



Communities 4 Families (Downtown Parent-Child Coalition)

Annual Report 2007-2008



Communities 4 Families (Downtown Parent-Child Coalition)

June 25, 2008

1:30 PM

Robert A. Steen Community Centre

Annual General Meeting

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Speaker: Marlyn Bennett
- Approval of Agenda for the day
- Approval of Minutes of the June 20, 2007 AGM
- Approval of Audited Financial Statements
- Chairperson's Report
- Committee Reports
- Presentation of Officers
- Announcements
- Meeting Adjourned

Business meeting to follow



Members of Communities 4 Families 2007-2008

Toyin Akinremi	Ifelodun
Rachel Alao	Helping Hands Resource Centre for Immigrants
Judy Baker	Advanced Education and Literacy
Karen Baird	Mulvey School
Judy Barg	Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Anne Barr	The Family Centre
Colleen Cawood	Bookmates
Carole Clarke	Pregnancy and Family Support Services Inc.
Carmen Court	Winnipeg School Division 1
Hubert Fenton-Smedts	Kid Gloves Day Care Inc.
Greg Ferguson	City of Winnipeg
Sherry Funk	LiteracyWorks
Bob Gingras	Valour Community Centre
Rosemarie Gjerek	Klinic Community Health Centre
Linda Godin-Sorin	Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc.
Carole Hudek	Downtown YMCA-YWCA
Candyce Jones	Bookmates Family Learning Centre
Frank Liebzeit	Community Member
Kathy Mallett	Healthy Child Manitoba
Barbara Martin	Klinic Community Health Centre
Lisa Michell	Dufferin School
Debbie Nikiel	Greenway School Parent Room
Leslie Nutbean	St. Matthews Kids Korner, Inc.
Jo-Anne Palanuk	Manitoba Family Services and Housing
Suzanne Pazdor	Manitoba Family Services and Housing
Rickie Snell	Healthy Start
Rozelle Srichandra	WRHA - Downtown Area
Derrick Stamm	City of Winnipeg
Sharon Taylor	Wolseley Family Place
Maria Isabel Toro-Vidal	NEEDS Centre for War Affected Families





Committee Members 2006-2007

Chairperson – Judy Baker

Banker – Rosemarie Gjerek

Executive Committee: Judy Baker (chair), Carole Clarke, Rosemarie Gjerek, Barbara Martin, Leslie Nutbean, Sharon Taylor, Genny Funk-Unrau (staff), Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Research Committee: Sharon Taylor (chair), Carol Hudek, Frank Liezeit, Jo-Anne Palanuk, Genny Funk-Unrau (staff)

Healthy Lifestyles Committee: Barbara Martin (chair), Judy Barg, Jennifer Bogoch, Ellen Kelly, Laurie Marcella, Sheelagh Smith, Ricki Snell, Genny Funk-Unrau (staff)

Grants Committee: Carole Clarke (chair), Bob Gingras, Frank Liezeit, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Public Forum Committee: Leslie Nutbean (chair), Frank Liezeit, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Literacy Committee: Judy Baker (chair), Carole Clarke, Sherry Funk, Leslie Nutbean, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff)

Council of Coalition Representative: Genny Funk-Unrau, Ingrid Peters Derry

EDI Representative: Judy Baker

Evaluation Representative: Judy Baker

Staff:
Coordinators: Genny Funk-Unrau, Ingrid Peters Derry
Wiggle, Giggle, and Munch: Kelly Speak, Jasbir Chib
Web-Site maintenance: Muhanad Aboud



Downtown Parent-Child Coalition

Annual General Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2007

Present: Toyin Akinremi, Deka Ali, Rob Altemeyer, Judy Baker, Wendy Church, Carmen Court, Karen DelaRonde, Sarah Downs, Greg Ferguson, Sherry Funk, Rosemarie Gjerek, Linda Godin-Sorin, Laurie Howard, Frank Liebzeit, Laurie Marcella, Barbara Martin, Fartum Moh'muel, Suzanne Pazdor, Lydia Sicotte, Rozelle Srichandra, Sharon Taylor, Maria Isabel Toro-Vidal, Marjorie Wood

