



## Contact *US*

416.924.4646  
[www.TorontoCAS.ca](http://www.TorontoCAS.ca)

## Protecting Children & Strengthening Families

The Children's Aid Society of Toronto is a not-for-profit agency, funded by the province of Ontario to investigate reports or evidence of abuse or neglect of children under the age of 16 and, where necessary, take steps to protect them. For over 140 years, we have been keeping children safe, strengthening families and providing nurturing care for those children who are unable to remain in their own homes.

### Child Protection

By law, the Children's Aid Society of Toronto is required to investigate reports or allegations that children have suffered, or are at risk of physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect. If you suspect that this may be happening to a child, you must report. Our trained child welfare staff will assess the information you provide and determine the course of action to follow regarding the allegation.



## **Keeping Children Safe by Supporting Families**

Children are always better off growing up in their own homes, if it is safe for them to do so. We want to help families keep their children safe by offering counseling and by working with families to identify people within their community where they can turn for help. This is important because, eight out of ten children we work with, remain in their homes while their families receive support from us.

## **Providing a Safe Place for Children**

In situations where children are unable to stay safely in their own homes, we look for the opportunity to find a place for them in the home of a relative or friend. If this cannot be done, we then

look to one of our approved foster homes. Foster home placements are usually short-term and most children return to their homes once the issues that put the child at risk have been settled.

## **Consider Becoming a Foster Parent**

Foster parents are individuals or couples who have the time, understanding, compassion and patience to provide a safe, stable and loving home for children and youth, usually on a temporary basis. Foster parents play an important role in the well being and development of the children in their care. We need foster parents from all communities that we serve.

## **Become a Volunteer**

Our volunteers create an important link between our agency and the community we serve. Some volunteers become mentors or tutors. Others become drivers, taking children to appointments, foster homes, school or summer camp. Others choose to serve on one of many committees related to our work.

## **Learn More About Us**

Do you want to learn more about the role of the Children's Aid Society in your community? Are you not sure when or why you would contact the Children's Aid Society? How old do children have to be before they can be left alone?

Our Speakers' Bureau, is made up of experienced child welfare

professionals that regularly visit organizations and community groups to explain our work and to educate the public about the importance of the work that we do and the value that we bring to the community. To request a speaker for your group or to learn more about the work of the CAS of Toronto visit our website at [www.torontocas.ca](http://www.torontocas.ca) or call **416-924-4640**.

