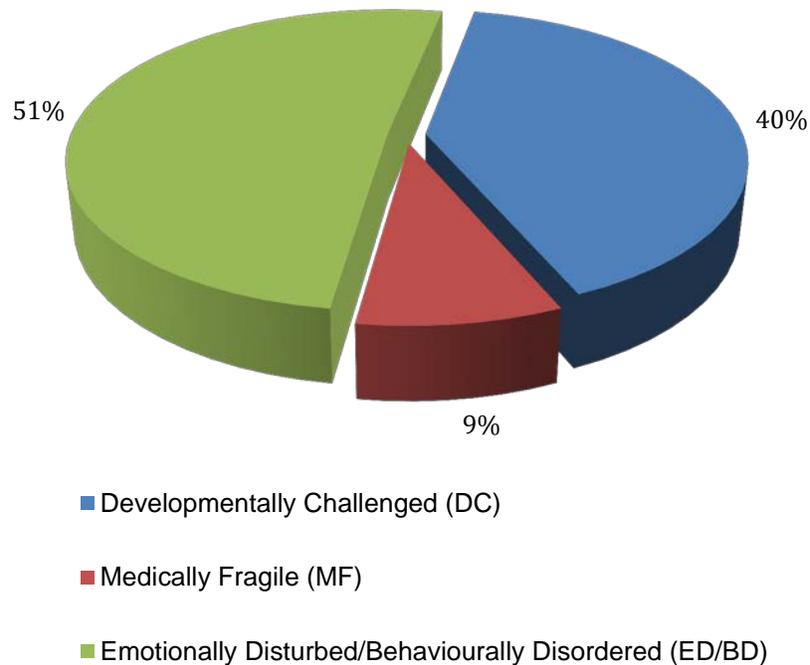


Our Members

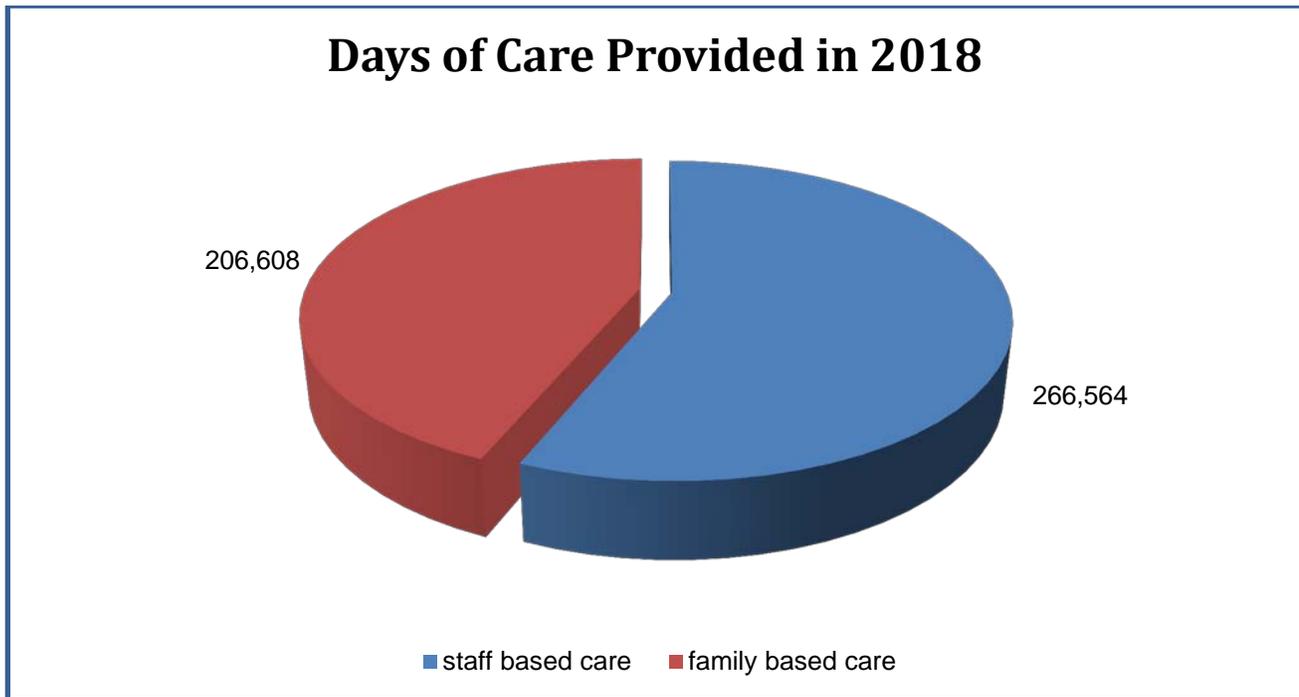
OARTY Agencies by Program Speciality



Target Group: Residential Programs



Our Members



Agencies (Former Members) Closed Completely

note: stats (beds, clients served, days) apply to the year prior

Date	Agencies Fully Closed	Group Homes	Foster Care	DC	MF	ED/BD	Days of Care	Beds	Adults	Children	Foster Families
Closing in 2018 to June 2019	2	5	-	3	-	2	8,193	33	5	49	-
Closed in 2014 to 2017	10	13	7	17	6	15	43,577	211	22	176	37