Staff Present: Genny Funk-Unrau, Ingrid Peters Derry

Chairing this meeting: Judy Baker

Recorder: Ingrid Peters Derry

1. Introductions

2. **Speaker** – Sharon Taylor introduced Deka and Fartum from the Somali Women's Association. The focus of this group has been women and children, many of whom come from separated families or families who have lost a father. English classes and Homework clubs for kids are held at Sr. Mac School. Activities planned for the children also give an alternative to hanging out with gangs. The mothers appreciate knowing where their children are. There is an increasing involvement of the children and growing trust. English classes are offered for mothers. They work together on homework with those that go to ESL classes. Very basic tools for everyday living are taught - nutrition classes; cooking classes used as English and life skills teaching. There is need for continued support and for a permanent space – in central downtown area, close to where the families are living. The Homework club will continue at Sister MacNamara School. Connections are being made with the NEEDS Centre and Helping Hands. Other funding sources are being sought to continue the program. The Somali Women's Association expressed their appreciation of the funding support of the Coalition and the resources of Wolseley Family Place.

3. **Update from Healthy Child Manitoba** – Wendy Church from Healthy Child Manitoba gave us a brief update of Healthy Child and thanked the Coalition for its work in the community. A meeting of Council of Coalitions occurs 3 times a year. A new initiative at this point is the Triple P program – Steve Feldgaier will be coming to the September meeting of the Coalition to bring a brief update on Triple P. Another initiative is a plan for books to go to all newborns in Manitoba. In Manitoba, Coalitions are the voice of the community to the government.

4. **Agenda** – Moved by Frank Liebzeit, seconded by Laurie Marcella, that the agenda for the day be approved. Carried.

5. **Minutes of the June 14, 2006 AGM** – Moved by Barbara Martin, seconded by Rosemarie Gjerek, that the minutes of June 14, 2006 be approved. Carried.
6. **Rob Altemeyer, MLA Wolseley** – gave a brief update on the provincial Government, and the budget increase that will be coming for the Coalitions. The very positive work of the Coalitions is recognized.
7. **Reports**
 - Audited Financial Statements – Moved by Rosemarie Gjerek, seconded by Frank Liezeit , that the Communities 4 Families (Downtown Parent-Child Coalition) financial report for 2006/2007 be accepted. Carried.
 - Chairperson’s Report – accepted.
 - Committee Reports – as distributed.
8. **Presentation of Officers** – Judy Baker has agreed to carry on as chair for the coming year. We continue to look for vice-chair who will be prepared to act as chair in the coming year. Clinic will continue as banker. Thanks to Rosemarie Gjerek and Clinic for this work.
9. Announcements:
 - **Community Forum** –November 8-9. Dr. Stewart Shanker is keynote speaker on the importance of early childhood education. Clive Hertzman will be speaking on EDI.
 - Handouts: Kids in Motion booklet from Healthy Child
11. Sharon Taylor moved, Frank Liezeit seconded the adjournment of the meeting.



Report from the Chairperson 2007 - 2008

This has been another eventful year for the Communities 4 Families (Downtown Parent Child Coalition) where our activities have led to an award and accolades from the community. Wiggle, Giggle and Munch won the Regional (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Northwest Ontario) Speaking of Food and Healthy Living Award: Excellence in Consumer Communication” for 2008. The award was created in 1997 by the Dietitians of Canada and Kraft Canada to honour initiatives that support Canadians learning more about healthy eating and physical activity. This is wonderful recognition of the work of the Healthy Lifestyle Committee. The Coalition continues to view the ongoing provision of the Wiggle, Giggle and Munch program as a priority and further endorses the accompanying training for program leaders and funding for other groups to run the program in the downtown area.

