



Annual Report 2012-13

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Agenda - June 19, 2013



Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda for the day

Guest Speaker - Dr. Rob Santos

Minutes of the June 20, 2012 AGM

Reports

Audited Financial Statements

Chairperson's Report

Committee Reports

Presentation of Terms of Reference

Presentation of Officers

Announcements

Adjournment

Members of Communities 4 Families 2012-13

Karen Baird	Mulvey School
Dorota Blumczynska	The Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization of MB
Deborah Clark	Community Member
Carmen Court	WSD1
Monica Dinney	Bookmates
Angie Dooley	The Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization of MB
Cassandra Fines	Day Nurseries
Genny Funk-Unrau	Klinic Community Health Centre
Susan Galego	Pinkham School
Karen Glugosh	City of Winnipeg Community Services
Fernanda Hodgson	Day Nurseries
Cassandra Houle	Pregnancy and Family Support Services
Michelle Johnson	Frontier College
Hope Lawson	Manitoba Housing
Frank Liebrecht	Community Member
Claire Meiklejohn	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Karen Naumiuk	Parent Child Programs in Schools Initiative in MB
Debbie Nikiel	Greenway School
Leslie Nutbean	St. Matthews Kids Korner
Tamara Opar	Winnipeg Public Library
Janet Simpson	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Dolores Sousa	WSD1
Sharon Taylor	Wolseley Family Place
Jean Tirling	Mosaic - Newcomers Family Resource Network

Committee Members 2012-13

Chairperson - Dorota Blumczynska

Vice Chairperson - Deborah Clark

Banker - Klinic Community Health Centre

Executive Committee: Dorota Blumczynska (Chair), Deborah Clark (vice-chair), Genny Funk-Unrau, Susan Galego, Leslie Nutbean, Sharon Taylor, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Communications Committee: Leslie Nutbean (chair), Karen Glugosh, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Communities 4 Change Committee: Sharon Taylor (chair), Karen Glugosh, Frank Liebzeit, Claire Meiklejohn, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Literacy Committee: Deborah Clark (chair), Judy Baker, Dorota Blumczynska, Michelle Johnston, Tamara Opar, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Resource Committee: Genny Funk-Unrau (Chair), Carmen Court, Cassandra Fines, Debbie Nikiel, Jean Tinling, Alana Garcia (staff), Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Wellness Committee: Susan Galego (chair), Cassandra Houle, Karen Naumiuk, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Council of Coalitions Representative: Ingrid Peters Derry

EDI Representative: Dorota Blumczynska

Evaluation Representative: Dorota Blumczynska

Staff: Coordinator: Ingrid Peters Derry
Wiggle, Giggle, and Munch Trainer/Mentor: Alana Garcia

Communities 4 Families Annual General Meeting Minutes June 20, 2012

Present: Odile A., Karen Baird, Holly Banner, Marianne Cerilli, Deborah Clark, Hannah Derry, Danielle Dubrow, Emma Fineblit, Genny Funk-Unrau, Rosemarie Gjerek, Karen Glugosh, Chantel Henderson, John Hutton, Randall Kloprot, Michelle Johnson, Frank Liebzeit, Claire Meiklejohn, Karen Naumiuk, Lea Neufeld La Rue, Navneet Pandher, Sharon Taylor, Gail Wylie

Staff Present: Alana Garcia, Ingrid Peters Derry

Chairing this meeting: Claire Meiklejohn

Recorder: Ingrid Peters Derry

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Approval of Agenda for the day.** Moved by Deborah Clark, seconded by Frank Liebzeit, that the Agenda for the day be approved. Carried.
3. **Speakers**
 - Healthy Start for Mom & Me
 - West Broadway Youth Organization
 - John Howard Society
4. **Minutes of the June 15, 2011 AGM** - Moved by Genny Funk-Unrau, seconded by Frank Liebzeit, that the minutes of June 15, 2011 be approved. Carried.
5. **Reports**
 - **Audited Financial Statements** - Moved by Sharon Taylor, seconded by Frank Liebzeit, that the Communities 4 Families financial report for 2011/12 be accepted as presented. Carried. Thanks to Clinic for acting as banker and providing the audited financial statement.
 - **Chairperson's Report** - as distributed.
 - **Committee Reports** - as distributed. Thank you to all committee members for their hard work throughout the year.
6. **Presentation of Terms of Reference** - as distributed. Some changes and additions have been made and approved at the May 2012 meeting of the Coalition. Deborah Clark ratified the changes in the TOR as presentation. Lea Neufeld La Rue seconded the motion. Carried.

