

Person-centred

Responsibility

Partnerships



Respect

Innovation



terra centre
Empowering Teen Parents to Succeed

2016 Community Report

Connecting the dots for teen parents





A message from leadership

Who didn't love to play Connect the Dots as a child? At Terra, we help teen parents navigate complex systems and circumstances every day so they can "connect the dots" and reach their full potential.

As a result, we accomplished so much that we are proud of this past year.

Our partnership with Brentwood Family Housing Society was profiled at numerous conferences as a housing model illustrating innovation and collaboration. We furthered our support of Alberta's first-ever early learning and care curriculum framework to help establish enriched early learning environments for children. We also launched a new program to help parents achieve their career goals after high school, and our Services for Young Dads saw increased participation like never before. All backed by the support of our generous donors, loyal and new, it was an exciting year.

Our Strategic Plan provided the focus and direction, while our incredibly dedicated team of board members, volunteers and staff brought our accomplishments to life. Through our collective efforts, we achieved something even greater: our families' success. Our families inspire us each and every day! They are dedicated to their children and work hard to overcome the complex barriers they face.

In 2016, we took stock and looked to the future. The board engaged in a strategic planning process to set the course for the next five years and established four foundational goals. Through a community consultation process, we met with and listened to our stakeholders: partners, volunteers, funders, program participants, alumni and staff. It was a reaffirming process. We are doing lots of good work that is

evident to others as well. Terra is recognized as a leader in building an inclusive, responsive community, with more dads engaged in services, more moms graduating high school and more strong and healthy children.

We reaffirmed our mission, *Empowering Teen Parents to Succeed*. Strong consensus proved that the mission continues to be relevant and articulates our purpose well.

A new vision did emerge from this process: *Teen Parent Families Thrive and Enrich our Community*. In this, "families" implies not just the parents, but also the children of teen parents. We felt it was important to consider the "next generation" touched by our services, as they become strong, healthy and contributing members of our community. To help us realize this new vision, we also refreshed our values to help guide our work in all that we do. *Partnerships, Innovation, Respect, Person-Centred, Responsible* — these are more than just words. They are who we are.

Despite our growth and successes, there remains much to do for those young parents struggling to make the progress they deeply desire. Looking ahead, we're focused on strengthening our mental health support services, early child development services and opportunities for cultural engagement — all of which are vital to the wellbeing of young parents and their children.

Thank you to all of our friends and supporters who continue to recognize the value of building healthy families and raising up this next generation.

Karen Mottershead
Executive Director

Erik Holmlund
Board Chair

2017-2021 Strategic Plan:

- Goal 1:** Deepen and strengthen core services to fully support teen parent families.
- Goal 2:** Attract, engage and retain a mission-driven Terra team to enhance the ability of teen parents to succeed.
- Goal 3:** Lead, collaborate and leverage strengths to transform attitudes and systems, ensuring teen parents and their children can be full participants in our community.
- Goal 4:** Grow a sustainable financial foundation and resource base to respond to the needs of teen parents and their children.

In 2016: 10% of teen parents connected to Terra experienced homelessness.

Housing Support Services:

Terra operates in partnership with Brentwood Family Housing Society to provide Housing Support Services to teen parents and their children in need of safe and affordable housing. In 2016, Brentwood began plans to expand into a new building with mixed residential units and on-site childcare to reach even more young families in need.



Nicholas and Nicole Campbell | Rob Hislop Photography

Partnerships

We build authentic relationships and partnerships.

It takes a village: creating a community hub for young parents

“I just hope that when he grows up, he’s successful and lives a happy life.”

Nicole Campbell is like many moms in the way she wants the best for her two-year-old son, Nicholas. Luckily, she has a village of support to help.

Nicole and Nick are a family with Terra who live in Brentwood Homes, a supportive living community in Woodcroft where Terra operates in partnership with Brentwood Family Housing Society.

Just like Nicole wants for her son, Terra and Brentwood want young families in the community to succeed. So, Terra established a program site near the housing complex in a house generously provided by Brentwood to introduce more support services and programs.