Another highlight of the past year was the Fireside Chat organized by the Literacy Committee to recognize the work of the family literacy programs funded by the Coalition and provide an opportunity for networking. It coincided with Family Literacy Day in January and ten organizations enjoyed sharing their work in a comfortable setting. New family literacy training was piloted through a partnership with Project READ Literacy Network in Ontario. Thirty service providers were introduced to the Get Set Learn curriculum which is a new model for family literacy provision supported by Adult Learning, Literacy and Essential Skills.

Members of the Coalition participated in a Strategic Planning Session in April facilitated by Barb Gemmell. A three year plan was developed identifying our priorities and planned activities. The results of our eagerly awaited research project contained in the report “Stress, Coping and the Impact on Parenting in the Downtown Residential Communities of Winnipeg” will also play a role in future planning and funding priorities for the Coalition.

We have continued some of our initiatives due to the positive response from the community. This year over 23 organizations were able to augment their services to children and families with grants up to \$1,000. For a third year we have supported the development and delivery of family literacy programs with the funding of eight organizations.

The success of these initiatives would not have been possible without the assistance of our two very capable staff members, Ingrid and Genny. I want to extend my whole hearted appreciation for all the work you do with the committees and organizing the meetings and events. I also want to express my gratitude to the Executive and the Committee Chairs for their dedication in fulfilling these dual roles. The Chairs of the committees include: Barbara Martin, Healthy Lifestyles, Carol Clarke, Grants Committee, Leslie Nutbean, Networking and Outreach, Sharon Taylor, Research and Rosemarie Gjerek who provided the banking and acted as chair in my absence.

Finally I want to thank Healthy Child Manitoba for their continued funding and support of our work. By organizing meetings and conferences for the coalitions we have had the opportunity to network and access current information and research which is invaluable.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Baker, Chair
Communities 4 Families



Executive Committee Report 2007 – 2008

It has been a busy year for the executive, as we oversaw the work of the various committees, worked with Healthy Child on various projects, worked with the community on a variety of endeavours and overall tried to coordinate the activities of the Coalition.

With the assistance of the Criteria Adhoc Committee the executive reviewed guidelines for determining the criteria for funding grants. These guidelines were reviewed and discussed by the Coalition membership. This led up to a further discussion of priorities and the process we would undertake this year for planning our activities. A recommendation was made to hire an outside facilitator to assist us with the development of a strategic plan. Due to the availability of the facilitator we had the planning day in April rather than our earlier February date. After we received the facilitator's report the Executive set aside a day to review the plan and add some of the details in terms of time frame and lead responsibility. We also reviewed staff contracts and the budget. These items were then brought to the Coalition meeting in May for feedback and concurrence from the membership. The development of the strategic plan both the process and the end product has provided direction and a feeling of cohesion and renewed energy as we move forward with our identified priorities.

I would like to thank all the members of the executive for all their hard work both at the meetings and back in their homes and offices, where so much of the real work of the Coalition happens. I would especially like to thank our staff, Genny and Ingrid for their dedication to the coalition, their wonderful minutes, their attention to detail and their amazing ability to work with so many different people and groups and somehow keep it all straight!

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Baker, Chair
Executive Committee



Research Committee Report 2007 – 2008

The Research Committee continued to focus on its research study called *Stress, Coping and the Impacts on Parenting in the Downtown Communities of Winnipeg*. Marlyn Bennett, Director of Research for the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society and her Research Assistant Linda Lamirande, carried out the research project.

Three methods were used to collect information for the study: an online questionnaire, focus groups and interviews. The study started with an online questionnaire through SurveyMonkey.com in June 27, 2007 to October 31, 2007. This was followed by 8 focus groups and 10 individual interviews, which were completed by March 2008.

The final results and report will be given out at the Annual General Meeting on May 25, 2008. As well, the researchers will be presenting their findings at the meeting.