7. **Presentation of Officers** - The chairperson for Communities 4 Families for 2012-13 will be Dorota Blumczynska. Deborah Clark will be vice-chair. Klinik continues on as banker. The Executive Committee is composed of the committee chairs.
8. **Announcements:**
 - Thank you to Lea Neufeld La Rue for her work with the Coalition and best wishes on the upcoming birth of her child.
 - **June 27** - DMSMCA Open House 3-7 p.m.
 - **Marianne Cerilli - Social Planning Council.** Campaign 2000 - to address child poverty. Others are invited to work together on this campaign.
 - **Literacy Partners of Manitoba** - are hiring an aboriginal literacy person - see their website for details.
 - **Nostalgia Radio station** - studio is at the Kiwanis Chateau.
9. **Adjournment** - Deborah Clark moves that we adjourn the meeting.

Next Regular Meeting of the Coalition:
September 19, 2012 at 1:30 p.m.
at Daniel McIntyre St. Matthews Community Association, 823 Ellice Ave.

Chairperson's Report

Communities 4 Families, through our programming, grants, community engagement, strategic planning and visioning, has spent the last year working to meet the needs of our downtown families. We've also worked to keep our membership diverse and engaged and with a stronger mandate to support families with children aged 0-6, our committees have found creative and meaningful ways to bring our vision to life.

The Resource, Communications, Literacy and Wellness committees have put on many community events, published our newsletter, maintained our website and provided direct family programming training. Our Changes committee, which undertook a community research project several years ago, and the subsequent work to create lasting changes as recommended by families and agency partners completed its work this past year; I wish to thank them for their efforts and dedication. And a new Ad Hoc committee was struck, Mapping, to closely examine where we work, where our funding is directed, community service gaps and future opportunities. Their work will inform us as we plan for the year ahead.

The Executive Committee has been busy this year with two half-day meetings dedicated to reviewing our Terms of Reference and our granting process. My thanks goes to my colleagues on the Executive; Karen Naumiuk, Deborah Clark, Leslie Nutbean, Sharon Taylor, Genny Funk-Unrau and Rosemarie Gjerek. I wish to also thank Claire Meiklejohn, Vice-Chair, for her many years with C4F. Claire's work with the WRHA made her an invaluable expert regarding the many services offered to our families and her passion for healthy families and strong communities served C4F all the more.

As this is my final year as chair, I'm humbled by the support, encouragement, and guidance given to me by everyone with C4F. I've been blessed to have had a chance to work with some of the most dedicated, talented and knowledgeable professionals from many sectors, serving many communities. Because of you, my understanding of our shared responsibility to our children has grown and will surely make me a better community member. I welcome Deborah Clark as the new chair and hope her time as chair will be equally meaningful.

Lastly, on behalf of the Executive, the coalition membership and all families living in our downtown communities, I wish to thank Ingrid Peters Derry, our coalition coordinator for the past 10 years. Her dedication and knowledge of our beginnings and strong hold on our hopes for the future have ensured that the coalition has met and surpassed its many goals. Ingrid, you've been a pleasure to work alongside with, I hope our paths continue to cross and I wish you all the best in your work with C4F.

On behalf of Communities 4 Families, I wish to thank Healthy Child Manitoba for their continuing support of all the Parent-Child coalitions across Manitoba. Without your leadership and collaborative approach, our communities and families would not have benefited from the expertise and dedication you have been able to foster.

Sincerely,
Dorota Blumczynska, Chair
Communities 4 Families

Communities 4 Change Committee Report

The Communities 4 Change Committee was originally part of the Executive Committee, and then evolved into the Research Committee of the Downtown Coalition. The Research and the Communities 4 Change committees always had the focus to examine the barriers and challenges facing families living in Winnipeg's downtown.

The goal of these projects was to find ways to improve the lives of downtown families. It was important to have a clear understanding of the needs of the families in our community.

Our first research project, completed in 2003, was done by Rachel Eni and she defined the issues and concerns that affected families by using the Population Health Framework. This was a very broad perspective and it was necessary to break it down to something that was manageable as a coalition.