Having a house as the base for a program focused on successful independent living proved a natural fit. It started off much like any other: an unassuming house on a typical residential street. But, Housing Support Services staff had a different vision for “The House”: a community hub for young parents and their children to gather, learn, celebrate and grow.

“We wanted to create a space that made families feel as though we were expecting them,” said Cheryl Forbes, one of four Housing staff based out of The House.

Staff worked deliberately to transform The House from a bare bones, office-type setting to a place where participants, their children included, felt welcome and at ease.

“Working with Terra Centre has been really positive. We do a much better job of serving young families together than either of us could do individually.”

**Rob Appleyard, Executive Director,
Brentwood Family Housing Society**

They partnered with colleagues from Terra’s award-winning Child and Family Support Centre to create child-friendly spaces throughout the house, such as a reading nook and age-specific play areas. Upstairs became a place for early literacy programming, tax clinics and other monthly meet-ups, and the kitchen a place for baking together, nutrition discussions and on-going food security solutions. Volunteers from Stantec also helped clean and prep the yard for the creation of a community garden and, eventually, an enclosed nature space and outdoor meeting area.

The updated space also became a perfect setting for staff to model proper homemaking and social skills, such as keeping a home tidy or greeting guests when they arrive.

So far, the updates appear to be working. Participants and visitors alike have remarked positively about the space, group attendance and participation is on the rise and in-home visits are increasing.

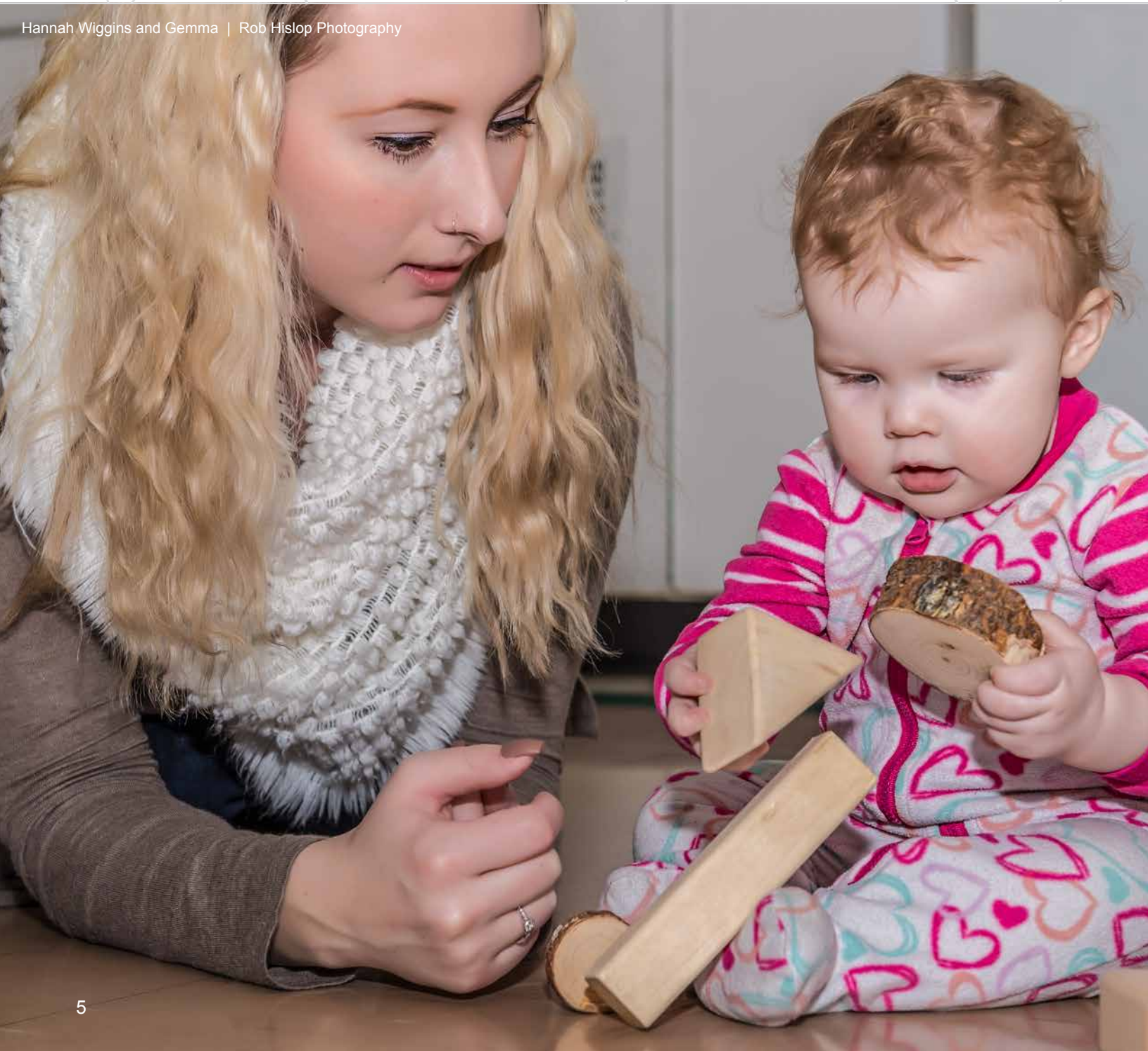
“I like that there’s a lot of spaces, and I feel comfortable here,” said Nicole. “Any young mom would be lucky to be in this program.”