The Research Committee members are: Sharon Taylor (chair), Frank Liebzeit, Jo-Anne Palanuk and Carole Hudek. Genny Funk-Unrau is the staff support person for this committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Taylor, Chair
Research Committee



Healthy Lifestyles Committee Report 2007 – 2008

The Healthy Lifestyles Committee has gone through a few changes this year. Two of our original members, Laurie Marcella (Healthy Start for Mom & Me) retired, and Ellen Kelley, our Chair since we began in 2003, left the committee for other tasks in her job at Manitoba Culture, Heritage & Tourism, Recreation & Regional Services Branch. Thanks to both of you for all your contributions and hard work on the committee and in the development of *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch*. We are happy to have Rickie Snell (Healthy Start for Mom & Me) and Jennifer Bogoch (SEED) join the committee in their place – welcome! Jennifer has worked as the Program Leader/Trainer for *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* previously (2004-05 and 2006-07) so brings that experience and her enthusiasm to the committee. Continuing committee members are: Judy Barg, Sheelegh Smith and Barbara Martin along with Genny Funk-Unrau providing the staff support.

The main focus of this committee continues to be *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* - delivering the program in our catchment as well as providing training and support for other groups wanting to facilitate the program. In September 2007, Kelly Speak joined the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* staff as Program Leader/Trainer. We were delighted when the other staff members from the previous year – Program Leader, Jasbir Chib and Childminder Susan Ponce - continued on with the program. This is our third year running *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch (WGM)* at only one site – Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre - and the benefit of program continuity and ongoing outreach has been reflected in increased participation in the program. Thirty-three families attended *WGM*, with an average of 10 children participating each week. Overall attendance was 686 adults, children and infants at *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* from April 2007 to the end of March 2008.

We continued to offer the Program Leader Trainings that were initiated in the previous fiscal year. Three 1-day *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* Program Leader Trainings were provided - June and November, 2007, and February 2008. The training and manual are provided at no cost to workers and residents in the Downtown catchment, and participants from outside the area pay \$50 to help cover the costs of the training and the manual. To the end of March 2008, 59 people have participated in the training, almost half from the Downtown catchment, representing staff from 37 different organizations and 3 participants who weren't attached to an organization. We also received a request to provide training in an Interlake community, so were able to provide that service on a cost-recovery basis. Too bad a snowstorm affected the number of people who could attend the training...and made for a long, nerve-racking drive for Kelly and Genny! We also provided at training for the Fort Garry Parent-Child Coalition at the end of March 2008, again on a cost-recovery basis.

Earlier this year we began a follow-up project with participants in the training to evaluate the longer-term impact of the training. Our objective was to gather information on how participants were using the information they learned from the handbook and at the training, what was most helpful in practice, and what else they would like to have learned during the training. While some participants were no longer working at the same jobs, and some could not be contacted, overall the feedback received was very positive. In general, people were very satisfied with the *WGM* training and felt that the handbook was an extremely valuable resource. Most training participants were making use of the program - out of 43 interviews completed (June 2008), 9 participants had run the program previously, 7 participants were currently running the program, 14 were planning to run the program again (or for the 1st time) and 15 participants use pieces from the training in other programming. We are hoping to develop an inventory of communities around the province where *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* is being offered to families.

We were also able to provide grants of up to \$2500 to Downtown community groups or schools that were interested in offering *WGM* at their sites and offered mentoring support from our Program Leader/Trainer if groups wanted that assistance. The following groups received grants: Helping Hands Resource Centre

for Immigrants, Centennial Neighbourhood Dufferin Family School Resource Centre, and Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba (IRCOM).

In April 2008, we were honoured to learn that *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* had won the Regional (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Northwest Ontario) "Speaking of Food and Healthy Living Award" for 2008. Much thanks goes to Sheelagh Smith (Health Action Centre), a member of our committee since its inception, who took the time to fill in the application - spending many long hours trying to condense our story into the acceptable length - using smaller and smaller fonts and virtually no margins to make fit the report into the limited space allowed! (A national winner will be chosen from the 4 regional winners at Dietitians of Canada National Conference on June 12 in Winnipeg - stay tuned!). The "Speaking of Food and Healthy Living Award: Excellence in Consumer Communication" is an annual award program created in 1997 by Dietitians of Canada and Kraft Canada to honour initiatives that support Canadians learning more about healthy eating and physical activity.