This led to another research project "*Stress, Coping and the Impact on Parenting in the Downtown Residential Communities of Winnipeg (2008)*" conducted by Marlyn Bennett. She conducted focus groups, personal interviews, and an online survey in which she asked inner city parents what caused them stress and how stresses impacted them as parents.

This led to further expanding our knowledge of the systemic barriers and assist with providing solutions.

We decided to further consultations with groups and organizations and parents around downtown Winnipeg. Once all consultations were complete it was clear that the challenges parents are facing today are largely the same they have been facing for years.

The themes, challenges and recommendations were then compiled into a list and sent to community development workers, civil servants, educators, academics and other professionals who work with children and families in the downtown to get their responses and suggestions.

In addition to presenting a snapshot of the challenges currently facing parents living in downtown Winnipeg, the final report, entitled *Family Challenges: Understanding the challenges of families in downtown Winnipeg*, attempted to compile the best and most recent ideas for solving these challenges.

Key findings in the report included the various challenges faced by newcomer families in our downtown communities; housing and childcare needs; lack of recreational options; and concerns about safety. The complete report was added to our website for those wishing to download it:

<http://communities4families.ca/files/facilitators/Family%20Challenges%20in%20Downtown%20Winnipeg.pdf>

The Communities 4 Change Committee attempted to influence policy activities to be encouraged within community groups and coalition. We were able to have meetings with the NDP Caucus and a brainstorming session with the superintendent from the inner city school division.

After many years of fine work to give direction to the work of the Coalition, it was decided at this year's annual planning meeting that it had fulfilled its mandate and would be discontinued. Many committee members have been part of the Management/Research/Communities 4 Change committee. Thank you to all who have helped shaped the work of the Coalition through this committee:

- Sharon Taylor
- Kim Bailey
- Judy Baker
- Tracey Busby
- Rosemary Gjerek
- Frank Liebzeit
- Judy Barg
- Hubert Fenton-Smedts
- Ellen Kelley
- Terra Orlikow
- Carol Hudek
- Jo-Anne Palanuk
- Claire Meiklejohn
- Karen Glugosh
- Krista Law
- Kathy Mallett
- Genny Funk-Unrau, staff
- Ingrid Peters Derry, staff

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Taylor
Communities 4 Change committee chair

Wellness Committee Report

The Wellness Committee consisted of Angie Dooley, Cassandra Houle, Claire Meiklejohn, Karen Naumiuk (chair until September), and Susan Galego (chair). Ingrid Peters Derry provided staff support.

The major focus of the committee's work this year was the Wellness Fair that was held at Pinkham School on the evening of their Parent-Teacher interviews in November. There was information available for parents from various agencies: Frontier College; the Winnipeg Library and Bookmates made books with the children; nutrition students with the WRHA had information on healthy lunches; Block Parents, Rossbrook House, Coaching Manitoba, and Pregnancy and Family Support Services all had material available. Communities 4 Families' mini Wiggle, Giggle & Munch was a hit with the children. Door prizes were offered, and participants generally seemed to enjoy the evening, though the weather was not pleasant and attendance was a little low.

The committee's other major responsibility this year was to make recommendations to the Executive regarding grant applications that met the criteria for Recreation, Food Security, and Parenting projects. We looked at applications from 21 different agencies. A total of \$23,850.50 was distributed to those that were approved in those categories.

Our committee is currently looking for new direction and more committee members. We sincerely thank the committee members who sat on the committee this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Galego
Chairperson

Resource Committee Report

This has been a busy and full year for the Resource Committee and staff. Keeping in mind the Communities 4 Families (C4F) Strategic Plan we strove to accomplish the tasks it set out as we planned and carried out our activities. The activities of this year included:

- C4F's Mentor/Trainer, Alana Garcia, continued to mentor grant sponsored Wiggle, Giggle & Munch (WGM) program facilitators
- The Wiggle, Giggle & Munch Literacy component was piloted at 3 sites during the year. Facilitators from the program met several times to evaluate the literacy component.
- Completed and approved Resource Committee Terms of Reference
- Developed Basic Tools for Facilitating Family Programs training held on April 19, 2013
- Reviewed WGM grant applications and made recommendations to the grants committee. Seven groups were approved grants. Five of those groups ran WGM September 2012 - June 2013.
- On behalf of C4F asked our banker, Clinic Community Health Centre, to trademark Wiggle, Giggle & Munch
- Offered 3 Wiggle, Giggle & Munch trainings. Sixty-five people were trained. Of the 65 participants 42 were from the Downtown.
- Sponsored a Bookmates training - Play to Learn, Learn to Play - in October 2012. 15 people attended, 9 from the Downtown area.
- Alana took 2 opportunities to increase her knowledge and skills by attending a Nobody's Perfect training and a Handle with Care training. These trainings required her to practice what she learned so Alana co-facilitated these programs with Mosaic.