In 2016: Terra celebrated the births of 74 babies.

Child and Family Support Centre (CFSC):

The Child and Family Support Centre is Terra Centre's award-winning, accredited child care centre that operates on-site at Edmonton Public Schools' Braemar School. The CFSC accommodates 77 spaces for children, between the ages of three weeks and three years, of students attending Braemar. Professional, qualified Early Childhood Educators support teen moms to succeed as parents through inclusive, quality early learning and child care focused on both child and family wellbeing.

Hannah Wiggins and Gemma | Rob Hislop Photography



Innovation

**We are
creative
trail blazers.**

Setting the standard for childcare in Alberta

Early Childhood Educator Hannah Wiggins leaned in close on the floor of the Terra Child and Family Support Centre as nine-month-old Gemma stared intently at the wooden blocks in her hands.

To the average person, the interaction — Hannah watching Gemma play — may not have looked like much. In reality, though, both Hannah and Gemma were demonstrating “The Child as a Mighty Learner” and “A Practice of Relationships,” two of the core concepts from the first-ever Early Learning and Care Curriculum framework for Alberta.

The framework has been four years in the making, and Terra went on a remarkable journey in that time to help shape it.

The Alberta Government initiated the development of the framework in 2012. As an early childhood program specializing in infant and toddler care, the Child and Family Support Centre was invited to participate as one of four pilot sites in Edmonton under the leadership and research direction of MacEwan University.

Between three phases, researchers established best practices from the field, explored different ways to plan and use the curriculum, and engaged in open conversation with families and educators alike.

Play, Participation, and Possibilities: An Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum Framework for Alberta launched in January 2015.

Central to the framework is children and the idea that we should learn to look at them in a new, different light. It also emphasizes how important both environment and early relationships are to children and how they view themselves and their world.

“One day, we hope the framework becomes integral to all early learning and care programs across the province.”

**Carol Sullivan, Manager,
Early Child Development Services**

To help integrate the framework into our daily work, Terra created two new curriculum mentor positions in 2015. The mentors regularly met with the research team and consulted with the other pilot sites to help bring the curriculum to life at Terra.

Our Early Childhood Educators were active learners throughout the project and even after its launch, Terra continued to engage with researchers and the other pilot sites in 2016.

Staff also gained new skills and confidence in their work by participating in the project. Many remain willing and eager to share their knowledge with the greater early childhood community, providing a foundation for future leadership in this field.

“One day, we hope the framework becomes integral to all early learning and care programs across the province,” said Carol Sullivan, Manager of Early Child Development Services at Terra.

Until then, maybe you’ll think differently the next time you see a child playing with blocks ...

In 2016: Terra supported 52 young dads and their children through our Services for Young Dads.