The coming year will see us continue to offer *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* once a week at Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre, and to continue providing program leader training 3 times a year. We are delighted that the current *WGM* staff will be continuing with the program. We also already have a request for a grant to run the program in an elementary school in the fall.

An exciting new project, originating from participants in the program leader trainings, is the development of a CD of songs from our program to accompany the handbook. We are currently in discussions with the music consultant from Winnipeg School Division and hope to work with a local elementary school choir/group in our catchment to record a CD of those songs.

The success of *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* has garnered interest from across the province as well as nationally. The ongoing support of Communities 4 Families (Downtown Parent Child Coalition) and funding from Healthy Child Manitoba has been integral in the development of our program.

History:

Wiggle, Giggle & Munch is a community-based program that provides parents and young children (ages 1-4) with free, drop-in sessions in a safe, fun and accessible environment that promotes healthy eating and physical activity. This "homemade" program grew out of a concern by members of the Coalition about a lack of programming in our catchment for families with preschool children, and the increase incidence of childhood obesity and diabetes in our community. *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* was initially piloted in early 2004 at 2 community sites and since then has been offered at 6 different sites, and continues to run during the school year on a weekly basis at an inner city community centre. Another component of the program has been the development of a handbook and training program for program leaders. We also provide support, both financially and with leadership, to other agencies in the catchment who wish to facilitate the program in their "communities".



Respectfully Submitted

Barbara Martin, Chair
Healthy Lifestyles Project Committee



Grants Committee Report 2007 – 2008

The Grant program, now in its fifth year, was established to distribute grants of various sizes to organizations and groups in the downtown area. Grants under \$1,000.00 can be applied for by groups and organizations (both formal and informal). The application and reporting process are kept as simple as possible to allow groups and organizations with limited report / application writing skills to still qualify. The four pillars of the coalition are used as criteria in determining eligibility. This fiscal year, the coalition committed \$20,887.36 to the committee.

The goals of the Grant Program are simple:

- To assist organizations which require funding to carry out activities which support the four pillars
- To provide these grants in a simple application process, with minimal reporting requirements
- To continue the process of advertising the goals and objectives of the Coalition to the community and,
- To continue to develop relationships and partnerships with groups and organizations in the downtown area.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Clarke, Chair
Grants Committee



Networking/Outreach (formerly Public Forum) Committee Report 2007 - 2008

It has indeed been a year of change. The Public Forum committee was having an identity crisis. After much discussion, it was decided to rename and refocus our energies.

The name: "Networking/Outreach" identifies what our purpose as a committee is: to provide an opportunity for the community (both the general public and service providers) to work in partnership, to share information, and to identify resources to better support their needs. The goal is to strengthen the community. This provides the committee with a new sense of purpose and excited energy of the possibilities that our committee could bring to the Coalition: our members and community.

As Chairperson of this committee, I look forward to working with the Networking/Outreach committee, Coalition members and the downtown neighbourhood to work towards our goal of strengthening the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Nutbean, Chair
Networking/Outreach Committee



Literacy Committee Report 2007- 2008

This is the third year the Literacy Committee has supported the development and delivery of intergenerational family literacy projects. A call for applications went out in October with a submission date in January. Eight organizations received funding to assist with different aspects of their programming including salary, training, books, transportation costs and snacks. Some programs augmented or expanded their traditional offerings such as Mother Goose and Story Sacks while others created new programs with the addition of music to language acquisition and numeracy at lunch or dinner.

In addition to overseeing the grants the Committee also addressed the need for training and networking with the family literacy programs. A Fireside Chat arranged in January to coincide with Family Literacy Day received a warm response from 15 participants who shared their successes, dreams and challenges. We were presented with an exciting training opportunity to pilot a new family literacy curriculum, *Get Set Learn*, in partnership with the Project READ Literacy Network. This model focuses on enhancing the literacy and math skills of both the parents and children. We arranged for the workshop in February which was well received by 30 service providers.