The Resource Committee was pleased to welcome Carmon Court and Cassandra Fines as new committee members. Continuing members were Debbie Nikiel, Jean Tinling, and Genny Funk-Unrau (chair). We appreciate the ongoing staff support from Alana Garcia and Ingrid Peters Derry.

Respectfully submitted by,

Genny Funk-Unrau
Chairperson

Communication Committee Report

It's been great going a whole year with the same name and focus.

In December 2010, as a result of our strategic plan, a new direction was determined for the now named Communication Committee. The Communication Committee's goal is to give Communities 4 Families more visibility and accessible resources for the families and service providers within the downtown community.

The development of a quarterly newsletter which is distributed throughout our community with the support of coalition members, give a hands-on resource to families in the downtown. Our first newsletter featuring articles, activities and helpful information for families was handed out on January 27, 2011. The newsletter was very well received and we produced 4 issues. This year, we produced 4 issues. Each newsletter had a focus; literacy, grants, parenting programs, family programming and wellness.

One of the challenges of having 4 newsletters is timelines. As much as we really wanted to get information regarding programs to the families, the information sometimes wasn't readily available or didn't work with our deadlines. We did the best with what we had and got good responses to the newsletters.

The website had a change with the addition of "Resources 4 Agencies". With the financial support of the General Child and Family Services Authority, we now can provide a place for agencies to provide resources, manuals and information for agencies working within our community.

The Communication Committee continues to promote C4F activities with a new portable banner and provides prize bags with products (literacy bags, book marks, pens and T-Shirts) at C4F community events.

I would like to thank Ingrid Peters Derry for all her hard work. It's been a very hectic year away from the committee for me and Ingrid was very helpful and supportive, greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank Deborah Clark for her work on the committee and wish her well on her next adventure. I would like to welcome Karen Glugosh onto the committee. As this committee changes and grows to better identify the needs and how best to provide support to the coalition, service providers and families, I look forward to seeing the visibility and resources of the coalition expand to provide for all that is our community.

Respectfully submitted

Leslie Nutbean
Chairperson

Literacy Committee Report

The Literacy Committee dealt with several items during the past year. The Family Literacy Event, held February 6, 2013 at the Cindy Klassen Centre, 999 Sargent Avenue was a success. The Honourable Kevin Chief read to the families and there were activity stations for children. There were 25 family surveys completed and 67 children participated in the activities. We had planned for 150 people and had 98 people attend.

The Committee has also endorsed the “Books for Babies” program that had been part of the first visits by the public health nurses to new parents. The Committee has worked with Healthy Child Manitoba to create booklets based on the original design produced by HCM. We have printed enough for the projected births and will have them, along with a baby book, included in the new baby packages.

We have looked into becoming part of the Provincial Family Literacy working group. We are also looking at participating in the International Literacy Day (September 8) in a significant way.

We also review and provide recommendations for the Family Literacy Grants applications the coalition receives.

I would like to thank our committee members, sponsors and helpers, without whose assistance, passion and determination, we would not have been able to accomplish all we have done this year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Clark
Chairperson

Staff Reports

As the mentor/ trainer for Communities 4 Families, it is my pleasure to report to you about our productive and successful year in 2012/13.

