

SOUTHEAST

CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

Mino Pimatiziwin



ANNUAL REPORT
2019-2020

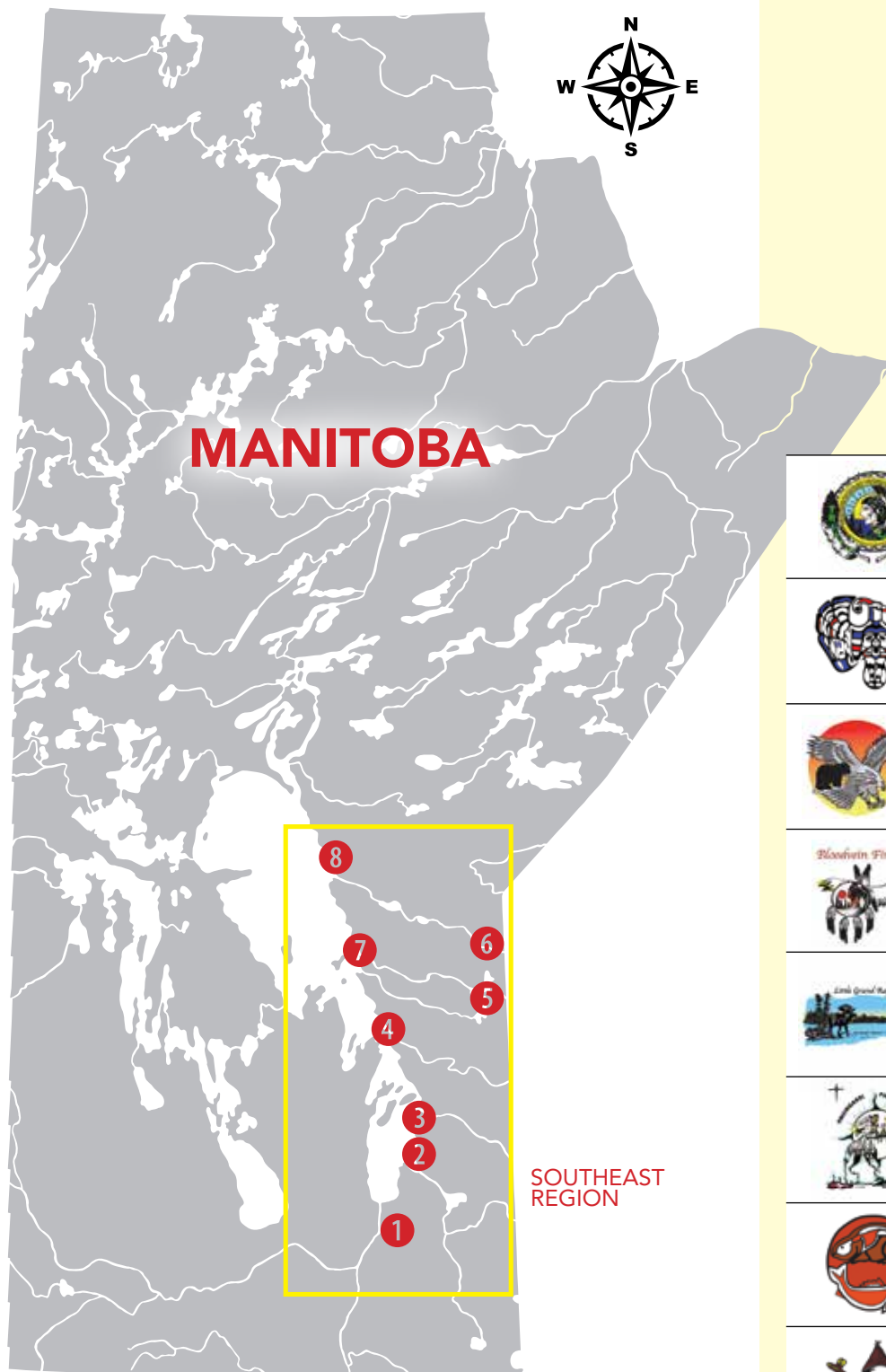






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COMMUNITY MAP



	1 BROKENHEAD OJIBWAY NATION
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	6 PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION
	7 BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION
	8 POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION





MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON



LISA YOUNG
Chairperson

Greetings! On behalf of the Board, I am honoured to present the 2019-2020 Southeast Child and Family Services Annual Report.

As Chairperson, I think we can all agree that the previous year has been a challenging one. We all have been affected by a cyber attack, by the loss of loved ones and by the COVID-19 global pandemic. It has been a real struggle to get through these troubling times.

However, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the on- and off-reserve staff of Southeast Child and Family Services. The Board of Directors understands and appreciates the amount of work that each one of you contributes to our Agency, and I assure you this does not go unnoticed. You have persevered and pressed on in spite of these unprecedented circumstances to continue providing services to Southeast families.

To reiterate last year's message: it remains our goal as the Board to work with Agency staff and Chief and Council members in assisting our families and communities with reducing the numbers of children in care. Ensuring our children remain at home with their families is our utmost priority.

We understand there may be unique challenges in each community; however, we truly believe that working together will assist us in overcoming these obstacles to ensure that we are successful. We respect the knowledge and teachings that each community has to offer as each community brings with it their own diverse traits, strengths, and challenges.

I would like to take this time to acknowledge everyone who has taken on the role of providing services to our children on-reserve. As someone who has worked in the community, I appreciate the frustration that can arise when our communities lack certain resources that urban areas offer to the general public. If nothing else, this global pandemic has opened our eyes to numerous details about life and underscored the fact that working together will assist each of us in getting through this.

Please take some time to talk to your loved ones, your neighbours, your friends, and your family. They are either a phone call away or accessible on social media as we all practice social distancing to ensure our loved ones are safe and content.

Please stay safe, wear your face masks, and wash your hands regularly. We will get through this.

Kih Chi Miigwich

Lisa Young
Chairperson
Bloodvein Board Representative



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**BLOODVEIN RIVER
FIRST NATION**

**LISA
YOUNG**



**LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS
FIRST NATION**

**CLINTON
KEEPER**



**BROKENHEAD
OJIBWAY NATION**

**HAZEL
KENT**



**PAUINGASSI
FIRST NATION**

**EDNA
KEEPER**



**BLACK RIVER
FIRST NATION**

**MILDRED
COOK**



**BERENS RIVER
FIRST NATION**

**TRACY
BERENS**



**HOLLOW WATER
FIRST NATION**

**GEOFF
BUSHIE**



**POPLAR RIVER
FIRST NATION**

**VERA
MITCHELL**



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



RHONDA KELLY
Executive Director

Mino Pimatiziwin (leading a good life) continues to guide the spirit of the services Southeast Child and Family Services provides to our member children, youth, families, and communities.

As we all know, this past year was a unique year in so many ways. While the new federal legislation, *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families* came into force on January 1, 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic

overshadowed this excitement in many ways and forced the Agency to change and limit the way we were able to provide services and keep children and families connected.

In the past the Agency would hold its Annual General Meeting at the end of January but due to the pandemic, the AGM will be deferred until such time the provincial restrictions ease and it is safe for a large gathering to occur. I trust that this annual report will provide the means by which to share much of what we have accomplished and encountered in the 2019-2020 year.

Meegwetch to the Southeast Chiefs and Councils who support the Agency and continue to communicate with us on a regular basis and provide guidance for us to improve the quality of our services. Your advice and words of encouragement are appreciated. We also thank the leadership with supporting the staff who work in the communities especially where the travel restrictions are in place and our staff are permitted to leave and return to their workplace as needed. In some situations, some of our staff remained at their work sites for extended periods of time and forewent returning to their homes off the community and the leadership acknowledged their commitment to their community.

We saw a major change in the Agency's Board of Directors representation this year and now have political leadership sitting on the Board. We anticipate this move will increase the communication between the Agency, Southeast Child and Family Services Board of Directors and the Southeast Chiefs and Councils. This change was the result of the leadership amending the Agency's by-laws to open the representation to include the Chiefs and Councillors.

The Agency staff have been incredible in their attitude and willingness to support the children, youth, and families in any

way they could during the pandemic. Although the fear of having to attend to the workplace was to be expected, the staff followed the safety measures that needed to be adhered to for their own safety and that of others. There was an overall enthusiasm in the staff's efforts to tend to the needs of their clients and be supportive of their fellow co-workers.

Shawenim Abinoojii Incorporated (SAI) remains an invaluable resource for our children to be able to return to their home communities. SAI creates specialized placement resources for us both on and off reserve and develops resources for hard-to-place youth, large siblings groups, reunification homes, provides an after-care placement, meets our support worker needs, and works in partnership with us to meet the service needs for our clients.

Thank you to Christian Torfason and Stephen Bear who took the lead with designing and compiling the information for this year's annual report, and we appreciated the beadwork pictures that Delores Chief-Abigosis provided for our use in this report.

A huge thank you to our staff for staying strong. While our team unit pictures are individual pictures due to our inability to take team pictures this year, we saw a stronger team approach taken by the staff during this trying time.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation to be able to serve our children, youth, and families. I want them to know our Agency remains committed to providing the highest quality service possible and that we welcome any ideas to improve. And, I thank everyone for remaining strong during this trying time.

Meegwetch.

Rhonda Kelly
Giizhaybowsekwe (kind walking bear)
Piizhoo Dotem (lynx clan)



AGENCY DIRECTORS



**DIRECTOR OF
BERENS RIVER**

**STANFORD
BOULANGER**



**DIRECTOR OF BLOODVEIN &
ALTERNATIVE CARE**

**JAIME
CHARTRAND**



**DIRECTOR OF BROKENHEAD,
HOLLOW WATER & BLACK RIVER**

**LISA
HOLLAND-
STOROZUK**



**DIRECTOR OF HUMAN
RESOURCES**

**ERNEST
JANZEN**



**DIRECTOR OF PAUINGASSI &
LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS**

**JACKIE
LAROCQUE**



**DIRECTOR OF POPLAR RIVER &
QUALITY ASSURANCE**

**GLORY
LISTER**



DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

**VESNA
MAROTI**



**DIRECTOR OF AGE OF MAJORITY
& ALTERNATIVE CARE & ABUSE
UNIT**

**KYLE
MCCLINTOCK**



**DIRECTOR OF CUTURAL /
PREVENTION SERVICES**

**CECIL
SVEINSON**



AGENCY UPDATE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Southeast Child and Family Services (SECFS) is mandated as a child and family services agency to serve the children and families of the eight First Nations in the southeast region of Manitoba. The Agency provides protection services plus a wide range of prevention services.

As of March 31, 2020, there were 1,263 children in care, 100 young adults (ages 18-21) under the Agreements with Young Adults (AYAs), and 531 families receiving services from SECFS. There were 239 children in care permanently returned to their parents in the 2019-20 fiscal year, plus more children were returned to their home communities thanks to the new Shawenim Abinoojii homes that have been built on our First Nations.

I would like to remind that our annual report reflects the statistics and financials for the fiscal year while we report on the Agency's activities and highlights based on the calendar year. In the past four years, we have held our Annual General Meeting at the end of January and the annual report is released at this event. This year we are releasing the annual report as usual but are deferring the AGM until the pandemic restrictions are lifted to permit us to gather.

ABOUT SECFS

Southeast Child and Family Services serves eight First Nations in the southeast region of Manitoba: Brokenhead Ojibway Nation; Black River First Nation; Hollow Water First Nation; Bloodvein First Nation; Berens River First Nation; Poplar River First Nation; Little Grand Rapids First Nation; and, Pauingassi First Nation. Of these, Poplar River, Pauingassi, and Little Grand Rapids are remote communities and are accessible by plane except for a brief period when there is winter road access. Buffalo Point First Nation, which falls under the SECFS mandate, is served by Animikii Osozon Child and Family Services under a sub-agreement since 2008.

The Agency is provincially and federally funded, based on a 60/40 split, and is mandated under Manitoba's *The Child and Family Services Act*. The Agency services requires a comprehensive plan that takes into account the geographical complexities and high costs to deliver services and goods to the eight communities, and we have a large off-reserve clientele base. One of the ongoing challenges faced by our community staff is the limited internet connectivity. In addition, the funding

models fail to recognize our extra-large size; the remoteness; the chronic housing shortages; and, the limited human resources available on some communities.

FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS AND SOUTHERN FIRST NATIONS NETWORK OF CARE

We are excited to have the federal legislation *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children, youth and families* come into effect and we have implemented the principles of the Act in our practices. Workers are required to seek family first where a child is apprehended and follow the legislation for placement criteria. Chief and Council are notified when major incidents occur involving their member children and families.

We look forward to the communities replacing the provincial child welfare legislation to be more reflective of their interests and rights. The Brokenhead Ojibway Nation community staff have been participating with the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation leadership who have started their community consultation process as they move towards developing their own child welfare laws.

The federal government continues to support the Agency with increased prevention funds to keep children out of care and promote families to remain intact, although much programming has been on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the gathering restrictions. We implemented a number of virtual programming opportunities at the end of 2020 as a means to support the children, youth, and families to have healthy activities and be involved in healing forums.

The Single Envelope Funding (SEF) model that the Province imposed on the agencies in 2019 has created some concerns for our Agency. The Children's Special Allowances (CSA) that the Province had been taking from First Nation agencies was reinstated for the agencies to keep. At the same time, the Province initiated the SEF where the overall agency funding was decreased. There is the assumption on the part of government that agencies will use the CSA dollars to cover child maintenance costs for the provincially funded children in care.

The Agency has remained committed to supporting our 18-21 year old adults who still require services from us. The number of Agreements with Young Adults (AYAs) remains stable from last year's number and we will continue to support these young adults as best as we are able.



The Southern First Nations Network of Care (SFNNC) has undergone a major downsizing in its operations and there is a movement towards becoming a secretariat of the Southern Chiefs Organization. The Executive Directors from the Southern First Nation child welfare agencies meet often with the Chief Executive Officer of the SFNNC to keep apprised of changes in the child welfare system, and to share common challenges and opportunities. The SFNNC has supported the Agency with our foster parent appeals and we have appreciated their support.

SERVICE DELIVERY

SECFS is unique in its service delivery model. The units are set up based on the First Nation affiliation. The on- and off-reserve staff for the First Nation teams are overseen by a Director of Services along with a community and city supervisor. Together, they oversee the Direct Service Workers who provide services to the children in care and family protection cases.

The Director of Services is responsible to establish and maintain relationships with the respective First Nation's Chief and Council and community resources so they can collaborate in providing prevention and intervention services. The allocation of the federal prevention funds (family enhancement) is distributed to the community based on the on-reserve population size and use of the funds is determined by the community staff in conjunction with the local community resource team and Chief and Council. This offers the community the opportunity to have their prevention services defined by their own needs and priorities.

Prevention funds for the provincially funded children, youth and families are allocated based on requests for events, emergency foods, or prevention/cultural programming. The Directors of Services coordinate regular case reviews with their city and community staff to keep apprised of case plans involving the children and their families. City staff are encouraged to attend community events and consult with the community staff to identify potential family members for children who require placements.

A restructuring of the Alternative Care Department provided for one or more Alt. Care Workers to be assigned to a specific unit. This move increases the capacity of the unit with finding family placements as the Alt. Care Worker will be more focused on learning and finding family connections for their assigned unit.

It is also worth noting that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs First Nation Family Advocate Office and the Ma Mawi Wi Chi

Itata Centre Family Group Conferencing staff have worked in partnership with our Agency to support families to be reunified with their children in care and advocate for stronger relationships between the children and their families and communities.

GOVERNANCE

The Agency's bylaws were amended in December 2019 to allow Southeast Chiefs and Councils to represent their respective community on the SECFS Board of Directors. As such, there were a number of changes to our Board Members including the appointments of Chief Vera Mitchell as the Poplar River representative, Councillor Geoff Bushie as the Hollow Water representative, Councillor Tracy Berens as the Berens River representative, Councillor Clinton Keeper as the Little Grand Rapids representative, and Councillor Mildred Cook as the Black River representative. Lisa Young, representing Bloodvein First Nation, remained as the Board Chair. Hazel Kent, representing Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, was appointed as the Vice-Chair and Edna Keeper remained as the representative for Pauingassi First Nation.

CULTURAL/PREVENTION UNIT HIGHLIGHTS

The Cultural/Prevention Unit organized our Annual High School graduation events which were held on June 25 and 26 at the Fort Gibraltar site in St. Boniface. This site provided the social-distancing space required to accommodate the 30 high school graduates in two spectacular events.

The Unit hosted a large Pauingassi family camp at the end of summer which was a huge success and saw youngsters, teens, adults, and Elders enjoy themselves. There was tubing, ziplining, sweats, crafts, live entertainment by Leonard Sumner, and the camp ended with a night of fireworks.

As gathering restrictions tightened, the Unit organized for virtual prevention and cultural programs to be available for male and female children, youth, young adults, caregivers, and parents. Virtual programming was made accessible for anyone who wanted to participate. Tablets were purchased and lent out to the participants for programming use and gift cards were offered as incentive for participation. Some of the virtual programming included Elders teachings, Sacred Seven Teachings and Crafts, arts and craft activities, female leadership building, female drumming, and pow wow singing with Coco Stevenson. We



are pleased that the virtual programming is continuing and expanding for the year 2021 until such time as in-person programming can resume.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

The pandemic created many challenges for families and the Agency worked hard to meet the physical and emotional needs of our Southeast members. Unfortunately, travel was limited and family visits needed to be restricted when communities were on lockdown or areas were in code red.

The Agency followed the federal, provincial, and community guidelines and restrictions to keep the children, families, communities, and our staff safe. Our response was immediate as we implemented mandatory use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), implemented routine schedules for sanitizing throughout our offices and vehicles, and mandated social safety measures. Staff continue to rotate working at home and at their office until further notice.

Providing protection services required that staff adhere to strict safety measures. Regular communication between workers and children and families was often virtual and, when necessary, we provided cell phones to clients who did not have a phone in order to maintain communication. Family visits were limited to court-ordered visits and for children who were being reunified with their families. The hardest part of this year was having to put a hold on visits between children in care and their families and communities.