Family Outreach: Services for Young Dads

Terra offers Services for Young Dads that include long-term support to help young dads develop effective parenting skills and to build their personal capacity. Individual and group services are flexible and based on the individual needs of the young dad.

Services for Young Dads are part of our larger Family Outreach Services, which provides individualized support to young families to facilitate their growth as young adults and parents. Services focus on building healthy family relationships, supporting children to achieve development milestones and living in safe, stable and supportive environments.

Michael Moze, Treyson Dahdona Moze and Stephanie Roy | Rob Hislop Photography



Respect

We are inclusive
and celebrate
diversity.

A voice for young dads

Michael Moze never knew his father. His parents separated before he was born then, due to his mother's addictions, he spent most of his life growing up in and out of foster care. At 18 years old, he finally made the move into independently living when his life suddenly changed: he was going to be a father.

"I was excited when I found out I was having a baby," said Mike. "I didn't want him to grow up with the life that I had without my dad. I wanted to be there for him."

Unfortunately, Mike said his then-girlfriend didn't feel the same way. When his son, Treyson, was finally born, Mike connected with Terra. His life changed yet again as he became a single father struggling to gain sole custody of his child.

"I had to jump through hoops for a little over two-and-a-half years just to get him under my name," said Mike. "You have to show proof of this, proof of that — it's difficult as a dad."

Research shows that young fathers are a misunderstood population in Canadian society, often marginalized rather than seen for who they really are: young men trying to navigate difficult circumstances that place them at a tremendous disadvantage.

At Terra, we recognize the importance of all dads and the significant impact that healthy father involvement has on a child's life.

Through our Services for Young Dads, Terra helps anyone who identifies as a father deal with social isolation, develop positive parenting practices and ultimately break down the negative stereotypes and social barriers that often keep them from playing a fathering role.

"I wanted to be there for him."

Michael Moze, Father and Terra Participant

One part of our services is Dad's Recreation Night — or "Dad's Night" — where young dads connected to our Family Outreach Services get together to socialize and experience new activities. The monthly meet-ups are meant to take away some of the barriers that can hinder relationship-building, and allow young dads to "be real" in a safe environment.

"With the support of our agency, we really built up Dad's Night in 2016 so that we could reach even more young men," said Eric Chaves, one of two Services for Young Dads workers with Terra. "We strongly believe that by building their natural supports and allowing our young dads to experience different things, they can begin to identify their goals and develop the confidence and skills to achieve them, while building their resiliency."

Today, Mike maintains sole custody of Treyson, who is five-years-old and in kindergarten. Looking back, Mike pointed to Terra as an integral part of both Treyson's development, and his own as a father.

"Terra has given me a lot of knowledge on how to raise my child," said Mike, who is expecting his second child with his fiancé Stephanie. "They've helped mold me into a responsible parent. I'm still learning, but Terra has been a big help throughout my life."

In 2016: 15 teen parents connected to the Strengthening Hope Learner's Bursary applied for post-secondary.

Educational Support Services

Terra's Educational Support Services team works in conjunction with Edmonton Public Schools' Braemar School to support teen mothers in completing high school. Their focus is to help students stay in school and reach their academic and personal goals.

Alyssa Scammell and Family | Submitted Photo



Person-centred

We are relentless in putting those we serve at the heart of our work.

Life after high school: bridging the gap

When Alyssa Scammell first came to Terra Centre, she was 16 years old and three months pregnant with her daughter, Brooklyn.

Her reckless lifestyle ended then, and she enrolled in Braemar School. There, she finished high school and graduated a few years later with help from her support worker and services like the Terra Child and Family Support Centre.

“Terra helped me get my life back on track,” said Alyssa.

After graduation, Alyssa enrolled in post-secondary to become a legal assistant, but soon realized just how different university was from the supportive environment of Braemar. Overwhelmed and unhappy with her program, she dropped out a year later.

“It was just a shock as a student to go there, and to try and juggle everything,” said Alyssa. “If I had more support, or someone to walk me through it, I might have been more successful at that time.”

Terra understands from experience that young parents need an expanded network of services and support to transition from high school to the next phase of their life. So, in 2016, Terra partnered with EPCOR Utilities Inc. on a new Post-High School Transition Program to help parents make their career goals happen.

