

FASD KEY WORKER PROGRAM

The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Key Worker service is a parent support program for families with children between the ages of 0 and 19 who have a diagnosis of FASD, are suspected of having FASD, or have a similar Complex Behavioural Disorder.

HOW DO I CONNECT WITH THE FASD KEY WORKER?

The FASD Key Worker program has an open referral process including referrals from parents, caregivers, physicians, nurses, preschool, child care staff, or other community supports.

AREAS SERVED

Serving families from Campbell River to Oyster River, Gold River, Tahsis, Sayward, Quadra and Cortes Islands.

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

9:00a.m. - 4p.m (Monday to Friday)

Program funded by MCFD

PEOPLE AFFECTED BY FASD

Every person affected by FASD is unique and has his or her own strengths and challenges.

When we understand how FASD affects the individual person and influences their behaviour, we can find strategies and create environments that best support them.

DOGWOOD PLACE

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DOGWOOD PLACE
Child and Youth Development Centre

FASD Key Worker Program



OUR MISSION

Dogwood Place Child & Youth Development Centre Programs are committed to working in partnership with families and recognizes the family and supporting environment as the most valuable resource in a child's life.

WHAT IS FASD?

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is a term used to describe a range of life long disabilities that may affect people whose mother drank alcohol while they were pregnant.

Some women do not know that alcohol can damage their unborn baby; others may not be able to stop using alcohol. Other women stop drinking when they find out they are pregnant, but some injury may have already happened. There is no safe amount or safe time to use alcohol during pregnancy.

The disabilities caused by FASD are present at birth and can include physical, learning and behavioural difficulties.

INVISIBLE DISABILITY

FASD is often called an invisible disability. The signs and symptoms may go unnoticed. Most people with FASD look the same as everyone else, but they have differences on how their brain works that can make life difficult for them.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

- * Trouble with social skills
- * Memory problems
- * Impulsiveness
- * Acting younger than their age
- * Sensory Problems (sounds, lights)
- * Needs more time to learn things
- * Hyperactive
- * Trouble with math

FASD KEY WORKER SERVICES

The FASD Key Worker can:

- * Assist family members, caregivers, educators and service providers to better understand the child's strengths and challenges and identify ways to adapt the child's environment in response to these needs.
- * Provide information about services and supports (education, social services, financial resources, recreation, transportation, health, etc.) and how to access them.
- * Support families through the FASD assessment processes, and assist with implementing recommendations from the assessment.
- * Provide confidential emotional and practical supports to parents and caregivers.
- * Support parents as they advocate for their child's needs; attend meetings at schools, medical appointments or other services.
- * Organize parent to parent supports.
- * Provide planning and supports to youth as they transition to adulthood.
- * Provide FASD trainings, awareness and resources.
- * Confidential consultations (can be by phone) for those who are concerned a child may have been exposed to alcohol during pregnancy.

HOW DO WE HELP PEOPLE WITH FASD?

Although FASD is a life long disability people with FASD can live healthy and successful lives with appropriate supports and services. Some examples include:

- * Early detection and diagnosis
- * Educational supports
- * Knowledgeable family
- * Knowledgeable professionals
- * Vocational training
- * Employment programs
- * Structured environments
- * Supportive accommodations
- * Sometimes lifelong care

*Everyone is a genius,
but if you judge a fish
by its ability to climb a
tree, it will live its whole
life believing that it is
stupid.*

~Albert Einstein