When students were directed to attend school virtually, the Agency purchased laptops for our children in care and protection family case children who required a laptop for their schooling. Workers coordinated with the caregivers to allow for home-schooling programs as necessary.

The Board of Directors approved a Health and Safety Specialist to be hired and support us in dealing with the pandemic. Jonathon Colombe was hired in September. From that point on he has acted as our COVID-19 pandemic expert to provide support to children and youth in care, caregivers, families, and staff who need to isolate due to being COVID-19 positive or being in contact with someone who has tested positive. Jonathon is responsible to keep track of clients and staff who are being tested; who have tested positive, who are isolating as a contact; and, in providing guidance to those who have questions about COVID-19. He is also responsible for training

staff on the proper use of PPE; for ordering PPE and cleaning supplies for the Agency's offices and staff; and, and to monitor the adherence of new restrictions and/or in the lifting of existing restrictions. We expect that Jonathon will help guide us through the vaccination phase as well.

As the COVID-19 numbers increased and restrictions grew, we hired two COVID-19 Support Workers in December to assist the Agency to support families, caregivers, and staff who have to isolate due to testing positive with COVID-19 or because they are contacts. These Support Workers provide support services in the city or on-reserve which may include delivering of food or hampers, supplies, and PPE; referring individuals to community-based resources; or, providing mental health and/or emotional support to those who just need someone to talk to.

The Senior Management Team meets on a regular basis (weekly) to ensure that all issues relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on clients and staff are planned for and addressed i.e. the decision to purchase laptops for students and activity supplies purchased for all children and youth in care and family cases. Additional foods, personal care products, and household supplies were purchased and stored at the community offices to support individuals and families when they could not travel out of the community or where there was a requirement to self-isolate.

The staff participated with virtual Christmas activities this year due to the cancellation of our annual Christmas staff gathering. Virtual games and activities were organized, and the virtual comedy show by Poplar River's own Paul Rabliauskas was a hit.

The Board of Directors acknowledged their appreciation for the staff commitment to work during this stressful period with hazard pay.

THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

The Agency's In-House Therapist, Melissa Lela, continued providing clinical therapy services during the pandemic utilizing virtual means where possible and meeting with clients using safety measures. Melissa moved to the Mountain Avenue location as a temporary office during the pandemic restrictions so that she could continue seeing clients who required in-person services.

With the COVID-19 pandemic and the closure of in-person psychiatric, counselling and therapy services, the Agency chose to increase our land-based action therapy, and prevention family



services by use of virtual means (unless the situation required in-person support). All service providers were directed to follow strict COVID-19 safety measures and the in-person supports were determined on a case-by-case basis.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) SERVICES

The Agency has been working with Clear Concepts to establish our own IT system that included upgrading our equipment, setting up a new Agency-wide email system, and determining how to improve the connectivity at the community offices. Most of the equipment has been replaced, the staff email system was set up in early December 2019, but the Internet issues continue to be a challenge at the communities. The transition to Clear Concepts from the SFNNC system, following the cyber-attack on the SFNNC system, has not proceeded as smoothly as anticipated, but Clear Concepts continues in its efforts to provide better IT systems/services for the Agency.

RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Agency continues to enhance its relationships with the communities to reunify families and return children to the community. Having an increased number of Shawenim Abinoojii Inc. homes has been instrumental with making this happen. We also collaborate with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs First Nation Family Advocate Office and the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre who have supported children to be returned home and to advocate for children in care and their families and communities.

FAMILY HEALING AND WELLNESS CENTRE

The Family Healing and Wellness Centre (FHCW) held its grand opening on September 4th, and the first intake session was held shortly thereafter. The first session had three families registered, with two families completing the three-week program. However, due to COVID-19 and community travel restrictions, the FHCW has been unable to hold further sessions. The FHCW staff have used this time for training and have assisted the Agency with purchasing toys, activity kits, foods, and supplies, that were delivered to on- and off-reserve children and families. Recently, the staff have been providing virtual men's and women's support groups, cooking courses, and they will continue to expand

their virtual programming until the FHCW is able to resume in-person services.

ADDRESSING ADDICTIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH

The Aurora Recovery Centre provided training to our staff to help us work more effectively with clients dealing with addictions and mental health issues. Monthly sessions were held until the Spring when the COVID-19 restrictions set in.

SECFS has referred a number of parents to treatment centres including the Aurora Recovery Centre to support parents to be able to care for their children and prevent family breakdown. We have also supported young adults to attend treatment in the hopes that they will heal to lead healthier lives. Our partnership with Aurora allowed our Prevention/Cultural Unit to provide on-site healing sessions including cedar baths and teachings to our clients attending Aurora. A virtual after-care program is set to start in January 2021 for individuals who have attended treatment and want ongoing after-care support.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

The senior management team welcomed Lisa Holland-Storozuk, the new Director of Services for the Brokenhead, Black River, and Hollow Water Units, and Kyle McClintock as a term Director of Services for the Age of Majority, Abuse Unit, and co-Director with the restructured Alternative Care Unit. The year was very busy and having an additional Director alleviated some of the stress and workload for the other members of the senior management team.

The senior management team met weekly to ensure that any anticipated and unanticipated issues were addressed including the ongoing planning for COVID-19 related safety and emergency measures and responses.

Our annual report provides the senior management the opportunity to report on their respective units and to share their challenges and successes from their own perspective. The many community programming, activities, and events are reported on in the specific community report.

Meegwetch.



AGENCY OBJECTIVES

VISION – MINO PIMATIZIWIN

Living a good life for our children, families and communities now and for our future

MISSION STATEMENT

Southeast Child and Family Services supports the children, families, and communities with providing respectful, caring, and supportive preventative and protection services to promote the well-being and safety of the children, families, and communities.

AGENCY OBJECTIVES

- To value each child as a gift from the Creator and treat our children with the care and respect they deserve
- To respect and realize the child and family's relationship with their community of origin, and ensure the Agency's actions build upon and support that connection
- To maintain the focus of services on the healing of the child, parent, family, and community in all aspects of the services the Agency delivers
- To understand and respect the diversity of the members and communities the Agency serves
- To partner with our communities to enhance their capacity and strength to take responsibility for the well-being of their children and families
- To practice respect, honesty, kindness, caring, love, humility, and wisdom in our decision-making processes to provide the most compassionate services to the children and families we serve
- To support and build a confident and healthy workforce to provide the best quality of services to the children and families
- To promote inclusion with the communities to prevent children from coming into the care of the child welfare system, and to focus on the strengths of the families to keep them intact
- To continuously review the quality of services provided by the Agency to ensure the children and families served are receiving the best services possible
- To work in partnership with the communities and their resources, and the government funding sources to deliver the most culturally sensitive and respectful service possible



SECFS AT A GLANCE

1982 – Southeast Child and Family Services (SECFS) is mandated by the Province of Manitoba to provide statutory services for the on-reserve children and families affiliated with Brokenhead, Berens River, Black River, Hollow Water, Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, Poplar River, Bloodvein, and Buffalo Point First Nations.

2005 – Winnipeg Child and Family Services and other agencies transferred Southeast affiliated children in care and family cases to SECFS.

2015 – On December 18, 2015, the Order of Administration is lifted for SECFS and the SECFS Board of Directors is recognized as the governing authority for the Agency.

2017 – First Annual General Meeting is held on January 25, 2017.

2019 – Third Annual General Meeting is held on January 23, 2019.

Single Envelope Funding is in effect as of April 1, 2019.

Board By-Laws are amended on December 16, 2019. Southeast Chiefs or Councillors are approved to sit on the SECFS Board.

2004 – The Aboriginal Justice Inquiry Child Welfare Initiative (AJI-CWI) opened for SECFS to provide protection and prevention services to the on and off-reserve children in care and families.

2008 – Southeast Child and Family Services is placed under administration as per Section 4 of the *Child and Family Services Act*.

Buffalo Point First Nation enters into a subsidiary agreement with Animikii Ozoson Child and Family Services for its child and family services.

2016 – In the spring, the SECFS Board of Directors, First Nation leadership, and Agency senior management staff participate in a strategic planning session

2018 – Second Annual General Meeting is held on January 23, 2018.

2020 – Fourth Annual General Meeting is held on January 29, 2020.

SECFS Family Healing and Wellness Centre holds its grand opening on September 4, 2020. The FHCW is closed due to the pandemic.



ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORT STAFF
WHO KEEP OUR AGENCY GOING.**

SENIOR MANAGEMENT SUPPORT



KRISTIN COOK
Executive Assistant



TEEKCA SPENCE
Management Assistant

AGENCY FILE STAFF



MATTHEW BOUCHEY
File Clerk,
1410 Mountain



CHASITY THOMAS
File Clerk,
1410 Mountain



SHIRLEY VANDALE
File Clerk,
360 Broadway

WINNIPEG OFFICES RECEPTIONISTS



AVEREE FONTAINE
Receptionist,
1410 Mountain



AMBER DANIELS
Receptionist ,
4th Floor – 360 Broadway



JANELLE LISTER
Receptionist ,
3rd Floor – 360 Broadway

HEADQUARTERS



LORETTA DESJARLAIS
Administrative Assistant



DENNIS YAROSHINSKI
Maintenance

MAINTENANCE AND SECURITY



SHAFFI MOHAMMED
Security
1410 Mountain



LEE FLETT
Maintenance
1410 Mountain



HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT



ERNEST JANZEN
Director



ROXANNE MONEYAS
Generalist



CANDICE TUGBY
Special Projects

COVID-19 will certainly be a factor in the reports filed this year, and our Human Resources Team was particularly affected by this global pandemic. The Human Resources Team played a key role in dealing with many of the day-to-day decisions that were faced for the first-time regarding Labour Relations as well as health and safety issues.

The past year was consumed in large measure with the ongoing task of recruitment as well as our preparing the Agency for a go-live date with the new Time & Attendance System (which was delayed due to unforeseen problems on the vendor-side of the equation).

There was considerable effort expended in researching, writing, and revising our Agency's Policy Handbook. In the end, consultation, direction, and input was received from our Executive Director, the Board of Director's HR Sub-Committee, all Agency Directors and Supervisors as well as Legal Counsel.

This document will be preserved and distributed in electronic format thus providing us with a means for real-time updates to meet the ever-changing needs of our dynamic Agency.

Our Agency has almost 200 employees, most of whom are Indigenous, and our workforce is distributed over ten (10) locations in both unionized and non-unionized environments. It is within this framework that the HR Team is committed to providing support and direction to ensure the collective success of the Agency.

STAFF:

Director - Ernest Janzen

Generalist - Roxanne Moneyas

Special Projects - Candice Tugby



ORGANIZATION CHART

						RHONDA KELLY Executive Director		
						KRISTIN COOK Executive Assistant		
GLORY LISTER – Director			STANFORD BOULANGER – Director			JACKIE LAROCQUE – Director		
POPLAR RIVER COMMUNITY			BERENS RIVER COMMUNITY			PAUINGASSI COMMUNITY		
Sherri Hudson Supervisor	Vacant Admin	Chelsea Little DSW	Stanley Boulanger Supervisor	Reanna Andrews Admin	Candace Stoneman FE	Sharon Samatte Supervisor	Sandra Keeper Admin	Stephanie Keeper DSW
Betty Sainnawap Prevention/FE	Lisa Buffalo FE	Renee Larocque DSW	Dora Berens DSW	Muriel Green DSW	Ernestine Swain DSW	Theresa Owen DSW	Vacant DSW	
Vacant Intake Worker			Mabel Green DSW	Corinna Andruschak-Bouchie DSW	Bernice Berens Case Aide	PAUINGASSI CITY		
POPLAR RIVER CITY			BERENS RIVER CITY (A)			Rick Paskaruk Supervisor	Cecilia Cook Admin	Melissa Kolesar DSW
Trish Fox Supervisor	Tessa Inglis Admin	Monika Flett DSW	Josephine Frey Supervisor	Kianna Greene Admin	Errol Boulanger DSW	Kristene Arbis DSW	Meagan Parisian DSW	
Andrea Johnson DSW	Colin Smart DSW	Simone Richard DSW	Kelsuma Yussuf DSW	Allison McKay DSW	Ashley Kirkness DSW	LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY		
Siera Ens DSW	Lara Coppola DSW	Vacant DSW	Chantelle Hnatiw DSW	Kaylee Funk DSW		Lori Giles Supervisor	Keegan Eaglestick Admin	Jessica Mason DSW
QUALITY ASSURANCE			BERENS RIVER CITY (B)			Marian Bruyere DSW	Jude Leveque DSW	Dyllan Owen-Keeper FE
Christian Torfason Statistical Analyst	Stephen Bear IT		Rick Paskaruk Supervisor	Cecilia Cook Admin	Amelia Robertson DSW	Vacant DSW		
ERNEST JANZEN – Director			Kareen Thompson DSW	Brook Evans DSW	Claudia Sanchez DSW	LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS CITY		
HUMAN RESOURCES			VESNA MAROTI – Director			Julia Seymour Supervisor	Dominique Moneyas Admin	Sheryn Seunath DSW
Roxanne Moneyas Generalist	Candice Tugby Special Projects	Jonathon Colombe Health & Safety	FINANCE			Rabia Harb DSW	Thomas Bergen DSW	Brittany Jonsson DSW
Earl Desjarlais Covid-19 Support Worker	Fanny Hudson Covid-19 Support Worker		Wendy Malcolm Analyst/Main	Amber Daniels Reception	Pam Pater Travel Clerk	Melodie Baptiste DSW	Tyler West DSW	
MOUNTAIN OFFICE			Christophe Audette Assessment and Funding Specialist	Laura Marois Assistant	Shirley Vandale File Room Clerk	FAMILY HEALING & WELLNESS		
Teekca Spence Management Assistant	Averee Fontaine Reception	Matthew Bouchey File Coordinator	Chris Thompson Purchasing/Clerk	Claudette Vandale Billings	Sherry Anderson Assistant	Dina Bruyere Manager	Walter Richard Bi-Cultural Therapist	Vacant Bi-Cultural Therapist
Shaffi Mohamed Security/Maintenance	Christian Campbell Custodian	Chastity Thomas File Clerk	Derek Martin Payroll & Benefits	Keri Beaudry Travel Clerk	Shelly Longbottom Assistant	Brittany Grisdale Family Wellness Support	Lillian Cook Family Wellness Support	Vacant Family Wellness Worker
CECIL SVEINSON – Director			Donna Manchulenko Accounts Payable	Roxanne Swain AP/Main		Meghan Routledge Life Skills Coach	Neil Skye Maintenance	Wesley Bushie Security
CULTURAL/PREVENTION						Vacant Security	Vacant Children & Youth Activities Worker	
Stewart Racette Admin	Cheryl Prince Harm Reduction	Vacant On Reserve Program Coordinator						



JAIME CHARTRAND – Director			KYLE MCCLINTOCK – Director			LISA HOLLAND-STOROZUK – Director		
ALTERNATIVE CARE			ALTERNATIVE CARE			BROKENHEAD COMMUNITY		
Stephanie Michell Supervisor	Hazel Roulette Case Aide / Admin	Nicole Strocen DSW	Wonda Joe Supervisor	Trevor Harper Admin	Brandi Blackbird DSW	Naomi Ferland Supervisor	Wendy Sinclair Admin	Spring Abaunza-Vega DSW
Prairie-Rose Hapa DSW	Lindsey Nobess DSW	Lael Proppe DSW	Lily Creely DSW	Laverne Everett DSW	Brynn Rosjer-Doyle DSW	Shelly Guimond DSW	Sabrina Morisseau DSW	Tammy Moose DSW
Vacant DSW			Amanda Schubert Intake	Stacy Moore Prior Contact Specialist	Bev Thomas DSW	John Kent Cultural Worker	Tina Kent DSW	Adam Yaroshinski DSW
BLOODVEIN COMMUNITY			ABUSE			Matthew Gooch Intake/Prevention Worker	Amanda Fiar Case Aide	Wesley Kent Cultural/ Prevention Worker
Greg McVicker Supervisor	Vacant Admin	Cindy Desjarlais DSW	Lauren Turney Supervisor	Ashton McCorrister Admin	Cynthia Eshemitan Investigator	BLACK RIVER COMMUNITY		
Frank Young DSW	Charlotte Bushie DSW	Vacant DSW	Cara Grapentine Investigator	Maureen Line Investigator		Sharon Klyne Supervisor	Elizabeth Bird Admin	Valerie MacDonald DSW
Vacant FE			AGE OF MAJORITY			Blaine Johnston Early Intervention	Michelle Weibe DSW	Vacant DSW
BLOODVEIN CITY (A)			Melanie Boulette Supervisor	Jasmine Greene Admin	Tricia Garton DSW	HOLLOW WATER COMMUNITY		
Natascha Enzlberger Supervisor	Barb Tomasi Admin	Amber Gareau DSW	Matthew Zebrasky DSW	Dennis Dare DSW	Reina Aviles DSW	Lena Bushie Supervisor	Darlene Bushie Admin	Donna Smith DSW
Amber Catellier DSW	Tania Guimond DSW	Julia Mann DSW	Debra McLeod DSW	Ryan Heinrichs DSW	Vera Coppola DSW (Term)	Lorna Bjork DSW	Gladys Williams DSW	Patricia Moneas DSW
Ed Tanner DSW	Lee Bornhorst DSW					Phoebe Moneyas DSW	Christopher Bushie DSW	
BLOODVEIN CITY (B)			IN-HOUSE THERAPIST			BLACK RIVER & HOLLOW WATER CITY		
Anetta Russo Supervisor	Dominic Chartrand Admin	Lorraine Baldwin DSW	Melissa Lela Therapist	Janelle Lister Admin		Serena Marsden Supervisor	Robin Cornell Admin	Kathy Guimond DSW
Kel Sherman DSW	Crystal Boulette DSW	Letitia Kipling DSW				Patricia Kakegabon DSW	Shannon Allard DSW	Michelle Daly DSW
Rebecca McIvor DSW	Stacy Reimer Case Aide					Julie Christie DSW	Gayle Parisien DSW	
FRANK ABRAHAM Community Operational Manager								
BROKENHEAD OFFICE								
Loretta Desjarlais Community Operations Assistant	Dennis Yaroshinski Custodian/Maintenance							



HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



JONATHON COLOMBE
Health, Safety and
Emergency Preparedness
Specialist

Jonathon Colombe was hired as the Health, Safety and Emergency Preparedness Specialist in September 2020.