Programs that Closed - Agencies are Still Operating

note: stats (beds, clients served, days) apply to the year prior

Date	Agencies with Program Closures	Group Homes	Foster Care	Other	DC	MF	ED/BD	Days of Care	Beds	Adults	Children	Foster Families
Closing 2018 to June 2019	2	13	9	8	11	-	20	22,595	92	3	233	7
Closed 2014 to 2017	12	12	14	8	16	4	26	22,981	105	13	95	15

Other includes Assisted Living (3), Day Treatment (3), and other (2)

OARTY Makes a Difference by...

Getting kids supports sooner

Through IRIS (Integrated Residential Information System), the services our members provide can be matched up with those who need it most, assisting placing agencies in finding the best possible care for an individual's needs in an efficient and timely manner.

Working for higher standards and a better system

OARTY is working with government and community partners for higher standards of care, increased transparency and accountability for all parties, and endorses and supports third-party accreditation (certified, recognized world-wide standards for residential care).

Conducting valuable research

OARTY conducts research to ensure timely and relevant information on our sector is available. The reports from this research provide a detailed profile of the children, youth, and young adults placed in the care of OARTY's agencies. OARTY members are encouraged to utilize the results of the research to determine best practices and to benchmark their outcomes.

Knowledge sharing for improved outcomes

OARTY hosts a highly respected annual conference and regular educational events; the OARTY website is home to a wealth of information for both members and the public; and OARTY keeps its members aware of trends and issues impacting the sector through regular communications.

Our Research

OARTY has implemented a system of outcome measurement using evidence based instruments. We maintain a data repository of anonymized clinical information on the clients served by member agencies. The repository contains clinical profiles on 4,616 unique clients from 98 agencies. A total of 1,361 new clients were added in 2015 for our sixth research report in the Partners in Care (PIC) series of reports.

OARTY members have been administering risk screening instruments and outcome measures of their clients since 1996. Agencies have shared clinical profile data and test results with OARTY since then. There are forty-nine distinct instruments in the OARTY basket of outcome measures. Some of the instruments serve two or three different constructs, such as positives, functioning and risk or different client groups, such as infants and adolescents. Different combinations of the measures are currently used by the member agencies. Outcome evaluation is occurring primarily at the agency level. At the association level, OARTY gathers anonymized data from its members and summarizes the results.

OARTY can account for the impact of our services on the children served and we can do this at a high level. We firmly believe in the importance of measuring and monitoring outcomes to lead to a system of continuous quality improvement.



Our Leadership

Board of Directors

President - Randy Klassen, Mutual Support Systems

1st Vice President - Jeff Waplak, Quinte Children's Homes

2nd Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer - Jenn Dymont, Jen's Place

Past President - Bob Connor, Connor Homes

Sean Connor, Connor Homes

David Corkery, Stepping Stones Foster Care

Rick Duvall, Bayfield Treatment Centres

Doug Gould, Mon Ami Children's Services

Roy Graham, Spectrum Foster Care Services Inc.

Leo Hopkins, Eagle's Nest: A Place to Soar Inc.

Christine Rondeau, Partners in Parenting

Donna Teather, Care Family & Children Services

Committee Chairs

Finance & Audit: Jenn Dymont, Jen's Place

HR & Compensation: Jenn Dymont, Jen's Place

Nominating & Governance: Bob Connor, Connor Homes

Conference: Vacant

Staff & Consultants

Executive Director: Rebecca Harris, M.A., CAE

Membership and Events Manager: Erin Vanderstelt, CAE

Research Consultant: Robert Fulton, PRO.Files



Thank You to All of Our Donors in 2018-2019

Major Benefactors \$5,000 +

Frank Cowan Company
Nicol Insurance Inc.

Benefactors \$2,500 - \$4,999

Contributors \$1,250 - \$2,499

CARF Canada
Christian Horizons – Central District
Enterphase Child & Family Services
Romana Pharmacy

Patrons \$750 - \$1,249

Benefits Coordinators BCI Inc.
Kennedy House Youth Services
Novex Insurance Company

Supporters \$200 - \$749

Ariss Place Residential Care and Treatment Inc.
CARE Family and Children Services
Enterphase Child and Family Services
Mutual Support Systems
Stepping Stones Foster Care



Silent Auction In-Kind Donors

Anonymous
Ariss Place Residential Care and Treatment Inc.
CARF Canada
Christian Horizons – Central District
Catulpa
ComVida
Connor Homes
Frank Cowan Company
Enterphase Child & Family Services
Mutual Support Systems
Nicol Insurance Inc.
Partners in Parenting
SafeGuards Training for Children and Adult Services





**Ontario Association of
Residences Treating Youth**

Centre of Excellence for Residential Care in Ontario

Connect With Us!

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