As part of the program, EPCOR is providing three-year grant funding for Terra to extend program services and support to young parents attending post-secondary or employment training programs.

“Terra has a proven track record of setting young people up for success, and this initiative in particular aligns well with EPCOR’s focus on supporting young people along their educational journey,” said Connie Smart, Manager of Community Investment at EPCOR. “By helping participants navigate their post-secondary school experience and their

“Post-secondary opens way more doors. I would highly recommend it to anyone thinking about it because no one can take your education from you.”

Alyssa Scammell, Post-Secondary Student and Terra Alumni

future career options, we know this program will make a significant impact.”

Lisa McKinley is the new Post-High School Transition Worker who facilitates the program. Her position can work with up to 20 program participants from across Terra to establish their goals and provide individualized support — from managing stress, to applying for scholarships, to navigating life on campus.

“They have to fly on their own really quickly, and some of them just need that bridge,” said Lisa. “I encourage them to push past their boundaries and persevere in sight of their goals.”

Today, Alyssa is enrolled in post-secondary once again but this time, in something more true to her heart: social work.

“I always told myself I would become a social a worker when the time was right, and now the time is right,” said Alyssa, having worked in banking for several years.

“Post-secondary opens way more doors. I would highly recommend it to anyone thinking about it because no one can take your education from you.”

In 2016: Terra was generously supported by 47 Future Builder donors (see the list on page 14).

Gifts for all time: Future Builders

A Future Builder helps build a more vibrant community by ensuring the legacy of Terra for future generations. Future Builders are a special group of friends who have included Terra in their estate plans through bequests, gifts of life insurance, trust or a gift to our endowment fund.

Terra's endowment funds are held at the Edmonton Community Foundation (ECF). Gifts to endowment are not spent. They are invested in perpetuity and only the interest from the investment is used to fund our programs each year. Our endowments support a variety of important Terra programs, including our nutrition program for the Child and Family Support Centre at our Braemar School location.

Ron Hayter and Jac'y Hayter Achieving Dreams Together Fund Recipient | File Photo



Responsibility

We ensure the sustainability of our core services.

Jac'y Hayter Achieving Dreams Together Fund

Ron Hayter and his late wife Jacqueline (Jac'y) are long-time friends of Terra Centre who both believe in the power of education.

Ron didn't have a chance to go to school until he was 12, yet managed to graduate high school with his peers at age 18 and went on to become a successful journalist, Edmonton's longest-serving alderman and a major figure in amateur sports.

Jac'y was a teenage mother who dreamed of going to university and finally had her chance to do so in 1965, when her two oldest children were in school. They didn't have much money in those days, but scholarships and grants helped her pay her tuition.

After years of part-time study, she graduated with distinction from the University of Alberta and became a beloved English teacher and busy volunteer.

Jac'y had a special relationship with Terra, as one of their daughters was a Terra participant with her baby daughter, who is now a mom herself. A devoted volunteer and donor, Jac'y spent many years supporting Terra's work, rounding up friends to lend helping hands and taking charge of preparing the annual Christmas dinner at St. Brides School, our former site.

The Jac'y Hayter Achieving Dreams Together Fund at the Edmonton Community Foundation was established as an endowment fund over 12 years ago to honour her commitment to Terra. Ron and Jac'y always believed in giving back, and that, in fact, giving enriches the giver as much as the receiver.

It was a great joy to them to start this scholarship fund to help other young parents pursue their dreams. Although Jac'y passed away in 2005, this family legacy gift continues to serve as a powerful reminder of her deep dedication to Terra and education.

“We are so grateful for the Hayters’ vision and unwavering belief in teen parents. Over the years, they have provided so much hope and inspiration for our parents to succeed in school and life.”

**Donna Ma, Manager,
Fund Development and Donor Stewardship**

Each fall, we celebrate and remember Jac'y and all of our generous scholarship donors during our scholarship awards presentation ceremony at Deep Roots, New Heights, our annual donor appreciation event.