A major focus of this position has been navigating the rapidly changing public health environment throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and providing advice and recommendations to the Agency's senior management team for situations related to COVID-19. The intent is to find ways to continue providing services to the children

and families served by SECFS in as safe a manner as possible to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission within the workplace and in the homes of our clients. This has included finding ways to meet virtually; reducing the number of staff at the office; increasing the frequency of office cleaning and sanitation; and, utilizing non-contact equipment as much as possible.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Assembling COVID-19 supply packages containing essential supplies such as hand sanitizer, masks, disinfectant wipes, and Public Health information sheets. These COVID-19 supply packages were then distributed to families in the city and the Southeast First Nations.
- Securing a stable supply of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from multiple sources ensuring that the Agency will always have access to PPE to provide a safer working environment for our staff.
- Provided training on the situations requiring PPE and the proper use of PPE to Agency staff to be sure that the Agency is following provincial guidelines on the use of PPE.
- Organized a Flu Clinic within the Mountain office where staff were able to receive their annual Influenza vaccine while at work.
- Purchased non-contact hand sanitizing stations for all SECFS offices; non-contact temperature check stations; non-contact dispensers for paper towel; and non-contact door openers.
- Provided direction to cleaning staff on the disinfection of high touch surfaces throughout the offices with proper disinfectant

COVID SUPPORT WORKERS



FANNY HUDSON
COVID Support Worker



EARL DESJARLAIS
COVID Support Worker

solution as well as the accompanying daily cleaning schedule.

- Implemented the use of disinfectant solutions with fogging machines at all Agency offices. These machines allow for a greater area of the office to be cleaned in a shorter amount of time and are very simple to use thereby providing another level towards a cleaner and safer working environment.
- Utilizing Indigenous-owned businesses wherever possible. By way of example, ExchangePPE has been a great source for disinfectant supplies and PPE. All Nations Print provided a valuable service in preparing the information sheets for our COVID-19 supply packages.

I would also like to thank all Southeast Child and Family Services staff for adhering to and embracing the new protocols and policies during these challenging times while continuing to provide quality care and service to the children and families with which they work.



QUALITY ASSURANCE



GLORY LISTER
Director



CHRISTIAN TORFASON
Statistical Analyst



STEPHEN BEAR
Information Technology
Coordinator

The Quality Assurance (QA) Department is funded as part of the core funding structure of each Agency. The QA staff work directly with both on- and off-reserve Agency staff and are essential to ensure services provided are in accordance with standards and regulations governing child welfare services. The QA reports provide our Chiefs and Councils, Board of Directors, Senior Management, and our compliance bodies with the opportunity to review the services we provide to children and families of the Southeast First Nations.

STAFF:

Director – Glory Lister

Statistical Analyst – Christian Torfason

Information Technology Coordinator – Stephen Bear

QUALITY ASSURANCE OVERVIEW:

The two most critical components of QA are:

- To ensure Supervisors and Directors are aware of the compliancy of their staff with respect to the standards set forth by the Province of Manitoba, and
- To provide real-time and accurate data on client information and numbers so management can make informed decisions with regards to workflow or to meet the needs of their respective community.

Realtime information is gathered through the Child and Family Services Information System (CFSIS) which is the database used by the Manitoban child welfare agencies. QA generates reports through the database so that the Agency can use the information for programming and staffing decisions. The

database is also used when conducting specific program/community reviews. The information on CFSIS is required by our Agency, ANCR, the SFNNC, and other agencies providing services to our clients when issues arise.

To guarantee information is accurate, QA utilizes and cross-references 3 databases: Case List (created in-house); CFSIS; and the Agency's Family and Children's Tracking System (FACTS).

A unique task QA performs is tracking all deaths of children in care, as well as tracking children whose family's files were open in the Agency within the previous year. Lead by the QA Director, Glory Lister, Internal Agency Reviews (IAR) are performed to indicate causes of any unfortunate circumstance, and to assist in program planning and implementation to ensure the Agency works towards bettering the lives of our clients. Oversight of Critical Incident Reporting are done by our member agencies and consultations with them take place to determine if an IAR is required.

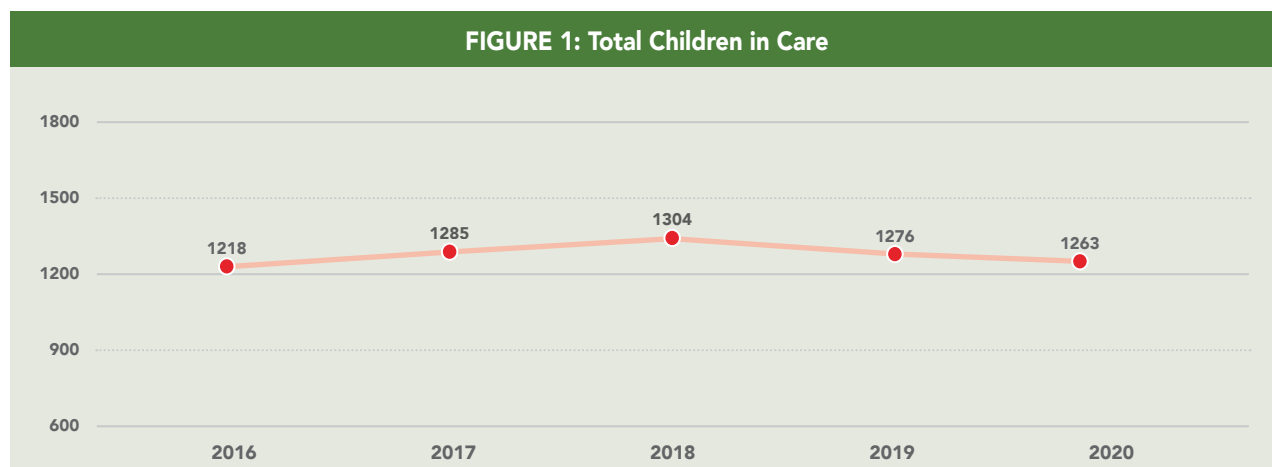
RECOMMENDATION:

Senior management has determined that training for our Agency staff requires greater attention. This problem was amplified with training shutdowns from both the Province and Authority in the wake of the pandemic. As a result, providing in-person training has been exceptionally difficult this year. QA is in the process of developing orientation packages to ensure new workers understand the regulations and processes within the Agency. We are also developing in-house training modules to increase staff knowledge as we assist with ensuring that we remain compliant. Ongoing support with CFSIS as well as IT will remain a vital role within QA. We hope that the Agency will be in a position to hire an in-house trainer to train our staff in a timely manner.



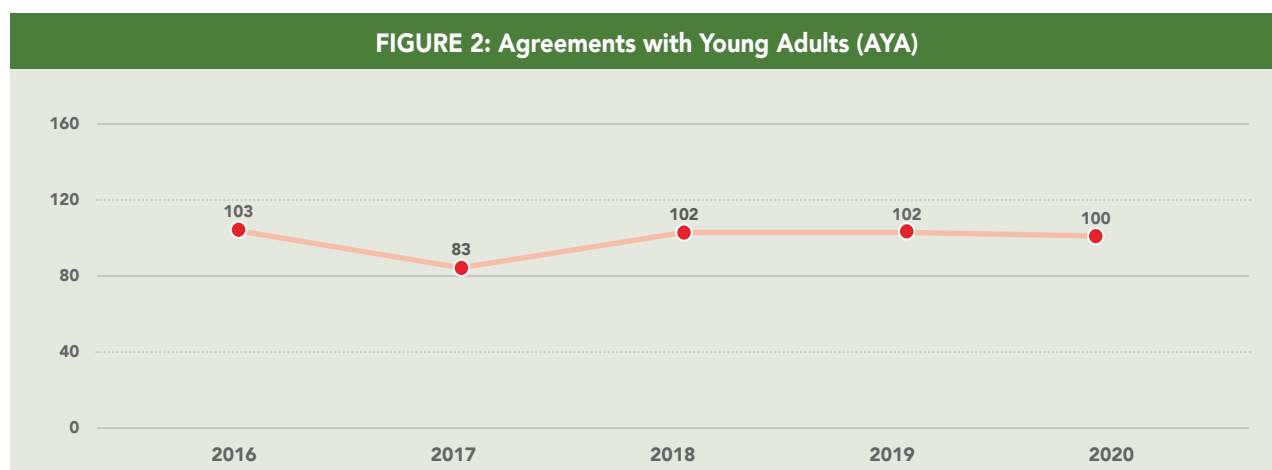
CHILDREN IN CARE – FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL

The total number of federally and provincially funded children in care (ages 0-17) with SECFS was 1,263 as of March 31, 2020 (Figure 1). This is a decrease from 1,276 from March 31, 2019. The number of children reunified with their families from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020 was 239 but, unfortunately, the number of children coming into care in this same timeframe affected the total number. The Agency remains determined to keep children home with their families, and when children come into care, we first seek extended family or placement in their home community.



AGREEMENTS WITH YOUNG ADULTS (AYAS)

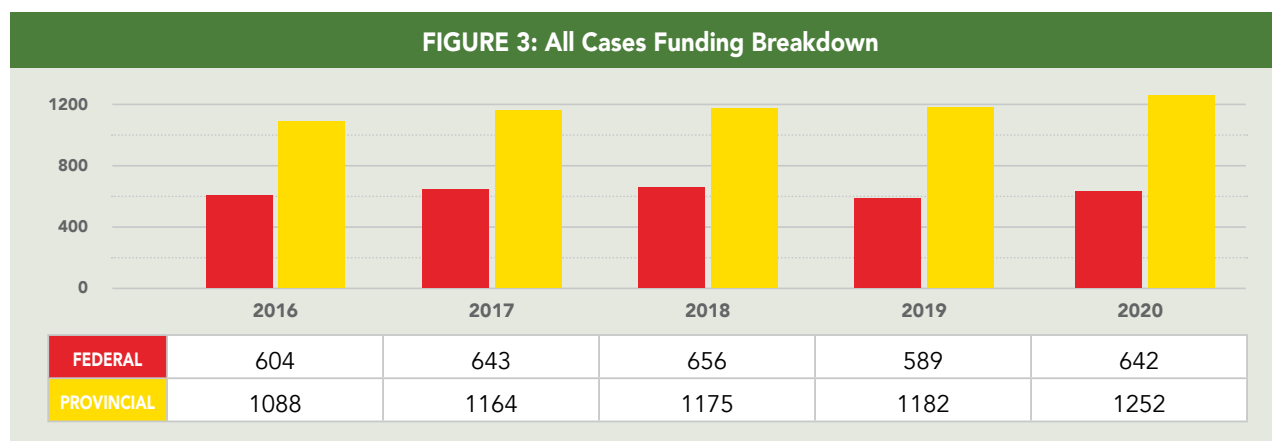
There were 100 Agreements with Young Adults (18+ years of age remained with the Agency until 21). This is 2 less AYAs than last year (Figure 2). The Agency is committed to support those young adults who request to remain with the Agency on a voluntarily basis despite the potential funding constraints and rules imposed by the funding sources. Funding for the AYAs is becoming uncertain due to changes imposed by the provincial government.



TOTAL CASES – BREAKDOWN BY FUNDING SOURCE

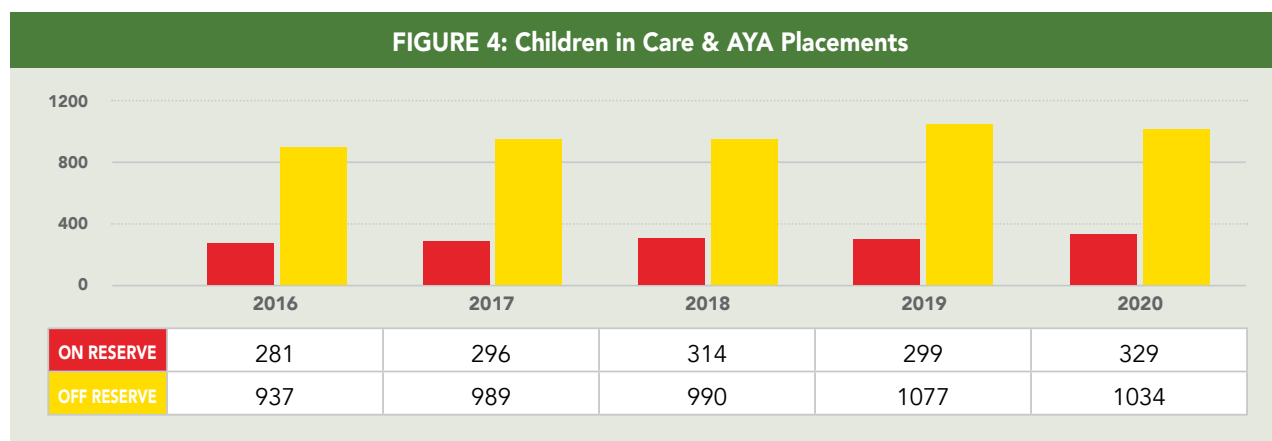
The Agency is funded 60% by the Province of Manitoba and 40% is federal funding by Indigenous Services Canada. The determination for funding the child in care or family is based on the residency of where the parent “normally resides” at point of first contact with the Agency. For example, if an incident occurs in Winnipeg but the family is status and resides on reserve, the family and/or child will be a federally funded case (Figure 3).

The Agency saw an increase in federal funded cases from 589 cases in 2019 to 642 cases in 2020. The provincial funded cases also increased from 1,182 in 2019 to 1,252 in 2020. This highlights that the Agency is making a concerted effort to work with families in a preventative role to reduce children coming into care.



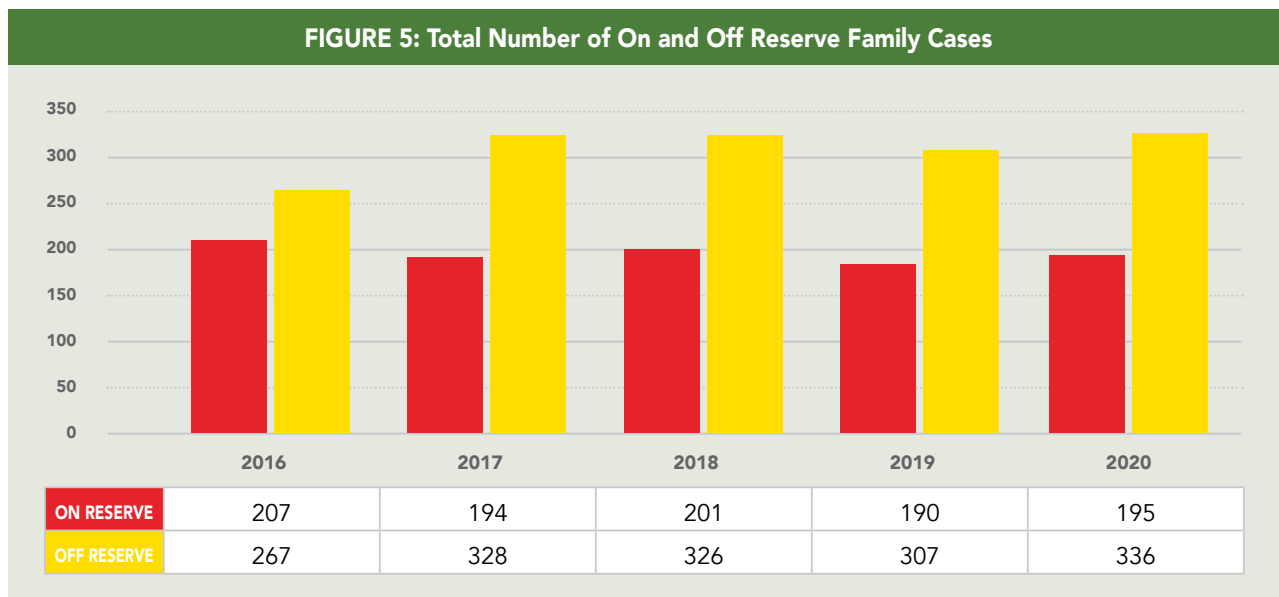
PLACEMENTS – ON AND OFF RESERVE

As of March 31, 2020, there were 329 children in care and AYAs placed on-reserve and 1,034 placed off-reserve. These numbers include both the children in care and the AYAs (Figure 4). The First Nations and Shawenim Abinoojii Inc. have been helpful with developing community placement options for our children in care with their new four bed homes on several of the communities.