Based on the success of the Fireside Chat the Committee would like to see this offered again next year. We anticipate a need for further training and research of “best practices” as we work towards the development of an exemplary family literacy program in the downtown area.



Respectfully submitted,

Judy Baker, Chair
Literacy Committee



Grant Recipients 2007-2008

Small Grant Recipients

Aksyon Ng Ating Kabataan (ANAK) Inc.
Art City Inc.
Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg - Freight House Club
Breastfeeding Buddies
Bumper Crop Day Care Inc.
Children's House Montessori School
Day Nursery Centre
Gordon Bell Learning Centre
Ifelodun Training and Development Inc.
International Centre
Issac Brock School Parent-Child Resource Centre
Jacob Penner Park Drop-In Centre
John M. King School - Family Room
Kid Gloves Day Care Inc.
Pinkham Day Care Inc.
Pregnancy & Family Support Service Inc.
Stay and Play Group
St. Matthews Kids Korner Inc.
The Family Centre
University of Winnipeg Student Association Day Care
Valour Community Centre
Victor Play Centre Inc
Victoria Albert Day Care

Total Granted \$20,887.36

Family Literacy Grant Recipients

Creative Retirement
Ifelodum
Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba
Mulvey School
Pregnancy and Family Support Services
The Family Centre
West Central Women's Resource Centre
Wolseley Family Place

Total Granted \$37,600

Wiggle, Giggle & Munch Grant Recipients

IRCOM (Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba)
Centennial Neighbourhood Dufferin Family Resource Centre

Total Granted \$5,000



STAFF REPORT 2007- 2008

Genny Funk-Unrau and Ingrid Peters Derry were hired by the Downtown Parent-Child Coalition in November, 2003. Since then, their time has been spent in doing much of the administrative work of the Coalition as a whole and for the committees working within the Coalition. Some of their tasks this year have been:

- Working with the Grants committee to help process grant applications
- Helping with the work of the Healthy Lifestyles Committee as they continued to run the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* program and develop the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* training and manual. Tasks included:
 - Supervising of the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* staff.
 - Providing administrative support to the committee
 - Helping with the promotion and registration of the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* facilitators' trainings
 - Monitoring the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* finances
 - Promoting and tracking the *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* handbook
- Working with the Literacy Committee in providing grants for Family Literacy projects and hosting a Get, Set, Learn training event as well as a Mother Goose training. The committee also hosted a first-time "Fireside Chat" with recipients of the Family Literacy Grants
- Maintaining the web-site through the work of our student, Muhanad Aboud
- Assisting the Research Committee by working with the researchers on setting up focus groups. Promoted the research project and its on-line survey, focus group and interviews.
- Representing the coalition at the Council of Coalitions

Respectfully submitted,

Genny Funk-Unrau
Ingrid Peters Derry
Coordinators



FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD April 2007 - March 2008

- Klinik CHC provides Banker services for the Coalition
- Booke & Partners Chartered Accountants conducted Klinik's financial audit for 2007/2008. This audit included the DPCC funds. There is a copy of Klinik's audited financial statement available for your perusal.
- The DPCC is funded by Healthy Child MB and received an operating grant of \$153,000 for 2007/08.
- For the 2007/2008 fiscal year, the Coalition had operating funds of \$153,000 plus \$3,461 of revenue from trainings and \$42,325 of deferred, allocated revenue from 2006/07 for a total operating budget of \$198,786.
- Expenses for 2007/2008 were \$139,748 with deferred and allocated revenues of \$59,038, which have been carried over into the current fiscal year.

Summary of Expenses:

Personnel Costs	\$39,774
External Grants	\$60,561
Operating Costs	\$ 8,030
Program Costs (WGM)	\$31,416

- I would make a motion that the DPCC financial report for 2007/2008 be accepted.
- Thank you

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie Gjerek
On behalf of Klinik Community Health Centre
Banker