For many years, Ron personally awarded their scholarship to a deserving young parent. It gave him great pleasure to do so and he always took time to reflect on Jac'y, her passion for Terra and the important role of education in a successful future.

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity and vision of all our post-secondary scholarship donors for their commitment to the success of teen parents:

- Maureen Barnes and Joe Dolan Award Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation
- Brentwood Family Housing Society
- Jilian Campbell
- Jac'y Hayter Achieving Dreams Together Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation
- Toby Levy Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation
- Sylvia Nasser Education Fund at Edmonton Community Foundation

2016 Board of Directors

On behalf of the entire board, our sincerest thanks to all those who generously supported Terra in 2016.

Because of your investment, teen parents are able to overcome odds and reach their full potential — as parents, as individuals and as members of this community. With deep appreciation, thank you for inspiring hope in the young families we serve.

Teen parents are ...

Erik Holmlund, Chair



an inspiration who deserve our community's respect and support.

Anne Smith, Vice-Chair



resilient, strong and capable.

Lynda Phillips, Secretary



poised to succeed, thrive and enrich our community with support from Terra.

Rhonda White, Treasurer



our future.

Sarah Aaron



resilient and inspiring. They have strength and grit.

Mark Alexander



striving for what every parent wants: the best for their children.

Barbara Dacks



loving, caring parents, who turn to Terra to help them realize their dreams for their children.

Laura Haynes



an investment in our community and future generations.

Mary Marshall



part of the Edmonton community and, like other families, need to feel supported, valued, connected and welcome.

Chris Miller



deserving of every opportunity to thrive.

Fran Ross



inspiring, reminding us all of the power of courage, love and community.

Wendy Yewman



outstanding in every way. Their hard work, dedication and, above all, love for their children is truly inspiring.

Partners

ABC Head Start	Brentwood Family Housing Society	City of Spruce Grove	Family Futures Resource Network	Ottewell Place
AHVNA	Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs (FRPCanada)	Community Options	Father Involvement Network Edmonton Region	Our Lady of Grace School of Alternative Education
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Alberta Father Involvement Initiative	Capital Region Housing Corporation	Duggan Public Health Centre	The GRIT Program	Primrose Place Family Centre
Alberta Health Services	Carrington Group of Companies	E4C	Health for Two	Royal Alex - Adolescent Pregnancy Care Clinic
Alberta Network for Safe and Healthy Children	CASA Child, Adolescent and Family Mental Health	East Edmonton Health Centre	ihuman Youth Society	Schizophrenia Society of Alberta
Alta Care Resources	Catholic Family Service of Calgary – Louise Dean Centre	Edmonton and Area Fetal Alcohol Network	Jasper Place Child and Family Resource Centre	Spruce Grove Family and Community Services
Amiskwaciy Academy	Catholic Social Services	Edmonton Catholic School District	Kara Family Resource Centre	Stollery Children's Hospital
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BGS Enterprises	Child Development Dayhomes	Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers	Legal Aid Alberta	Unlimited Potential Community Services
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Birth Control Centre	Community Initiatives Against Family Violence (CIAFV)	Edmonton Public School Board	Matheson Seniors Housing Corporation	Woodcroft Community League
Bissell Centre	City of Edmonton - Donate A Ride	Edmonton Young Offender Centre	McMan Youth, Family and Community Services	YMCA of Northern Alberta
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Bonnie Doon Health Clinic			Northern Alberta HIV Program	Youth Empowerment and Support Services (YESS)
Boyle Street Community Services			Norwood Child and Family Resource Centre	
Boys & Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton				
Braemar School				

Future Builders

Special thanks to our Future Builders, donors who have made a commitment to Terra's endowment fund (see article on page 11).

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To learn more about Future Builders, contact Donna Ma at (780) 428-3772 or dma@terracentre.ca.