FAMILY SERVICES – ON AND OFF RESERVE

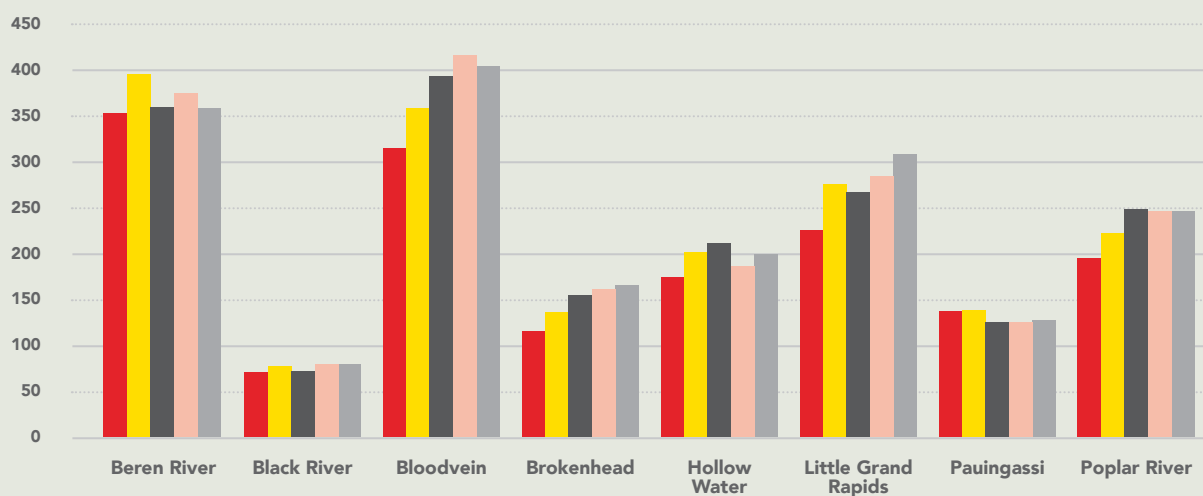
As of March 31, 2020, the number of on-reserve family cases was 195 and off-reserve was 336 for a total of 531 cases. The number of family case files increased from the previous year and this is a positive sign that the Agency is supporting more families with services to keep their children at home (Figure 5).



TOTAL CASES – PER COMMUNITY

The total number children in care, agreements with young adults, and families cases are broken down by First Nation. This includes on- and off-reserve numbers for the past five years (Figure 6).

FIGURE 6: Total Cases Per Community



31-MAR 2016	353	70	315	115	174	226	137	195
31-MAR 2017	396	77	359	136	201	276	138	222
31-MAR 2018	360	72	394	154	211	267	125	248
31-MAR 2019	375	79	417	161	186	284	125	246
31-MAR 2020	356	79	401	167	200	314	131	246



FINANCE DEPARTMENT

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. General Accounts Payable
2. Maintenance payments for Children in Care
3. Reimbursing foster parents for expenses incurred in caring for our children
4. Processing staff travel claims
5. Submitting provincial and federal billings to the Province and ISC
6. Preparation of financial statements
7. Development, implementation and monitoring of the Agency's annual budget (SSP)
8. Payroll processing and administration

OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES IN 2019-2020:

On November 23, 2019, Southeast Child and Family Services, along with its sister agencies within the Southern First Nations Network of Care (SFNNC) were victims of a cyber attack. As our information was all stored within the SFNNC platform, we were unable to access our information. The Finance team worked together, overcame the adversity, and ensured that all payments were made to all staff, foster parents, and collaterals that work with SECFS. In spite of this unprecedented and unexpected obstacle, the Finance team satisfied all financial obligations, made all of the necessary date-based payment, and met our goals.

Effective March 17, 2020, when building COVID-19 restrictions were put in place, the Finance team followed a staggered work force schedule which provided for staff to rotate working from home and at the office. Despite this, our productivity remained unaffected.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Director of Finance – Vesna Maroti

Vesna started with SECFS in 2008 as the Financial Analyst, was promoted to Controller, and then appointed as the Director of Finance in August 2018. Vesna is an invaluable asset to SECFS for her dedication to the children, families, and Agency, along with her positive disposition around everyone she is with. In January 2020, Vesna received an Eagle Feather, which was a great honour to her, it is something that she will always cherish and reflect upon.

Financial Analyst/Maintenance Supervisor – Wendy Malcolm

Assessment and Funding Specialist – Christophe Audette

Accounts Payable/OPS/Payroll – Donna Manchulenko

Accounts Payable/Maintenance – Roxanne Swain

File Room Clerk – Shirley Vandale

Billings Administration – Claudette Vandale-Wise

Finance Assistant – Laura Marois

Finance Assistant – Sherry Anderson

Finance Assistant – Shelly Longbottom

Finance Assistant – Chris Thompson

Travel Clerk – Pam Pater

Travel Clerk – Keri Beaudry

Payroll/Benefits Administrator – Derek Martin

Reception 360 Broadway – Amber Daniels

Finance Clerk – Shavonne Bushie

AGENCY SUPPORT:

The Finance Department supports the Agency and the staff in the delivery of its services by:

- Creation, implementation and monitoring of the annual operating budget
- Preparation of quarterly financial statements for review by the Agency's stakeholders
- Preparation and participation in the annual audit file, including the coordination of the audit with our business partners, MNP
- Submission of invoices and bills to the federal and provincial governments for services on a monthly basis
- Continual updating our professional knowledge and skill-set through attending regular training and professional development workshops and seminars
- Ensures the Finance Policy is current and follows best practices
- Works with the other Agency departments to help with policy creation, development and modifications
- Attends inter-agency relations meetings to ensure our Agency remains current with trends and emerging issues in child welfare and understanding its impacts on the financial operations of our Agency

SUMMARY OF 2019-2020 AUDIT:

Our financial audit was completed on schedule in June 2020. It was finished in an accurate and timely manner with the finance staff providing the Auditors with all of the necessary information and represented our fourth year working with MNP.

For the period ending March 31, 2020, the Agency's funding decreased to \$74,757,284 from \$81,807,546 for the same time in 2019. Total expenses for the same time period decreased from \$80,964,636 at March 31, 2019, to \$80,139,475 at March 31, 2020. This deficiency amounts to \$5,382,191 for the Agency.

The Agency received an additional \$2,446,195 as a result of the ISC retroactive payment re Canadian Human Rights Tribunal orders and \$2,202,215 in Children's Special Allowance (CSA) funds in 2020, and in 2019 received \$2,316,979 for the federal children in care. As of April 1, 2019 the Agency was able to keep CSA for provincially-funded children in care.

The Agency's operational deficit for the period ending March 31, 2020, was \$5,382,191 in comparison to March 31, 2019, where there was an operational surplus of \$842,910.





VESNA MAROTI
Director of Finance



CHRISTOPHE AUDETTE
Assessment and Funding
Specialist



WENDY MALCOLM
Analyst/Maintenance



PAMELA PATER
Travel Clerk



KERI BEAUDRY
Travel Clerk



LAURA MAROIS
Assistant



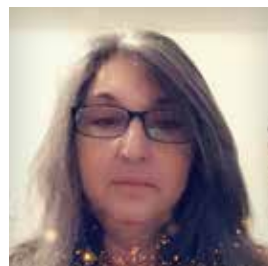
SHERRY ANDERSON
Assistant



SHELLY LONGBOTTOM
Assistant



ROXANNE SWAIN
AP/Maintenance



CLAUDETTE VANDALE
Billings



DEREK MARTIN
Payroll & Benefits



DONNA MANCHULENKO
Accounts Payable



CHRIS THOMPSON
Purchasing/Clerk

NOTE: As the Agency is required to include the CSA and CHRT order in its financial statements, this results in a possible reading that the Agency had a surplus of \$3,916,251 as of March 31, 2020. The operational deficit is in fact as noted above (\$5,382,191) as confirmed by MNP's annual audit which concluded that the Agency was presenting all financial statements fairly according to Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

GOALS FOR THE 2020-21 FISCAL YEAR:

- Continue to work with different Agency departments to ensure they are trained and educated in all areas of finance and accounting that impact them i.e. the Direct Service Workers, Supervisors, and Directors
- Continue the process of streamlining and increasing efficiencies

in accessing financial resources for the Agency, while maintaining the controls necessary to ensure those financial resources are available to the Agency

- Continually review the Finance Policy in conjunction with the Agency's senior management to ensure they are current, support best practices, remain robust and dynamic, while adhering to guidelines established by our Collective Bargaining Agreement with MGEU
- Amend the Agency's CSA policy to ensure it is consistent with legislation, review different investment strategies for CSA funds to allow for interest earning benefits, and address the immediate needs of the child for areas such as the Registered Educational Savings Plans (RESPs) and the Canada Learning Bond (CLB)
- Provide ongoing and relevant training for all Finance staff



PREVENTION & CULTURAL SERVICES UNIT



CECIL SVEINSON
Director



CHERYL PRINCE
Harm Reduction



STEWART RACETTE
Administrative Assistant

The Prevention and Cultural Services Unit develops and delivers culturally relative, preventative programming to the children, youth, and families of the Southeast communities.

STAFF:

Director – Cecil Sveinson

Program Coordinator – Cheryl Prince

Administrative Assistant – Stewart Racette

HIGHLIGHTS AND EVENTS:

Waterways Canoe Camps:

Early in 2020, the Agency purchased 88 canoes: 10 for each Southeast community and 8 for the Prevention Unit. Paddling is a great recreational and cultural activity and the Agency wanted to ensure that youth and families were trained adequately in water safety and canoe operation. We met with the Manitoba Paddling Association who linked us with Waterways Inc. a non-profit organization with paddling instructors, all of whom are accomplished world-class athletes. Over the course of the summer, Waterways attended to each of our Southeast communities and provided two camps two camps in Winnipeg.

Land Based Therapy:

Land based therapy was spearheaded to connect the youth with the land. The program was so successful that it was expanded its number of Land-Based Therapists and there are many youth and young adults participating. The next step is to connect families to the Land Based Therapists and have the families participate in these outdoor activities such as fishing (including ice fishing and setting nets), snaring, skinning, and preparing wild game, canoeing, picking medicines and hiking while building meaningful relationships with a trusted adult.

Prevention Therapeutic Services:

Like many other agencies, SECFS had been utilizing the services of Action Therapists which was developed by Mitch Bourbonniere, who is highly regarded in the Indigenous and social welfare communities. The Unit oversees over 50 contracted individuals who work closely

with our youth and families in providing preventative therapeutic care. Unifying in this manner has allowed for greater access to resources and support for our children and families.

High School Graduation:

Each year the Agency hosts a large graduation ceremony for our youth in care high school graduates. This year we held two graduation ceremonies at the Historic Fort Gibraltar in the St. Boniface area of Winnipeg. We split the event into two days to meet gathering restrictions. Elder Carl Stone was our MC, and musician Leonard Sumner provided entertainment, the graduates and their guests took their photos from our photo booth to have a memento of the event. All graduates received a

star blanket and electronic gift (laptop, tablet) in recognition of their success.

Vicarious Trauma Training:

As a result of the work that the Direct Service Workers in the Agency engage, they are often exposed to traumatic stories and experiences from and with our clients. To support staff well-being and prevent vicarious trauma (aka compassion fatigue or burnout), the Unit held a half-day virtual session each month for staff. This training was also provided to our collaterals in Shawneim Abinoojii and Inaadiziwin.

Social Distance Fasting Camp:

Several of our youth clients are annual participants in the Sundance, a ceremony where participants fast for several days. Many Sundance Leaders opted to cancel or postpone their Sundance ceremony for one year due to COVID-19 and this left many of our youth longing for connection to spirit. Following health guidelines for social distancing and advice from Elders, 7 youth and 1 staff member were put out on the land. After their fast, they were feasted and received teachings.

Virtual Programming:

The Unit organized a number of virtual programming, workshops, and training for the children, youth, and families including Traditional Parenting, Sacred 7 Family Program, Craft Nights, Women's Singing, Pow-Wow Dancing and Singing, and Elder's Visit where the participants learn stories and legends from Elders. The Agency purchased tablets to lend to the registered participants and delivered activity or supply kits to promote participation. The virtual programming will continue until such time in-person gatherings can resume.

Pauingassi Family Camp:

Our Unit was asked by the Pauingassi community staff to deliver a family camp in for four days in August. The event was a huge success. The camp was situated at a beautiful location a mere 10-minute boat ride from the community. In addition to the cabin located there, the Team put up two prospector tents and a long tipi to utilize as space for workshops. Participants learned canoeing



skills taught by world class paddling athletes from Waterways, learned to make paracord bracelets, dreamcatchers and how to pick traditional medicine and build a sweat lodge. Over 100 people attended daily. The week ended with fireworks and entertainment

from Anishinaabe musician Leonard Sumner who has played venues worldwide including the Australian Opera House and says that playing on the shore at Pauingassi camp at sundown is his all-time favourite stage.



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

BROKENHEAD UNIT

Location: Brokenhead Ojibway Nation (BON) is located 85 kilometres north of Winnipeg on Highway 59. The community boundary extends north to the shores of Lake Winnipeg and includes part of the Netley Creek Marsh area, with the Brokenhead River running through the core of the community.

Population: The on-reserve population is 792 and the off-reserve population is 1,337 for a total of 2,129 members (as of December 2020).

Chief and CFS Portfolio Councillors: Chief is Debbie Smith and the CFS Portfolio Councillors are Kevin Thomas and Chris Kent.

BROKENHEAD OJIBWAY NATION is a progressive community that includes the following infrastructure: Band Office; Entertainment Centre; South Beach Casino Hotel; Wavers Gas Station; Chicken Delight; Brokenhead Grocery Store; Pharmacy and Health Centre; Daycare and Head-Start; Round House Meeting Centre; Private Matthew Sinclair's Elders Lodge; Water Treatment Plant; Recreational Centre; Brokenhead EAST Resource Training and Employment Program; Community Store and Gas Station; Brokenhead Wetlands Trail; Jordan's Principle Program; SECFS office; and, Shawenim Abinoojii homes.

The Sergeant Tommy Prince School operates nursery to grade 9 and is under the jurisdiction of Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre. Grade 10 to 12 students attend the Lord Selkirk Comprehensive Secondary School in Selkirk, Manitoba.

The Brokenhead Unit is unique in that both the on- and off-reserve children in care and families are served by a single unit located at the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation due to its proximity to Winnipeg.

There are currently six foster homes and one Place of Safety home in the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation community, and 10 off-reserve POS homes.

STAFF:

Director of Services – Lisa Holland-Storozuk

Supervisor – Naomi Ferland

Administrative Assistant – Wendy Sinclair

Direct Service Workers – Spring Abaunza-Vega, Tina Kent, Tammy Moose, Shelly Guimond, Adam Yaroshinski, Sabrina Morrisseau, John Kent

Intake Prevention Worker – Matthew Gooch

Cultural Worker – Wesley Kent

Case Aide – Amanda Fair



HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES:

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a number of challenges in the past year as many programs and activities have been adapted to remote and/or virtual sessions. The BON CFS unit staff alternated between working at home and at the office. Staff are conducting home visits using screening questions, wearing the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and maintaining social distancing, and conducting virtual visits with families and children.

- SECFS staff are provided with PPE and this stock is replenished frequently.
- Families have been provided with PPE kits.
- Many families and children were provided with laptops to support children and youth with their remote schooling or virtual therapy.
- Staff encouraged families to participate in the Agency's virtual programs.
- The Unit recently hired a Cultural Worker who will offer cultural therapy using land-based concepts, ceremonies and activities for the community's children and families. The Cultural Worker will work closely with the Jordan's Principle Program and the community's leadership to develop programming and services to support the community's well-being.
- The Intake Prevention Worker is delivering individual parenting, family violence, and anger management workshops to protection case families.
- A Case Aide was hired to provide support the Direct Service Workers.
- Christmas hampers were provided to each Agency involved family.
- Emergency fund are available to assist families with food, diapers, etc.
- Shawenim Abinoojii currently has two homes to provide community-based homes for children in need of placement.





LISA HOLLAND-STOROZUK
Director of Services



NAOMI FERLAND
Supervisor



WENDY SINCLAIR
Administrative Assistant



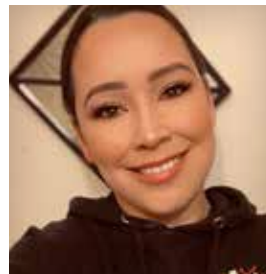
SPRING ABAUNZA-VEGA
DSW



SHELLY GUIMOND
DSW



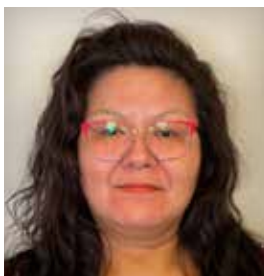
SABRINA MORRISSEAU
DSW



TAMMY MOOSE
DSW



JOHN KENT
DSW



TINA KENT
DSW



ADAM YAROSHINSKI
DSW



MATTHEW GOOCH
Intake/Prevention Worker

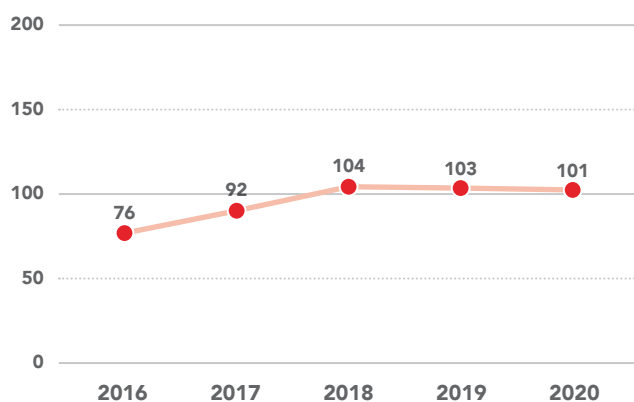


AMANDA FAIR
Case Aide

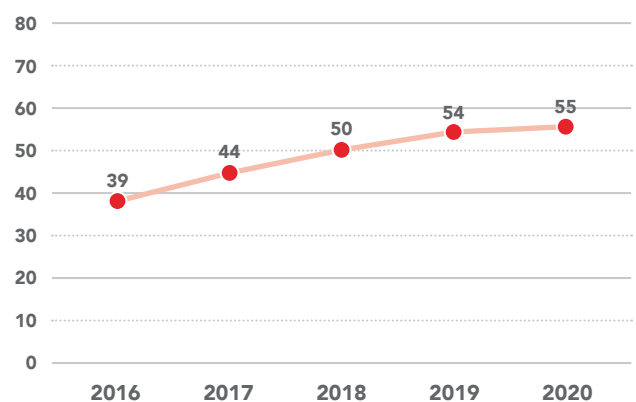


WESLEY KENT
Cultural/Prevention Worker

Brokenhead – Children in Care



Brokenhead Family Services



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

BLACK RIVER UNIT

Location: Black River First Nation is located at the banks of the O’Hanley and Black Rivers along the shore of Lake Winnipeg. The community is accessible by an all-weather road which is a short drive north of Powerview/Pine Falls and is approximately 194 km north of Winnipeg.