- The year kicked off with our first Wiggle, Giggle & Munch training held on September 24. Several of the trainees immediately began facilitating WGM programs in their communities.
- In preparation for developing a community partnership with Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network, I attended the facilitator training for Nobody's Perfect in October.
- November brought our first facilitator meeting of the year. At this meeting facilitators shared craft and snack ideas with one another.
- In December I attended facilitator training for Handle With Care, a program that promotes positive mental health for children and families. This training enabled me to run a Handle With Care program throughout the winter in partnership with Sister MacNamara School and Mosaic.
- January found us holding a mini Book Bag workshop where we assembled several of these fun and interactive family literacy tools to be given to families at our Family Literacy Event in February. At the very well attended event, I ran a fun-filled, high energy Wiggle, Giggle & Munch station.
- On February 4 we held our second WGM facilitator training of the year and in March we held our second facilitator meeting. At this meeting we focused on problem solving together. Jean Tinling of Mosaic was our guest and she led a discussion on engaging Newcomer families in our programs.
- In April we held our brand new training which I had worked to develop throughout the year. The training, entitled " Basic Tools For Facilitating Family Programs", focused on introducing participants to the building blocks of group facilitation as well as introducing them to other family programs developed by C4F including Book Bags, Three Stars and a Wish, and *Uzazi Pamoja* (developed by Jean Tinling of Mosaic and partners at IRCOM).
- In May and June I co-facilitated a Nobody's Perfect program at Mosaic.

Throughout the year I have been a frequent visitor at the WGM programs in the downtown area to offer support and feedback. Additionally, throughout the year I have been working with three of the programs to pilot the addition of a literacy component to the WGM program, based on the manual "Literacy in Motion". We will have our final meeting in June to evaluate the Literacy manual developed by the C4F's Literacy Committee.

It has been an exciting and busy year. I look forward to continuing to work with Communities 4 Families to further strengthen families in our community. I want to thank the Resource Committee for their support, feedback and guidance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Alana Garcia

I was hired with Genny Funk-Unrau in November, 2003. Since then, we, and now I, have been doing much of the administrative work of the Coalition as a whole and for the committees working within the Coalition. Some of the tasks this year, guided by our annual planning meeting in December, have been:

- Working with committees to help process grant applications.
- Helping with the work of the Resource Committee as they continued to support the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* program and deliver trainings. A new training, incorporating the new family literacy facilitator manuals became part of the mandate of this committee. Tasks included:
 - Assisting and supervising Alana as C4F mentor/trainer
 - Assisting Alana and an ad hoc committee to develop the new Tools for Facilitating Family Programs training
 - Assisting with the promotion of the facilitators' trainings
 - Monitoring the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* grant applications
- Working with the Wellness Committee to facilitate a Wellness Fair in partnership with Pinkham School.
- Working with the Literacy Committee to begin a Books for Babies project.
- Working with the Literacy Committee in partnership with other community organizations to host a Family Literacy day event at Cindy Klassen Recreation Centre.
- Maintaining the web-site with resources for families and agencies.
- Representing the Coalition at the Council of Coalitions and working with the Council on maintaining a website.
- Keeping abreast of various downtown resources by attending networking meetings.

Working with the Coalition and its many dedicated members has been a real privilege. It has been wonderful to be part of a group of people committed to the welfare of our many and diverse downtown families.

Respectfully submitted,

Ingrid Peters Derry
Coordinator

2012-13 Grants

Total Grants Awarded: \$ 64,387.50

Addictions Foundation of MB - Parent's Intervention and Support Program

Art City - Families Transforming West Broadway

Art From the Heart - Community Mosaic

Dufferin Parent/Child Community Centre for Families - summer hours for parent centre

Daniel McIntyre St. Matthews Community Association - sponsors of the Family Food Group

Filipino Women's Initiative - Wiggle, Giggle & Munch

Greenway School - Wiggle, Giggle & Munch

Harstone Children's Centre - Birthday Books and Family Nights

Healthy Start for Mom & Me - Healthy Start interpreters

The Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization of MB - Family Fun, Nobody's Perfect, Wiggle, Giggle & Munch, *Uzazi Pamoja*

Knox Day Nursery Inc. - Family Yoga

Immigrant Women's Association of MB - Parenting Skills group

Learning Disabilities Association of MB - Learning disabilities parental resources

Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Centre - Mentorship program, Nobody's Perfect, Wiggle, Giggle & Munch, Bookmaking

Native Women's Transition Centre - Summer family activities

Opikihiwawin - Drumming groups

Pregnancy and Family Support Services - Nobody's Perfect

Sister MacNamara School - Wiggle, Giggle & Munch

Wellington School - Wiggle, Giggle & Munch

West Central Women's Resource Centre - Parent Mentor Program

Wolseley Family Place - Family outings, Wiggle, Giggle & Munch