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Sheryl Hobbs	Karen Kvill *	Sandra Maygard *	Ritchie United Church	Ritchie United Church
Richard Hoblak	Salma Lakhani *	Puneeta McBryan	Cindy Roache	Cindy Roache
Barbara Hoff-Morin *	Megan Lalonde	Kathleen McCabe *	Elaine Roberts *	Elaine Roberts *
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Erik Holmlund and Ashley Robertson *	Tom Langlois	Anne Mccooy	Roche Enterprises *	Roche Enterprises *
John and Jane Holmlund *	Jonathan Lawrence *	Pamela C. Mcculloch	Christine Rosner *	Christine Rosner *
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Joann House	Marvin Lee *	Lisa McDonald	Terry Rothweiler *	Terry Rothweiler *
Ella Howard *	Liz Lepp	Eleanor McDonough	Rosa Rudelich *	Rosa Rudelich *
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Jamie Hunt	Monica Lewicki	Diana McGee *	Sherran Sadee	Sherran Sadee
DeAnn Hunter *	Lionsafe Security	Trudy Mcginnis	Safeway Women's Network	Safeway Women's Network
Ruth Hunter-Moffatt	Peder Lodoen	Lori McLachlan	Fiona Salkie	Fiona Salkie
Jeanne Hutton	Margo Long	Cecily McLaughlin *	Gioia Sallustio-Jarvis *	Gioia Sallustio-Jarvis *
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		Jennifer Mikula *	Barb Schweger	Barb Schweger
		Chris Miller *	Marilyn Scott *	Marilyn Scott *
		Sarah Miller	Andrew Seeley	Andrew Seeley
			Johanna Pauw	Johanna Pauw

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St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church	Carol Sullivan	Claire Tuttle	Westwood Unitarian Congregation	Don and Leona Yez *
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	Susan Taylor	Carl Ulrich	Zoey Willcock	Natasha Zakordonski
	TELUS Connections (Edmonton)	United on Whyte	Jennifer Williams	Starr Zhang
		Debbie Urquhart		

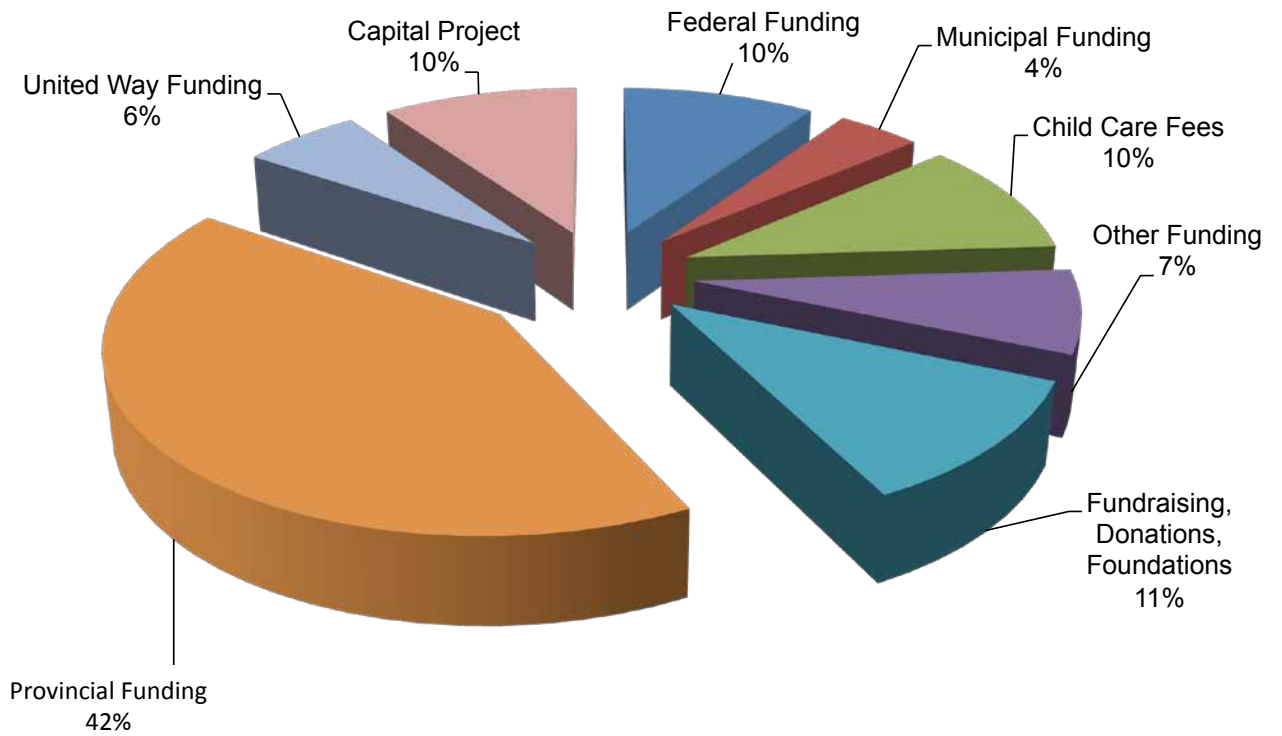
Please accept our sincere apologies for any omissions/errors. For corrections, contact Donna Ma at 780-428-3772 or dma@terracentre.ca.