Population: As of December 2020, Black River has a combined on-reserve and off-reserve population of approximately 2000 members.

Chief and CFS Portfolio Councillor: Chief is Sheldon Kent and the CFS Portfolio Councillor is Milly Cook.

BLACK RIVER FIRST NATION is a small but resourceful community with an infrastructure that includes the: Southeast Child and Family Services Office; a Shawenim Abinoojii home; Daycare/ Head Start; Band Office; Black River Health Centre; Moppa’s Store; Water Treatment Plant; and a food bank that operates once every two weeks.

The community has an Elders Program which is usually very active but has not been so recently due to the pandemic. The Elders provide cultural activities such as cooking, monitoring of children in the classroom or playground, language development, counselling, and participate in all school activities.

The community has established the Black River First Nation Local Child Care Committee whose objective is to provide guidance, direction, support, and recommendations to the programs that SECFS provides to on- and off-reserve families.

The Black River Gaa-wijjii-int Abinoojii (Jordan’s Principle Program) is active in providing health care and social services to children with complex medical needs. Gaa-wijjii-int Abinoojii and SECFS staff work together to provide children and families supports that help build on their strengths as a family and prevent children from coming into care.

The Anishinabe Black River School offers nursery to grade 10 and is a part of the Frontier School Division. Grade 11 and 12 students have the option to attend school in Powerview/Pine Falls or to attend Southeast Collegiate in Winnipeg. The community also has an alternative education program for adults; however, remote learning practices have been implemented due to the pandemic restrictions.

SECFS staff work collaboratively with Shawenim Abinoojii to enhance opportunities in keeping children in the community and to keep siblings together. There is currently one Shawenim Abinoojii home in the community.

STAFF:

Director of Services – Lisa Holland-Storozuk

Community Supervisor – Sharon Klyne

Administrative Assistant – Vacant

Direct Service Workers – Valerie MacDonald, Michelle Wiebe

Early Intervention Worker – Blaine Johnston

City Supervisor – Serena Marsden

Administrative Assistant – Robin Cornell

Direct Service Workers – Michelle Daly, Patricia Kakegabon, Kathy Guimond, Shannon Allard, Julie Christie, Stacy Reimer

The City Team provides services to Black River off-reserve members and works closely with the on-reserve staff to ensure services are provided adequately and are respectful of Black River’s customs and traditions.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- Many program and activities have been adapted to remote and/or virtual sessions this year.
- Staff encouraged clients to register for the Agency’s virtual programming and workshops.
- The Parent Aide Program operated throughout the year and is available for all Black River community members.
- Treaty Days celebrations were not permitted this year due to pandemic restrictions; however, SECFS contributed to a fishing derby and an online talent show and contest.
- The Summer Recreation Program was unable to deliver its programs this year, but the community children were able to participate in the Waterways canoe training program.
- SECFS provided Thanksgiving hampers to families, and Halloween treats for the children, and a contribution to Black River First Nation made possible the delivery of meat packages to families at the beginning of the pandemic.
- The luncheon with Santa for the Children in Care was cancelled but the children in care and protection family children still received a gift from Santa. In January, an after Christmas hamper was provided to the Agency involved families.
- Funds are set aside for emergency family needs.
- The SECFS office is undergoing expansion and will provide more space to deliver programs and activities.





LISA HOLLAND-STOROZUK
Director of Services



SHARON KLYNE
Supervisor



VALERIE MCDONALD
DSW



MICHELLE WIEBE
DSW



BLAINE JOHNSTON
Early Intervention



SERENA MARSDEN
Supervisor



ROBIN CORNELL
Administrative Assistant



KATHY GUIMOND
DSW



PATRICIA KAKEGABON
DSW



SHANNON ALLARD
DSW

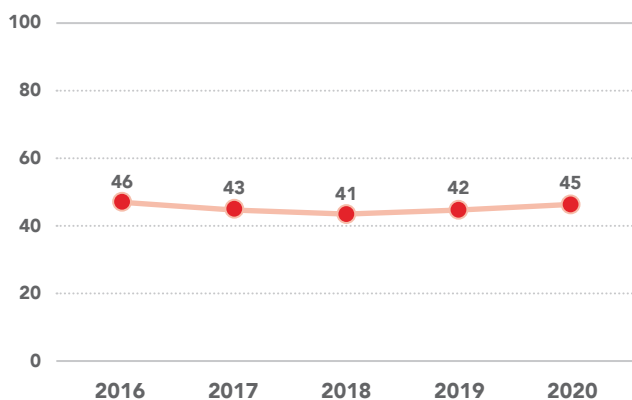


MICHELLE DALY
DSW

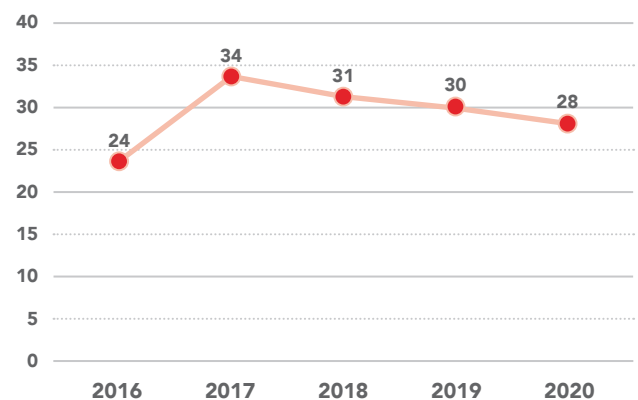


JULIE CHRISTIE
DSW

Black River – Children in Care



Black River Family Services



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

HOLLOW WATER UNIT

Location: Hollow Water First Nation is located 190 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg and is situated within the Precambrian shield region. Hollow Water is accessible by an all-weather road with the nearest airport located in Bissett.

Population: The on-reserve population is 1,600 and the off-reserve population is 500, for a combined total of 2,100 members.

Chief and CFS Portfolio Councillor: Chief is Larry Barker and the CFS Portfolio is Geoff Bushie.

HOLLOW WATER FIRST NATION is a flourishing community with a strong infrastructure that has a Band Office; SECFS Office; Shawenim Abinoojii homes; Jordan's Principle Program; CHCH; Adam Hardisty Health Centre; Wanipigow Producer Co-op; Fishing Station; Grandpa George's Gas/Diesel Bar; Wy-Ky-Kan Housing Authority; Yvonne's Chip-stand; Legends Campground-Wayne Moneyas; Guardian Angel Day Care; Aboriginal Head-Start Program; Sanitation Service; VLT Centre; Water Treatment Plant; Ceremony Grounds; and, the Health Centre operates a food bank once every two weeks.

The Wanipigow School offers nursery to grade 12 and operates within the Frontier School Division. There is also an Alternative Education Program for adults offered in the community.

Jordan's Principle (Niigann Abinoojii) is active with providing health care and social services for children, especially those with complex medical and behavioural needs.

Hollow Water First Nation provides many kinship and foster homes for its community children in care. The community saw 4 newly built Shawenim Abinoojii homes this year and all are in operation thereby providing community-based placement options for children in care. Currently there are 17 active foster homes in Hollow Water, with 2 active Places of Safety (POS). There are also 6 active POS located off reserve.

STAFF:

Director of Services – Lisa Holland-Storozuk

Community Supervisor – Lena Bushie

Direct Service Workers – Gladys Williams, Donna Smith, Patricia Moneas, Chris Bushie, Phoebe Moneyas

Early Intervention Worker – Lorna Bjork

Administrative Assistant – Darlene Bushie



City Supervisor – Serena Marsden

Direct Service Workers – Michelle Daly, Patricia Kakegabon, Kathy Guimond, Shannon Allard, Julie Christie, Stacy Reimer

Administrative Assistant – Robin Cornell

The City Team provides services to the Hollow Water off reserve members but works closely with the on-reserve staff to ensure services that respect the community's customs and traditions are provided to the children and families.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- Staff alternate between working at home and being in the office due to the pandemic.
- Staff apply the screening tool prior to attending home visits and staff wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and maintain social distancing.
- Workers also conduct facetime visits with some families and children.
- Staff have been provided with an adequate supply of PPE which is replenished as needed.
- Families have been provided with PPE kits and food hampers.
- Staff have encouraged families to participate with the Agency's virtual programming.
- Contributions were made to various activities or workshops including: Mask and Moss Bag making; Black Island activities; Bingo; Selkirk Jr B. Fisherman Hockey Club; Ice Rink; Feed the Family Pizza night; and, the Akina Wabanong Noogom Committee.
- Staff are committed to partnering with leadership or community resources to ensure there are plenty of resources, activities, or programs for the children, youth, families, and Elders.
- Emergency food, diapers, etc., are provided for families.





LISA HOLLAND-STOROZUK
Director of Services



LENA BUSHIE
Supervisor



DARLENE BUSHIE
Administrative Assistant



LORNA BJORK
DSW



GLADYS WILLIAMS
DSW



PATRICIA MONEAS
DSW

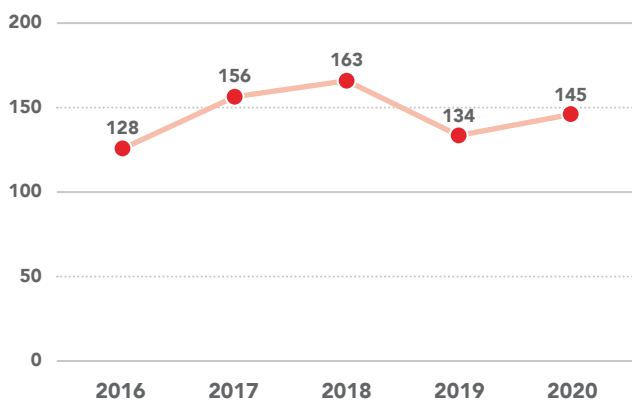


PHOEBE MONEYAS
DSW

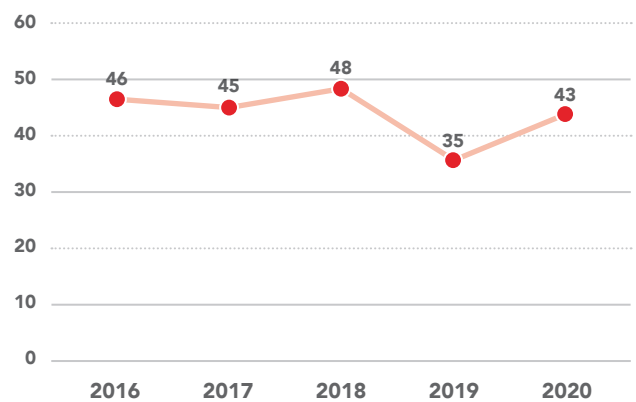


CHRISTOPHER BUSHIE
DSW

Hollow Water – Children in Care



Hollow Water Family Services



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

LITTLE GRAND RAPIDS UNIT

Location: Little Grand Rapids is a remote community that is near the Manitoba/Ontario border. It is surrounded by majestic sceneries of rivers, lakes, and rapids. Main access to the community is by air with limited vehicle access on the seasonal winter road. During freeze-up and break-up a helicopter is used to commute between the airport and mainland.



Population: The on-reserve population is 1,368 and off-reserve is 385, with a total population of 1,753.

Chief and CFS Portfolio Councillors: Chief is Ray Keeper and the CFS Portfolio Councilors are Wendy Leveque, Hilda Crow and Diane Keeper.

Services that are offered in the community of Little Grand Rapids are: Southeast Child and Family Services, Shawenim Abinoojii, Nursing Station, RCMP, Day Care, Head Start, Jordan's Principal, Brighter Futures, Building Healthy Communities, Community Health Representatives. There are two stores: Owen's Cash and Carry, and the Northern Store. The SECFS Family Healing and Wellness Centre was opened this past summer and is situated at the site previously known as Circling Thunderbird Centre.

Abbalak Thunderswift Memorial School is locally run by the First Nation and offers nursery to grade 9. Students are required to leave the community to continue their education in Winnipeg or other municipalities in order to attend high school. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the school closed down and students have been provided with work to do at home. Construction of a new school will be completed by 2022 and this new facility will be able to educate students from nursery to grade 12.

There are 10 Shawenim Abinoojii Inc. homes that are placements for children to remain in the community and be close to their families.

Members of Little Grand Rapids enjoy the outdoors by going out to fish, hunt, and trap as well as go camping and boating. They treasure their land and often will seek refuge at their camps, trap lines, or on their waters. Families will go to the land to rejuvenate their spirits when things get overwhelming or chaotic. Members still have their Anishinaabe language which is still very prevalent in the community.

STAFF:

Director – Jackie Larocque

Community Supervisor – Lori Giles

Direct Service Workers – Jessica Mason, Jude Leveque

Administrative Assistant – Keegan Eaglestick

Family Enhancement Worker – Dyllan Owen-Keeper

City Supervisor – Julia Seymour

Direct Service Workers – Rabia Harb, Sheryn Seunath, Brittany Jonsson, Thomas Bergen, Melodie Baptiste, Tyler West

Administrative Assistant – Dominique Moneyas

HIGHLIGHTS AND EVENTS:

- The community workers are committed to developing and delivering programs that meet the community's needs. Program development is done through the Family Enhancement Program and some of the new programs include: Red Road to Healing; Relapse Prevention; Grief and Loss; Cultural Teachings; Traditional Family Parenting; and the Emergency Food Pantry. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic these services have been limited as a result of the travel restrictions.
- This past summer, a sweat lodge was built with several community members participating in the sweat that was held. Teachings that were offered include the 7 Sacred Teachings as well as a pipe ceremony. A second sweat was planned but was cancelled due to the community lockdown.
- The Family Enhancement Funds provided for a Family Therapist to attend the community twice a month. Since the travel restrictions, the Family Therapist has had to have contact via phone services.
- Both the city and community workers have continued to work with the parents so their children can be reunified to them despite the pandemic. When travel was permitted, family visits occurred. And where travel could not occur, visits happened by virtual means.
- We partnered with Chief and Council to provide formula, diapers and wipes for the community, made a contribution to their Moose Harvest, and to provide a turkey for each household.
- Our staff hosted and participated in community events including the delivery of the canoe camp with Waterways; provided Halloween candy to each household; delivering Personal Protective Equipment to each household; hosting virtual colouring and baking contests; helping with sending Letters to Santa; and, contributing to the New Year's Eve fireworks.
- A trailer was purchased for the staff for their living quarters, but we are still waiting for the water and hydro to be hooked up. The office will undergo some renovations in the next year and we hope to be able to offer programming in this office area in the upcoming year.





JACKIE LAROCQUE
Director of Services



LORI GILES
Supervisor



KEEGAN EAGLESTICK
Administrative Assistant



JESSICA MASON
DSW



JUDE LEVEQUE
DSW



DYLLAN OWEN-KEEPER
FE



JULIA SEYMOUR
Supervisor



DOMINIQUE MONEYAS
Administrative Assistant



SHERYN SEUNATH
DSW



RABIA HARB
DSW



THOMAS "TJ" BERGEN
DSW



BRITTANY JONSSON
DSW

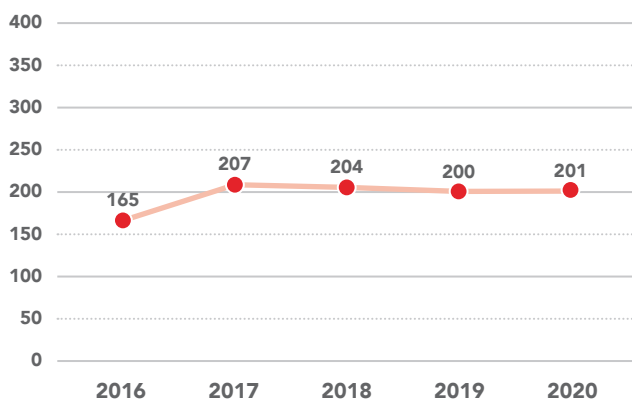


MELODIE BAPTISTE
DSW

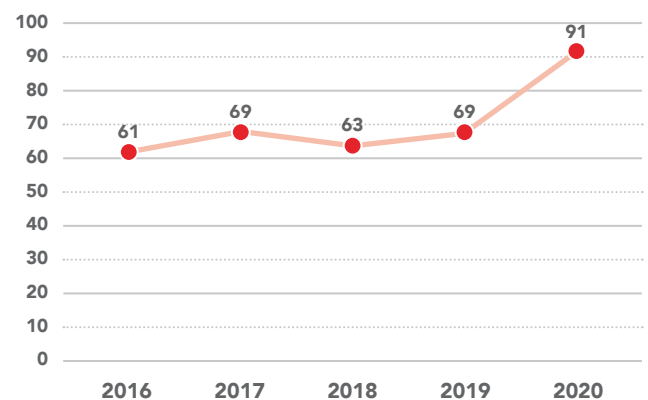


TYLER WEST
DSW

Little Grand Rapids – Children in Care



Little Grand Rapids Family Services



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PAUINGASSI UNIT

Location: Pauingassi is a remote community located approximately 280 kilometers northeast of Winnipeg and is situated on the shores of Family Lake near the Manitoba/Ontario border.

Population: The on-reserve population is 624 and the off-reserve is 66 with a total population of 690 members.

Chief and CFS Portfolio

Councillor: Chief is Roddy Owens and the CFS Portfolio Councillor is Mary Ann Crow-Suggashie.

PAUINGASSI FIRST NATION is a gorgeous remote community although access to the community is often challenging and expensive. The winter road is open for about a month each year. Float planes can land on the lake in the spring and summer but not during freeze up and break up. There is a helicopter service to transport persons from the Little Grand Rapids Airport which is 24 kilometers away. In the winter, transportation is provided by snowmobile or by vehicles when the ice road is deemed safe for travel. This winter, the community made an airstrip so that the planes can land right on the lake in Pauingassi.

The community's infrastructure and resources are: Band Office; Nursing Station; Health Centre which houses all the health programs such as NADAP, Brighter Futures, Building Healthy Communities and Jordan's Principle; DOJO's Store; Northern Store; New Dream Lodge Building; SECFS office; Shawenim ABinoojii homes; and, the RCMP serves the community from its detachment in Little Grand Rapids.

There are two community churches, and the Omiishosh Memorial School offers kindergarten to grade 9, with students being required to leave the community to attend beyond grade 9. During the pandemic, the school has been closed, and schoolwork continues to be delivered to the children.

The community is growing very rapidly with 18 new family homes built this year. Jordan's Principle also have a home for their staff that come to the community for work. Currently the home is also used as an isolation home for when the community members return from the City.

The community also constructed an outdoor skating rink, a baseball field, and an outdoor track which will promote the children, youth, and adults to be physically active.

Shawenim Abinoojii provides 10 units in the community that are available for children in need of placement. The homes are used for temporary and long-term placements that help prevent children from being placed outside the community; most often, the



placements are filled. There were 2 new units that were built this year and are being utilized as isolation unit when the community member's return from the City. Shawenim is also using one of the units as their office.

The community also loves to go fishing during the summer and even during the winter. They also enjoy going out to their traplines to trap and hunt.

STAFF:

Director – Jackie Larocque

Community Supervisor – Sharon Samatte

Community Direct Service Workers – Stephanie Keeper, Theresa Owen

Casual Direct Service Worker – Samuel Keeper

Administrative Assistant – Sandra Keeper

City Supervisor – Rick Paskaruk

City Direct Service Workers – Melissa Kolesar, Kristine Arbis, Meagan Parisian

Administrative Assistant – Cecilia Cook

HIGHLIGHTS AND EVENTS OF 2020:

- Increased number of children were reunified with their parents, extended family, or community.
- Provided families with emergency food from the food pantry.
- Assisted families with formula, diapers, and wipes.
- Engaging with Chief and Council with planning for the families.
- The community and city units plan in working towards reunification to either their family or to the community.
- The workers were able to arrange for activities this past summer that were hosted by the Agency; or which partnered with community and/or leadership resources:
- Provided Families with Personal Protective Equipment
 - Spring and Fall Community Feasts
 - Moose Harvest
 - Memorial Feast
 - Donations to Gospel Jamboree
 - Honouring our Elders/Easter Feast
 - Hosted a Family Camp with the Cultural Program
 - Community BBQs
 - Halloween Candy to each household
 - Christmas Gifts to each child in the community
 - Provided protection families with Gingerbread house kits
 - New Year's Eve fireworks





JACKIE LAROCQUE
Director of Services



SHARON SAMATTE
Supervisor



SANDRA KEEPER
Administrative Assistant



STEPHANIE KEEPER
Administrative Assistant



THERESA OWEN
DSW



SAMUEL KEEPER
File Clerk



RICK PASKARUK
Supervisor



CECILIA COOK
Administrative Assistant



MELISSA KOLESAR
DSW

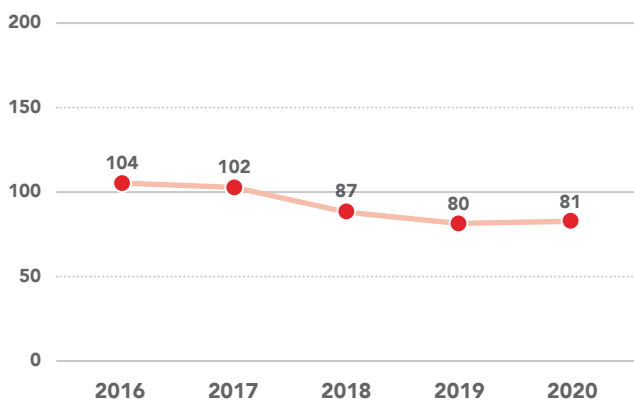


KRISTINE ARBIS
DSW

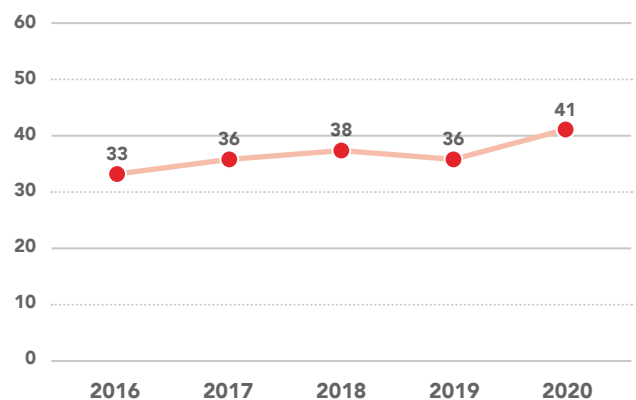


MEGAN PARISIAN
DSW

Pauingassi – Children in Care



Pauingassi Family Services



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT BLOODVEIN UNIT

Location: Bloodvein River First Nation is accessible by gravel road and is located approximately 210 kilometers North of Winnipeg on the East shore of Lake Winnipeg.

Population: Bloodvein First Nation has a large on-reserve population of 1,176 and an off-reserve population of 742, with a total of 1,198 members.

Chief and CFS Portfolio

Councillor: Chief is Derek A. Cook and CFS Portfolio Councillor is Ellen Young.

BLOODVEIN FIRST NATION infrastructure includes the Band Office Bloodvein Health Centre/Nursing Station Jordan's Principle Program Water Treatment Plant and Sanitation; Mikisi Towing; Keller & Sons Grocery Store; LBC Smoke Shop; Anishinaabe Coffee Shop; Bloodvein River Lodge; RCMP Detachment; SECFS office; and, Shawenim Abinoojii homes.

The Miskoosepi School which provides nursery to grade 9 and is operated by the Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre school system. When children complete grade 9 at the local level, transition begins to attend high school located outside the community usually in Winnipeg, Selkirk, and Brandon. Children leaving their community to attend high school often have difficulties in adjusting to their new environment and often experience culture shock. Southeast Student Services provides direct financial



assistance (sponsorship), transition (relocation), social support, counseling for students entering regular high school and vocational programs; university/college entrance programs and university/professional training programs; as well as a variety of clerical and technical programs.

STAFF:

The Bloodvein Unit has one community-based and two city units due to its large off-reserve caseload. The units work in conjunction with one another to provide services to Bloodvein members living both on- and off-reserve.

Director of Services: - Jaime Chartrand

City Supervisors – Natascha Enzlberger and Anetta Russo

Direct Service Workers – Amber Catellier, Amber Gareau, Crystal Boulette, Ed Tanner, Julia Mann, Kelvin Sherman, Letitia Kipling, Lorraine Baldwin, Tania Guimond, Rebecca McIvor and Lee Bornhorst.

Administrative Assistants – Barb Tomasi and Dominic Chartrand

Community Supervisor – Greg McVicker

Direct Service Workers – Cindy Desjarlais, Frank Young, Charlotte Bushie

Family Enhancement – (vacant)

Administrative Assistant – (vacant)



JAIME CHARTRAND
Director of Services



MINO PIMATIZIWIN

Southeast Child and Family Services



GREG MCVICKER
Supervisor



CINDY DESJARLAIS
DSW



FRANK YOUNG
DSW



CHARLOTTE BUSHIE
DSW



NATASCHA ENZBERGER
Supervisor



ANETTA RUSSO
Supervisor



BARB TOMASI
Administrative Assistant



DOMINIC CHARTRAND
Administrative Assistant



AMBER GAREAU
DSW



AMBER CATELLIER
DSW



TANIA GUIMOND
DSW



JULIA MANN
DSW



ED TANNER
DSW



LEE BORNHORST
DSW



LORRAINE BALDWIN
DSW



KEL SHERMAN
DSW



CRYSTAL BOULETTE
DSW



LETITIA KIPLING
DSW



REBECCA MCIVOR
DSW



STACY REIMER
DSW



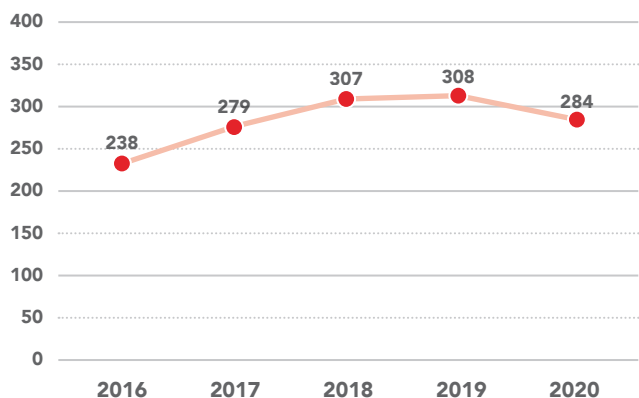
DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

BLOODVEIN UNIT

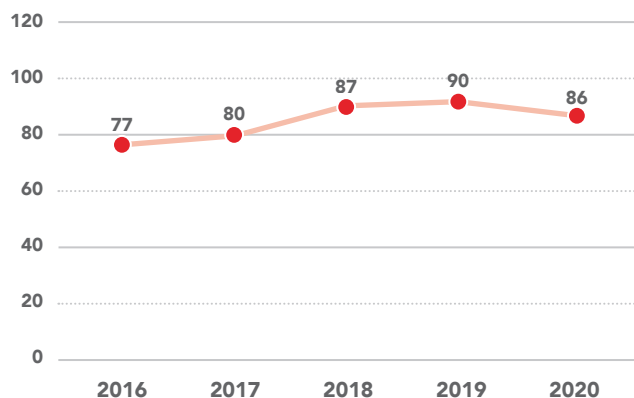
HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES:

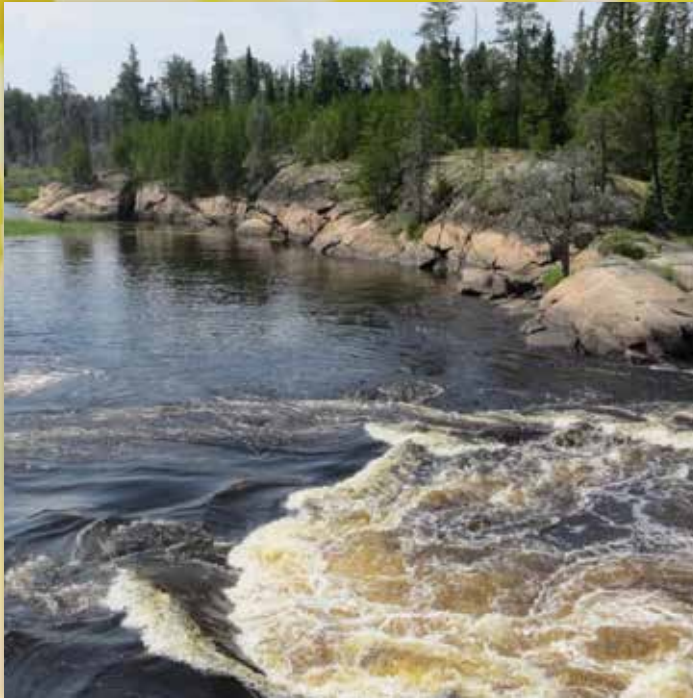
- This year brought new challenges largely due to COVID-19. SECFS participated in city and community resource meetings and provided regular updates for the health and safety of all Bloodvein members.
- The city and community units participated in a joint unit case review in March 2020. The teams improved communication and working relations which has provided better planning for the children and families of Bloodvein First Nation.
- The Bloodvein Unit partnered with the Chief and Council in a number of initiatives this year including the following:
 - Healthy Home Environment Program (helped 5 families)
 - Healthy Baby Program (provides formula, diapers, and bottles)
 - Community Food Bank
 - Laptops provided to children in care and protection family children for online schooling, support services, and for family contact
- Personal Protective Equipment packages
- Food POs, ordering and deliveries (as needed)
- Community Church Service
- Community Clean Up
- Confluence Counselling Services
- Stepping out Saturdays (S.O.S.) Momenta Program
- Addiction Support Group
- Funeral Donations
- Halloween
- Christmas – community turkeys, children in care, protection family, and foster family gifts
- Participated in the Pandemic Community Working Group
- Indigo Love of Reading Foundation (books were donated to families during COVID-19)
- Waterways Canoe Camp

Bloodvein – Children in Care



Bloodvein Family Services





New Bloodvein school being built.



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

BERENS RIVER UNIT

Location: Berens River First Nation (Miimiiwiziipiing) is located on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg at the mouth of the Berens River. An all-weather road has been open for three years, allowing our community members access to nearby First Nations and Winnipeg. The community's treaty land and reserve boundary is approximately 2,547 hectares and is situated in the heart of Manitoba's boreal forest.



Population: As of December 31, 2019, the on-reserve population was 2,220 and the off-reserve population was 1,326 for a total of 3,546 members.

Chief and CFS Portfolio: Chief is Norman McKay, and the CFS Portfolio Councillors are Glen Boulanger and Tracy Berens.

BERENS RIVER FIRST NATION is the largest of the Southeast communities, with a location that offers many opportunities for land and water-based activities. Summer activities are held annually in the surrounding area of Berens River. The Log Inn offers cabins with a beautiful view of the surrounding area including the river that merges with the waterfalls and attracts many visitors.

The community has a large infrastructure to support its members including: Band Office; RCMP; Hydro Station; Meemee-siipii Inc; Airport; Berens River Log Inn; Daycare; Nursing Station/Chief Jacob Berens Mino-Berens River Health Centre (Community Wellness Programs); NADAP; BFI/BHC; Nutrition North; ADI; CPNP; Jordan's Principle Program; Training and Employment Program; Pump House; SECFS Office; Shawenim Abinoojii Homes; Head Start; Northern Store; Oshetoon Building Supplies/Store; Alix Enterprises Store; and, the Berens River Store.

The Berens River School offers nursery to grade 9 and is operated by the Frontier School Division. The children are required to relocate to Winnipeg and/or other municipalities to attend school beyond grade 9. The community offers an Alternative Adult Education Program which is also overseen by the Frontier School Division.

Shawenim Abinoojii has eight units in the community that are used for emergency, temporary, or longer-term placements to keep children in the community near their families. Some homes are used for reunification where parents and their children reside with a Mentor that provides support, guidance, parenting skills, and life skills training.

STAFF:

Director of Services – Stanford Boulanger

Community Supervisor – Stanley Boulanger

Direct Service Workers – Mabel Green, Dora Berens, Ernestine Swain, Muriel Green

Administrative Assistant – Reanna Andrews

Family Enhancement Worker – Candace Stoneman

Community Case Aide / Intake – Corinna Andruschak-Bouchie

Community (Berens River and Bloodvein) Alternative Care Worker – Laverne Everett

City Supervisors – Rick Paskaruk and Josephine Frey

Direct Service Workers – Kaylee Funk, Allison McKay, Brooke Evans, Kareen Thompson, Amelia Robertson, Claudia Sanchez, Errol Boulanger, Chantelle Hnatiw, Kelsuma Yussuf and Ashley Kirkness

Administrative Assistants – Kianna Greene and Cecilia Cook

City Case Aide – Bernice Berens





STANFORD BOULANGER
Director of Services



STANLEY BOULANGER
Supervisor



REANNA ANDREWS
Administrative Assistant



CANDACE STONEMAN
FE



DORA BERENS
DSW



MURIEL GREEN
DSW



ERNESTINE SWAIN
DSW



MABEL GREEN
DSW



**CORRINA
ANDRUSHAK-BOUCHIE**
Intake



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT BERENS RIVER UNIT

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- This year has been very challenging to offer programs, activities, and community events due to COVID-19 and the social distancing guidelines to keep the community safe. As of October 2020, a team of local resources gathered to form a COVID-19 Working Group who met weekly to plan and to prepare should an outbreak happen in the community (which unfortunately did occur with the first case being identified on November 30). The Working Group and Chief and Council attempted to minimize the spread of COVID-19 by implementing a community curfew, travel restrictions, and recommending that no visitors to residences be permitted. Additionally, blockades were set up within the community to discourage people from visiting others.
- Despite the hardships, the Agency continues to partner with the community to host limited community-based activities and events. Chief and Council and local businesses including the local store owners who made contributions or donated to the activities and events were positive endeavours.
- The Berens River First Nation Annual Treaty Days was held in August. A tent was setup at the Treaty grounds entrance to check everyone's temperature plus there was a sign-in sheet as part of COVID-19 protocol. The event was a huge success as community members gathered and had a festive time with traditional games, entertainment provided by live bands, a jigging contest, Elder's appreciation, ticket draws, plus other activities. This year's Treaty Days marked the 145th year that we have been celebrating and ended with the usual loud firework display.
- The Community Health Empowerment Support Services (CHESS) Program is a SECFS funded program comprised of a Program

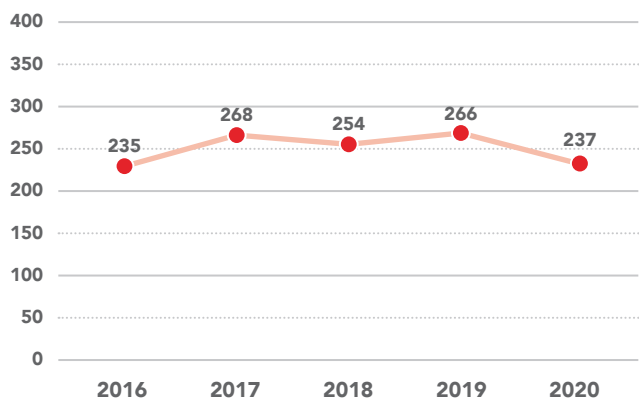
Coordinator and with youth who attend the program for work experience. The CHESS program is located out of the Sports Complex Arena and all activities were held outdoor and abide with all community COVID-19 guidelines.