A heartfelt thanks to all of our financial supporters.

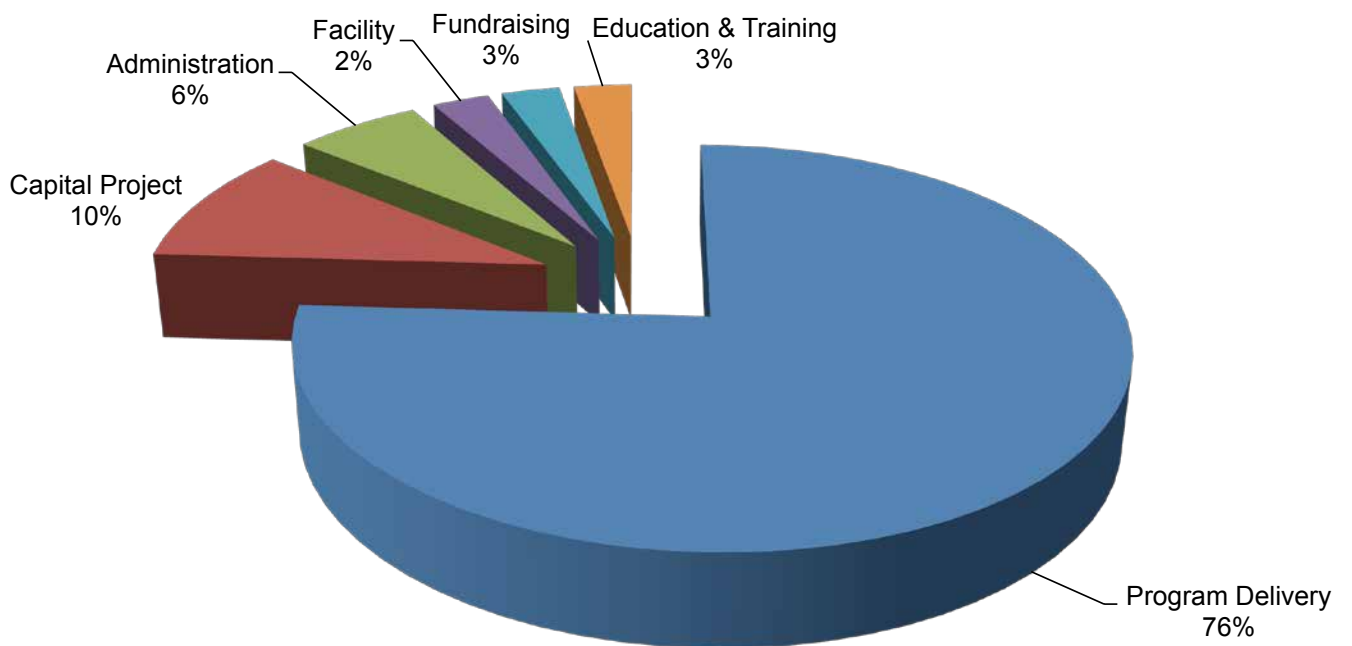
Elizabeth Bone and Benjamin Bone-Sutherland | Rob Hislop Photography



2016 Sources of Revenue



2016 Expenditures



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9930 106 St.
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Braemar School
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