- The Women's and Men's Groups were cancelled until a virtual program can be set up.
- The Berens River city and community teams maintained regular family and sibling visits for children in care, where possible, and followed the COVID-19 safety measures.
- The Berens River SECFS representative participated in the community local resource meetings that were held quarterly until the pandemic suspended the meetings.
- The summer canoe training program was provided to the youth in August.
- The Agency funded the Brighter Futures Initiative family fun week in October.

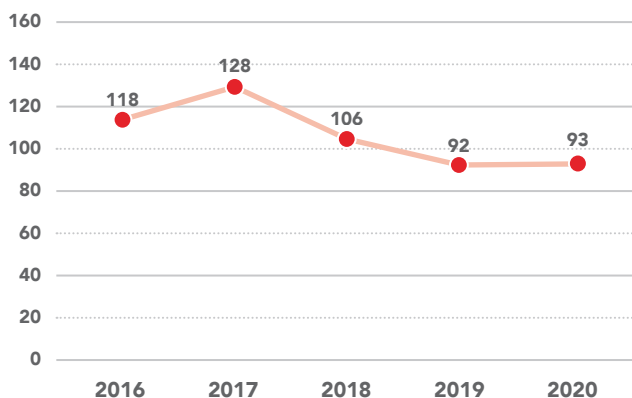
I would like to share my gratitude and appreciation for our Berens River SECFS; for all the hard work and services they have provided to our clients throughout this pandemic. It is clearly visible the commitment our staff has in serving the community of Berens River during a very stressful time. I would like to sincerely thank each member of the Berens River unit and wish all of you many blessings.

Again, a big thank you, to all the workers that persisted in providing support to all our children and their parents/families. (Kichi miigwech kakina ongowe anokiwaaganak kaakiishazhiipendamowaat ewiichiyaawaat abinoonjiya zhigwa oniigi'ima)

Berens River – Children in Care



Berens River Family Services





JOSEPHINE FREY
Supervisor



RICK PASKARUK
Supervisor



KIANNA GREENE
Administrative Assistant



CECILIA COOK
Administrative Assistant



BERNICE BERENS
Case Aide



ERROL BOULANGER
DSW



KELSUMA YUSSUF
DSW



ALLISON MCKAY
DSW



ASHLEY KIRKNESS
DSW



CHANTELLE HNATIW
DSW



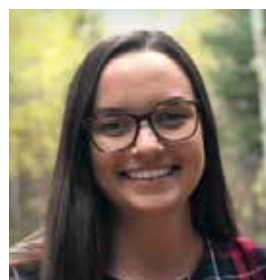
KAYLEE FUNK
DSW



AMELIA ROBERTSON
DSW



KAREEN THOMPSON
DSW



BROOKE EVANS
DSW



CLAUDIA SANCHEZ
DSW



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

POPLAR RIVER UNIT

Location: Poplar River is the northernmost First Nation of the Southeast communities and is located on the east side of Lake Winnipeg. This remote community is situated on the mouth of the Poplar River and is in the heart of Manitoba's Boreal Forest and has no permanent road access. The main method of transportation is by plane; however, boats may be used in the summer, and the winter road is open for a short period of time.



Population: Poplar River has an on-reserve population of 1,275 members and 579 off-reserve band members for a total population of 1,854.

Poplar River First Nation Chief and CFS Councillor: Chief is Vera Mitchell and the CFS Portfolio Councillor is Tanya Bittern.

POPLAR RIVER FIRST NATION is a community strong with its cultural traditions and has a rich historical background. Community members enjoy an outdoor lifestyle year-round with land-based activities and camping facilities at Weaver Lake.

The community has a large population with a progressive infrastructure that employs its community members.

Poplar River First Nation controls its own school which serves students from kindergarten to grade 9. Students in grades 10 to 12 are currently required to attend school outside the community, but

Poplar River will have a new school built in the near future that will serve the students to grade 12.

The Poplar River community team provides service for the Poplar River children and have provided services for children from other communities who are placed in the Shawenim Abinoojii homes or the Poplar River group home. This significantly increased the number of children in care reported for the community statistics. The community opens its placements for the non-member children because they appreciate children fare better being placed in the community where they can maintain their cultural heritage, language, and a connection to the land.

STAFF:

Director of Services – Glory Lister

Community Supervisor - Sherri Hudson

Direct Service Workers - Chelsea Little, Renee Larocque, Siera Ens

Intake Worker - Loretta Spencer (retired Aug. 2020)

Prevention Worker - Betty Sainnawap

Administrative Assistant - Brianne Valiquette

City Supervisor - Trisha Fox

Direct Service Workers - Colin Smart, Andrea Johnson, Monika Flett, Simone Richard, Angela Uta, Lara Coppola,

Case Aide - Lisa Buffalo

Administrative Assistant - Tessa Inglis





GLORY LISTER
Director of Services



SHERRI HUDSON
Supervisor



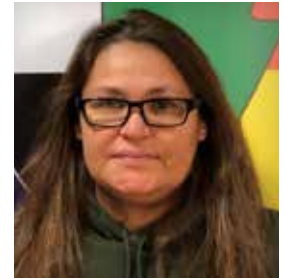
CHELSEA LITTLE
DSW



RENEE LAROCQUE
DSW



BETTY SAINNAWAP
Prevention/FE



LISA BUFFALO
FE



TRISHA FOX
Supervisor



TESSA INGLIS
Administrative Assistant



MONIKA FLETT
DSW



ANDREA JOHNSON
DSW



COLIN SMART
DSW



SIMONE RICHARD
DSW



SIERA ENS
DSW



LARA COPPOLA
DSW



DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT POPLAR RIVER UNIT

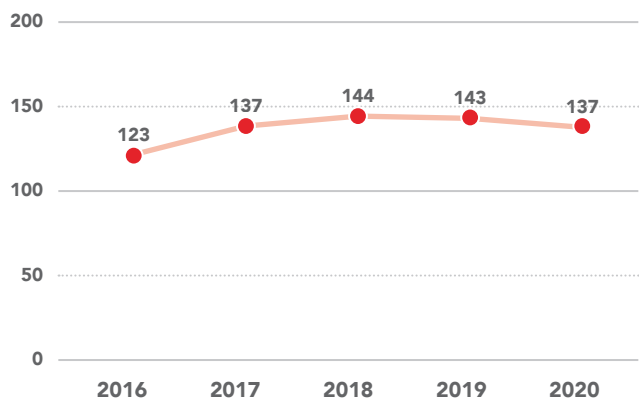
HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- Treaty Day Event – Organized the children's events and bought prizes for each age group.
- Held a family barbeque at the Treaty Day event.
- Assisted the Waterways Canoe instructors with delivering safe canoeing lessons.
- The Family Prevention Camp took a family of 6 to live off the land for number of days.
- Teachings about medicine and herbs were provided to our clients and families who were taken for nature walks.
- Family picnics and wiener roasts were held with families to minimize their isolation.
- Airfares and accommodations were provided to support people in emergency situations.
- Contributed to the community food bank which fed more than 60 families per month.
- Contributed to the costs for the Arena Recreation Workers.
- Agency Pantry was supplied with dry goods, meat, formula, and diapers for emergency requests.
- Purchased and delivered Arts and Crafts packages to families.
- Contributed to the Justin Bruce Memorial Hockey Tournament.
- Contributed to the Fishing Derby prizes.
- Partnered to provide the Empowering Young Mothers During Pregnancy.
- Peer Pressure Program and working with individuals with suicidal ideation.
- Provided costs for support workers to assist families to maintain children in their own homes.
- Prevention Worker taught young teenagers and parents how to cook.
- Prevention Worker helped organized and clean up some homes when needed and cared for children while the parent went to

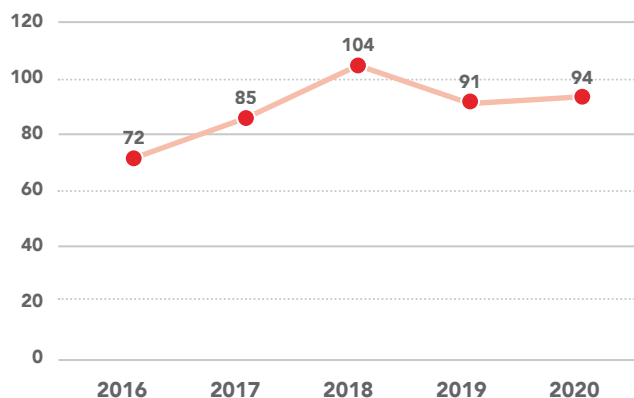
shop at the store.

- Ordered and delivered reading packages for children in care.
- Youth Buffalo Rider's 10-week program was reduced to 7 weeks due to COVID-19.
- Created a virtual Mother's and Father's Day event for community members with live and online draws.
- Halloween and virtual Halloween contests that included a pumpkin carving contest.
- Partnered with the school to contribute to Halloween activities and give candy.
- Furniture was distributed to families and the Reunification Home.
- Christmas Virtual Contest was held.
- Donated turkeys, hams, and ground beef to community members.
- Contributed to sporting activities and events for children and youth in the community.
- Donated to the children's outdoor camping excursion with the Group Home.
- Donated to the Youth Gathering and Youth Symposium.
- Donated to the NADDAP Sobriety group.
- The city unit has been focusing with connecting children with their families, extended families, or communities.
- The workers are building their skills with finding family and community connections for children in need of placement.
- Regularly utilizing the First Nations Family Advocacy Office and Ma Mawi's Family Group Conferencing to help family reunifications.
- Case Aide helps supports the Direct Service Workers and the Poplar River families with shopping or escorting children to the community when needed.
- Maintaining regular contact with families and children using virtual means (and in person as needed) and encouraging clients to access the Agency's virtual programming.

Poplar River – Children in Care



Poplar River Family Services





DIRECT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

AGE OF MAJORITY (AOM) UNIT

The Age of Majority (AOM) Unit is comprised of seven Direct Service Workers, an Administrative Assistant, Transitional Services Coordinator, Supervisor, and a Director of Services are located on the 4th Floor at the 360 Broadway office.

This specialized unit's main focus is providing transitional services to youth and young adults who are between the ages of 16 and 20 years old. The Unit receives referrals from the on- and off-reserve Direct Service Units. Caseloads are usually between 20 and 25 per worker which allows them more individual time with the youth and to offer them as many resources as possible for them to become successful young adults. The AOM Unit currently has 132 cases.

When transitioning youth out of care, it is important to assess their needs holistically, keeping in mind the cognitive functioning of the individuals, their life skills, supports, cultural needs and their individual strengths and weaknesses. This involves the completion of assessments to find the best possible resources for a client. Services considered include Independent Living or Community Assisted Living for Adults; programming needs; family and community connections; and supporting education and employment goals.

STAFF:

Director of Services - Kyle McClintock

Supervisor - Melanie Boulette

Administrative Assistant - Jasmine Greene

Transitional Services Coordinator - Ocean Bruyere

Direct Service Workers: Dennis Dare, Tricia Garton, Ryan Heinrichs, Debra McLeod, Vera Coppola, Reina Aviles, and Matthew Zebrasky.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS:

- Successfully transitioned 34 youth out of care.
- AOM staff attended workshops to increase their knowledge to provide better support and help the youth be successful when transitioning out of care. Workshops included: Preparing Youth for Successful Adulthood; Working with At Risk Youth; Bill C-92 Presentations; Substance Abuse and Mental Health; Supporting Healthy Choices for Youth with FASD; Vicarious Trauma; COVID-19 PPE Safety Training; and, a number of virtual programming opportunities were offered by the Agency.
- Partnership with Knowles Centre Inc. The Supported Adolescent Independent Living (SAIL) continues to reserve 17 apartments for SECFS youth where they learn how to live independently to prevent future homelessness.
- Partnership with Inaadziwin which developed with the support of AOM. Inaadziwin is an Indigenous Independent Living Program that focuses on delivering culturally appropriate services to the

youth in the program. Youth are supported to develop life skills, receive employability training and experiences, and cultural programming. SECFS youth receive priority for the Inaadziwin referrals and comprise of 95% of the youth in the program.

- AOM has developed virtual Anishinaabemowin Language Classes and registered 34 participants.
- Wolfpack Hockey Team is made up of youth (ages 16-21 yrs). The Team joined the Adult Safe Hockey League in May 2018 and continued until March 2020 when the pandemic forced the team and the league to end its season. Despite not being able to return to play, youth on the team continue to remain connected and work on their skills individually, eagerly awaiting their return to play as a team. Some of the youth had justice involvement prior to joining the team and, to date, none of the youth have had any further involvement with the justice system.
- AOM has developed a relationship with True North Youth Foundation and has organized a donation drive to help children and youth in the communities receive hockey equipment including skates, helmets, shin pads, pants, shoulder pads, elbow pads, gloves, jerseys, and socks of various sizes.
- Transitional Planning Training was developed in 2019 with the AOM Unit providing training for the other Agency units to receive information and training on how to develop transitional plans and connect with the appropriate resources for the youth's transition out of care. A video was made with Just TV to highlight the stories of some of the youth that have aged out of Agency care. This video profiled the youths' needs from their perspective in order to help Agency workers understand how to better support the youth.

GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR:

- Assist in the reunification and repatriation of our youth to their families and communities.
- Work with the communities to develop on-reserve land-based experiences for youth living off-reserve with the goal of supporting youth in developing a positive community and cultural identity.
- Develop additional training for youth to improve their employability and overall life skills.
- Participate in and/or host a career symposium for the youth to hand out résumés, network, and gain more information about the employment opportunities and services available to them in the communities they live.
- Organize another art show for the youth so they can continue to have opportunities to sell their art, profit off their creations, and develop their sales skills and self-esteem.
- Expand networking (both in-person and online) to provide further opportunities for youth receiving our support.





KYLE MCCLINTOCK
Director of Services



MELANIE BOULETTE
Supervisor



JASMINE GREENE
Administrative Assistant



TRICIA GARTON
DSW



MATTHEW ZEBRASKY
DSW



DENNIS DARE
DSW



REINA AVILES
DSW



DEBRA MCLEOD
DSW



RYAN HEINRICHS
DSW



VERA COPPOLA
DSW



ALTERNATIVE CARE UNIT

The Alternative Care Unit underwent restructuring to streamline the services provided to our communities. Previously the Alternative Care Department worked as a collective, with each worker managing foster/kinship homes that included children from all of the Southeast communities. The restructuring of the Alternative Care Unit now results in workers being assigned to one of the eight Southeast communities, with their physical office locations being situated with the Direct Service Unit for the community in which they are assigned to. The primary goal of the Alternative Care Unit is to work together with the Direct Service Workers in benefitting our children and youth in care in finding family placements, and this restructuring was designed to streamline those services.

The Unit is responsible for finding appropriate placement options, meaning family first, for the Agency's children in care; assess potential caregivers; issue foster home licenses; review foster homes on an annual basis; ensure foster care standards and regulations are adhered to; and, to provide support to the caregivers/foster parents.

The Alternative Care staff work out of the 1410 Mountain Avenue, Brokenhead, and Berens River community offices. We serve the eight Southeast First Nations and the off-reserve homes. Currently, there are 470 licensed foster homes, 92 licensed kinship homes and 92 places of safety homes.

STAFF:

Director – Jaime Chartrand

Director – Kyle McClintock

Supervisor – Stephanie Michell

Supervisor – Wanda Joe

The supervisory duties include ensuring workers are licensing foster homes correctly; the recruitment of culturally appropriate foster homes and kinship homes; and dealing with any conflicts or concerns brought forward regarding a foster home and/or foster parents (caregivers).

Administrative Assistant/Worker – Hazel Roulette

Administrative Assistant – Trevor Harper

The Alternative Care Workers conduct home studies, home reviews, and follow up on any concerns regarding a home or foster parent. The Worker may also attend the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) sessions. The following Workers are assigned to the respective areas:

City Workers:

Intake – Amanda Schubert

Berens River – Beverly Thomas and Brynn Rosjer-Doyle

Black River, Brokenhead, Hollow Water – Lael Proppe

Bloodvein – Brandi Blackbird and Lily Creeley

Little Grand Rapids – Lindsey Nobess

Pauingassi – Hazel Roulette

Poplar River – Nicole Strocen

Shawenim Homes – Stacy Moore

Community Workers:

Berens River, Bloodvein – Laverne Everett

Black River, Brokenhead, Hollow Water – Prairie Hapa

Little Grand Rapids, Pauingassi, Poplar River – (vacant)

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES:

- Restructuring of the Alternative Care Unit
- Regular staff meetings to address any concerns or issues regarding foster parents (caregivers) or foster homes
- Christmas presents ordered for all foster parents and on- and off-reserve children in care

GOALS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR:

- To provide orientation and cultural training sessions to new foster parents
- Develop new orientation and cultural training video guided by Bill C-92
- More active recruitment of kinship homes





JAIME CHARTRAND
Director of Services



KYLE MCCLINTOCK
Director of Services



WANDA JOE
Supervisor



STEPHANIE MICHELL
Supervisor



TREVOR HARPER
Administrative Assistant



HAZEL ROULETTE
Administrative Assistant



BRANDI BLACKBIRD
DSW



LILY CREELY
DSW



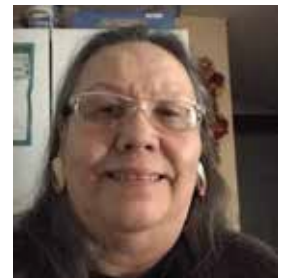
LAVERNE EVERETT
DSW



BRYNN ROSJER-DOYLE
DSW



AMANDA SCHUBERT
DSW



BEV THOMAS
DSW



NICOLE STROCEN
DSW



PRAIRIE-ROSE HAPA
DSW



LINDSEY NOBESS
DSW



LAEL PROPPE
DSW



STACY MOORE
Prior Contact Specialist



CHILD ABUSE UNIT



KYLE MCCLINTOCK
Director of Services



LAUREN TURNEY
Supervisor



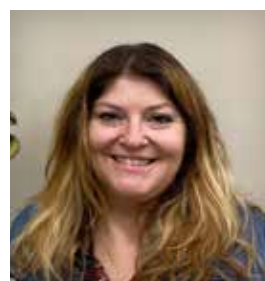
ASHTON MCCORRISTER
Administrative Assistant



CYNTHIA EYESHEMITAN
Investigator



CARA GRAPENTINE
Investigator



MAUREEN LINE
Investigator

Southeast Child and Family Services' Child Abuse Unit investigates allegations of abuse involving children or youth residing on the eight Southeast First Nations. The involvement of the Child Abuse Unit will vary where SECFS children in care are placed in an Agency licensed foster home which is located in a rural area.

Responsibilities of the Staff

The Coordinator oversees the Child Abuse Unit to ensure its function to investigate abuse allegations involving children and youth are carried out as per the The Child and Family Services Act and in compliance with the Provincial Child Abuse Committee Regulations.

The Investigators specialize in investigating abuse allegations that may be physical, sexual, or emotional in nature. Investigators are responsible for establishing working relationships with the Direct Service Worker and Supervisor while an allegation is being investigated. Once the Direct Service Worker makes the initial assessment to ensure the safety of the child, the Investigator will interview the child and the alleged offender. The Investigator makes appropriate and/or necessary recommendations that may identify protection concerns for the victim child, or any other child, and may

recommend the immediate removal of a child from the caregiver to ensure the child's safety. The Child Abuse Coordinator and Abuse Investigators are ready for consult with Direct Service Workers and Supervisors when there are questions about potential or real abuse, referral processes, investigations, and outcome reports.

The Administrative Assistant creates and maintains the child abuse files; completes the Intake Module; ensures files on the CFSIS are up to date; maintains yearly statistic reports; prepares the Child Abuse Committee (CAC) agenda; takes meeting minutes; and distributes the minutes to the CAC members. The Administrative Assistant also assists workers with obtaining or providing information to the police, the Crown, court, or other agencies (as necessary) and maintains a tracking system for all internal and external referrals.

STAFF:

Director – Kyle McClintock

Coordinator – Lauren Turney

Investigators – Cara Grapentine, Maureen Line, Cynthia Eyeshemitan

Administrative Assistant – Ashton McCorrister



IN-HOUSE THERAPY PROGRAM



MELISSA LELA
In-House Therapist



JANELLE LISTER
Receptionist/
Administrative Assistant

The 2020 year marks the first year that the Agency's In-House Therapy Program has been operational. During this first year, 40 referrals of children and youth were received with these children/youth ranging in age from 4-20. These referrals included a combination of children in care and children not in care (family protection cases).

Like many other programs, our program was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2020, all in-person sessions were abruptly suspended due to widespread lockdowns and restrictions aimed at preventing the spread of the corona virus. The In-House Therapist attempted to maintain contact with clients by offering remote sessions when possible including video and phone sessions, as well as maintaining communication through text messaging. However, not all clients were able to access or participate in virtual therapy, and remote sessions were unable to meet all the needs of many program clients. At the end of June 2020, the In-House Therapy Program re-located to the Mountain location on a temporary basis to resume in-person sessions with clients (with enhanced sanitation and screening procedures).

As a Registered Social Worker in a regulated profession, the In-House Therapist has been able to continue offering in-person services to children and youth throughout the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and public health orders. This has been accomplished with the use of all requisite Personal Protective Equipment and enhanced sanitation measures on-site. When so requested and/or required, remote services were provided to clients who are isolating or prefer virtual means given public health recommendations.

Despite the challenges of this year, the in-house therapy program has provided over 250 therapy sessions to 20 children and youth and has supported the reunification of 3 families.

STAFF:

In-House Therapist – Melissa Lela

Melissa is a Registered Social Worker with a clinical Master of Social Work degree, with training in the areas of attachment and trauma.

Receptionist/Administrative Assistant - Janelle Lister



FAMILY HEALING AND WELLNESS CENTRE



DINA BRUYERE
Manager



LILLIAN COOK
Family Wellness Support



BRITTANY GRISDALE
Family Wellness Support



MEGHAN ROUTLEDGE
Life Skills Coach



ROGER GREENE
Bi-Cultural Therapist

The Grand Opening ceremony for the SECFS Family Healing and Wellness Centre was held on September 4,, 2020. The event started with a prayer from Little Grand Rapids First Nation Councillor Clinton Keeper and was followed by a Pipe and Water ceremony. The Thunderbird Song was rendered by Family Wellness Support Worker Marvin Smith. Councillor Keeper provided welcoming remarks and shared stories of the community and territory's history. The SECFS Family Healing and Wellness Centre is located across the lake from the Little Grand Rapids First Nation, along the shores of Family Lake.

The SECFS Family Healing and Wellness Centre is funded by Indigenous Services Canada and will provide a unique 13-day healing program for the Southeast families to strengthen their family relationships and prevent family breakdown. The program also offers forums for reunifying children and youth with their immediate or extended family members to increase the success of their reunification and support the healing of the family unit.

The program focuses on healing the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being of the individual and families. The program is rooted in the Anishinaabe ways of knowing and doing, promoting self-awareness and self-empowerment to help families discover their

strengths and resiliencies in the spirit of Mino Pimatiziwin.

The first program session concluded on September 18, and the families received a Certificate of Completion plus a Wellness Package that consisted of cedar water spray, the four medicines (cedar, sage, tobacco and sweetgrass) and an Eagle feather.

The program includes participating in a sweat lodge, letting go ceremony, and cedar baths. Other program sessions include:

Creation Story	Women's Creation Story
500 Years of Resistance	Trauma to Transformation
Lateral Violence to Lateral Kindness	Grief and Loss
Self Esteem through Kinship	Spirit of Peace
Rights of the Anishinaabe Child	Self Care
Relationships- Book of Secrets, Zeegwen and Keewatin	
Teekinagan: Baby's First Sacred Lodge (traditional parenting)	
Household Management (meal preparation & budgeting)	

The next intake will occur immediately upon the easing of restrictions for gathering and travel, and it is deemed safe for the program to resume as there is a waiting list of families wanting to attend the Family Healing and Wellness Centre program.

The FHWK staff are currently providing virtual programming to promote and support the well-being of families and parents.





COMMUNITY OPERATIONS



FRANK ABRAHAM
Community Development
and Liaison Manager



LORETTA DESJARLAIS
Operations Assistant

The COVID-19 pandemic presented many challenges for us in terms of providing services and delivering products to our communities. With all the restrictions that had come into place we had to pursue alternative purchasing options which were both challenging and time consuming. At times we were unsure if we would even be able to purchase all the needed winter road supplies.

In order to facilitate the extensive travel that is required to access our drive-in communities, a number of new trucks were purchased. These trucks are used by the community-based staff and by the Directors of Services for these communities.

When pandemic-related restrictions set in, requests for recreational equipment such as swings, trampolines, and exercise equipment increased. These products sold out in most stores and we had to search neighboring cities to purchase some of these products. Restrictions were also placed on the quantities that could be purchased in most stores and this is an ongoing challenge that we continue to face in light of the high volume of items we require.

We hauled 40 loads of supplies to the remote communities and made use of the community trucks and our two trailers. We worked 21 days straight in March to purchase, pick up and deliver supplies to our communities. In addition, a total of 80 canoes were purchased and 14 were delivered on the winter road (7 for Pauingassi and 7 for Little Grand Rapids). Shortly thereafter we received 50 more canoes which we then started distributing to the

other communities with the final deliveries being completed in July.

We began three expansion projects to community-based CFS offices and COVID-19 restrictions required us to work within those parameters in respect of the communities' well-being. In addition to these building projects, the summer months were just as demanding as new programs were developed and required supplies to be purchased and delivered.

In preparation for the current winter road shipments, we started ordering the supplies but were once again challenged in light of the restrictions as determined by the pandemic. We were faced with the ongoing challenge of making a great deal of our purchases online which then resulted in longer than usual wait times to pick up our orders.

Loretta Desjarlais is primarily responsible for making online purchases, making orders as requested by the Agency, and creating an inventory data base to track current purchases and inventory to determine future needs.

STAFF:

Community Development Liaison – Frank Abraham

Operations Assistant – Loretta Desjarlais

Maintenance (BON HQ) – Dennis Yaroshinski



ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS FIRST NATIONS FAMILY ADVOCATE OFFICE



SARAH FLATTERY



ELISABETH KING



TINA MCKAY



MYRNA THOMPSON

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) First Nations Family Advocate Office (FNFAO) has a unique partnership with the Southeast Child & Family Services (SECFS) Agency that was precipitated by the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly resolution, APR-17.04 A File by File Audit of Child and Family Services Agencies.

The FNFAO Family Reunification team consists of a Lead Family Reunification Worker, Tina McKay; two additional Family Reunification Workers, Sarah Flattery and Elisabeth King; and a Family Engagement Worker, Myrna Thompson. The team operates onsite at the SECFS Agency (Winnipeg office) three days a week to provide supports to seven First Nations who are serviced by SECFS.

In collaboration with SECFS, the Family Reunification team examines files that have no real concern for protection or are considered low risk. The team works directly with parents to provide supports to work toward having their children reunified. This year, our services

were impacted by the coronavirus pandemic (Covid-19), resulting in a need to shift how our services are offered, to ensure advocacy and referrals for families continued. Despite the challenges and barriers brought on by the pandemic, meaningful work prevailed through virtual platforms and curbside interactions when permitted.

From April 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021, the Family Reunification team successfully:

- Reunified 31 children with their parents;
 - Avoided the apprehension of 16 children;
 - Secured visitation for 18 children with their family;
 - Supported 20 children through kinship placements; and
 - Supported 1 guardianship placement.
- The Family Reunification team continues to be committed to working with SECFS to bring our children home.



MA MAWI WI CHI ITATA CENTRE

This year the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre (Ma Mawi) celebrated 35 years of working together with community, volunteers, donors, funders and valued partners to provide prevention and support-based programs and services to Winnipeg's Indigenous community. While 2020 presented many challenges, Ma Mawi quickly transitioned into a response plan to meet community needs while adhering to the changing restrictions that would keep staff and volunteers safe.

With increased COVID-19 restrictions throughout the year, the Family Group Conferencing Program (FGC) also had to shift its approach to supporting and working with families and agencies. Direct physical contact had to adapt to front yard meetings, check-ins and online Zoom contact. The FGC Mentors were extremely busy responding to families' needs through emergency service supports such as hampers, toys and self-care packages for parents and children, COVID-19 supply kits, and daily mental health check ins. The mentors also supported families in prevention, intervention and safety planning. Reunifications planned prior to COVID were still made possible with direct support through Ma Mawi and the transition resource support.

The FGC Program currently supports 72 SECFS families with a total of 212 children. As of January 2021, 83 children have been home for more than 365 days. The estimated total cost savings for these kids remaining out of care, using a basic rate of \$65 per day, is \$1,969,175.00.

Ma Mawi and the FGC program have found great value in their continuing partnership with SECFS and the agency's engagement as a circle of supports for their families. This relationship demonstrates the need for a working relationship between mandated and non-mandated organizations. We look forward to what 2021 brings so we can continue our wonderful heart medicine work together! For more info contact: fgc@mamawi.com



AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Southeast Child and Family Services (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2020, and the statements of operations, net assets (deficit) and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2020, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

July 22, 2020

MNP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants



Southeast Child and Family Services

Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Assets		
Current		
Cash (Note 4)	22,178,947	12,314,167
Restricted cash (Note 5)	12,229,236	9,783,041
Accounts receivable (Note 6)	992,057	11,068,122
Prepaid expenses and deposits	248,628	215,881
	35,648,868	33,381,211
Capital assets (Note 7)	3,661,937	3,240,536
Advances to related party (Note 8)	197,276	192,886
	39,508,081	36,814,633
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accruals (Note 9), (Note 16)	7,025,739	8,313,647
Deferred revenue (Note 10)	1,820,056	1,082,403
Current portion of long-term debt (Note 11)	7,616	91,403
Current portion of provincial child tax benefit payable (Note 12)	581,148	581,148
Working capital advance (Note 13)	2,263,400	2,263,400
	11,697,959	12,332,001
Long-term debt (Note 11)	-	7,616
Provincial child tax benefit payable (Note 12)	3,190,287	3,771,432
	14,888,246	16,111,049
Contingencies (Note 14)		
Net Assets (Deficit)		
Federal Core	5,118,080	3,608,204
Federal Family Enhancement	12,402,449	11,864,779
Federal Child Protection Services	(21,766,005)	(19,014,739)
Federal Child Maintenance	2,034,422	638,182
Provincial Core	(9,215,470)	(7,310,972)
Provincial Family Enhancement	595,733	501,491
Provincial Child Protection Services	3,774,366	3,951,308
Provincial Child Maintenance	(2,488,536)	2,266,338
Children's special allowance and other	34,164,796	24,198,993
	24,619,835	20,703,584
	39,508,081	36,814,633

Approved on behalf of the Board

Director

Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

MNP



Southeast Child and Family Services Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2020

	2020 Budget	2020	2019
Revenue			
Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)			
Operations - Federal Core (<i>Schedule 1</i>)	2,484,408	3,260,982	3,260,982
Federal Family Enhancement (<i>Schedule 2</i>)	5,696,377	4,958,724	4,613,974
Operations - Federal Child Protection Services (<i>Schedule 3</i>)	5,041,888	5,041,888	5,041,888
Federal Child Maintenance (<i>Schedule 4</i>)	26,436,146	26,436,146	28,021,266
	39,658,819	39,697,740	40,938,110
Southern First Nations Network of Care			
Operations - Provincial Core (<i>Schedule 5</i>)	920,080	722,160	727,704
Provincial Family Enhancement (<i>Schedule 6</i>)	780,905	799,793	799,792
Operations - Provincial Child Protection Services (<i>Schedule 7</i>)	5,654,697	5,728,229	5,722,686
	7,355,682	7,250,182	7,250,182
Province of Manitoba - Provincial Child Maintenance (<i>Schedule 8</i>)	26,472,900	27,142,000	33,114,760
Other revenue (<i>Schedule 9</i>)	425,000	667,362	504,494
	26,897,900	27,809,362	33,619,254
	73,912,401	74,757,284	81,807,546
Expenses			
Schedule of Federal Core (<i>Schedule 1</i>)	1,345,766	1,751,106	1,320,533
Schedule of Federal Family Enhancement (<i>Schedule 2</i>)	5,236,819	4,421,055	3,144,243
Schedule of Federal Child Protection Services (<i>Schedule 3</i>)	8,094,473	7,793,154	7,005,871
Schedule of Federal Child Maintenance (<i>Schedule 4</i>)	29,153,131	25,039,906	27,912,767
Schedule of Provincial Core (<i>Schedule 5</i>)	2,018,649	2,626,658	1,980,798
Schedule of Provincial Family Enhancement (<i>Schedule 6</i>)	1,172,561	705,551	1,104,725
Schedule of Provincial Child Protection Services (<i>Schedule 7</i>)	6,266,690	5,905,171	5,737,025
Schedule of Provincial Child Maintenance (<i>Schedule 8</i>)	31,176,834	31,896,874	32,758,674
	84,464,923	80,139,475	80,964,636
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses before other items	(10,552,522)	(5,382,191)	842,910
Other items			
ISC - retroactive payment - Federal (<i>Schedule 9</i>)	-	2,446,195	9,783,041
Children's Special Allowance revenue - Federal (<i>Schedule 9</i>)	2,416,978	2,202,215	2,316,979
Children's Special Allowance revenue - Provincial (<i>Schedule 9</i>)	4,800,000	4,892,954	
CSA - federal children (<i>Schedule 9</i>)	-	(246,973)	(230,456)
CSA - provincial children (<i>Schedule 9</i>)	-	(81,350)	-
Gain on disposals of capital assets (<i>Schedule 9</i>)	-	85,400	26,474
	7,216,978	9,298,441	11,896,038
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(3,335,544)	3,916,251	12,738,948

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



Southeast Child and Family Services Statement of Net Assets (Deficit)

For the year ended March 31, 2020

	<i>Federal Core</i>	<i>Federal Family Enhancement</i>	<i>Federal Child Protection Services</i>	<i>Federal Child Maintenance</i>	<i>Provincial Core</i>
Net assets (deficit), beginning of year	3,608,204	11,864,779	(19,014,739)	638,182	(7,310,972)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	1,509,876	537,670	(2,751,266)	1,396,240	(1,904,498)
Net assets (deficit), end of year	5,118,080	12,402,449	(21,766,005)	2,034,422	(9,215,470)

	<i>Provincial Family Enhancement</i>	<i>Provincial Child Protection Services</i>	<i>Provincial Child Maintenance</i>	<i>Children's Special Allowance and Other</i>	2019	2018
Net assets (deficit), beginning of year	501,491	3,951,308	2,266,338	24,198,993	20,703,584	7,964,636
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	94,242	(176,942)	(4,754,874)	9,965,803	3,916,251	12,738,948
Net assets (deficit), end of year	595,733	3,774,366	(2,488,536)	34,164,796	24,619,835	20,703,584

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



Southeast Child and Family Services Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Cash provided by (used for) the following activities		
Operating		
Cash receipts from grants	93,793,567	89,977,418
Cash paid for program service expenses	(67,871,428)	(66,322,411)
Cash paid for salaries and benefits	(13,395,670)	(12,157,713)
	12,526,469	11,497,294
Financing		
Advances to related party	(4,391)	(89,375)
Repayment of long-term debt	(91,403)	(91,402)
Increase in deferred revenues	737,653	1,082,403
	641,859	901,626
Investing		
Purchase of capital assets	(942,753)	(522,513)
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	85,400	127,238
	(857,353)	(395,275)
Increase in cash resources	12,310,975	12,003,645
Cash resources, beginning of year	22,097,208	10,093,563
Cash resources, end of year	34,408,183	22,097,208
Cash resources are composed of:		
Cash total	22,178,947	12,314,167
Restricted cash	12,229,236	9,783,041
	34,408,183	22,097,208

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements



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Southeast Child and Family Services



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