



Our Vision

A city where children are safe,
families are strong and communities are supported.

Une ville où les enfants sont en sécurité,
les familles sont fortes et les communautés sont prises en charge.

Magaalo carruurta ay badbaado yihiin,
qoysasku ay xooganyihiin iyo bulshada ay taageerto.

Một thành phố nơi trẻ em được an toàn,
gia đình vững mạnh và các cộng đồng được hỗ trợ.

建造一個兒童感到安全而家庭和社區被受支援的城市

ایسا شہر جہاں بچے محفوظ ہوں، خاندان مضبوط ہوں اور کمیونٹیوں کی مدد کی جاتی ہو۔

एक ऐसा शहर जहां बच्चे सुरक्षित हों, परिवार मज़बूत हों,
एवं समुदायों को समर्थन दिया जाता हो।

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Message from the Board Chair & CEO

Working Together to Benefit Children, Youth, Families and Communities

Since the late 1970s, CAST has been very fortunate to have a Foundation that has helped our organization develop some very unique programs that otherwise would not have been funded by the government of Ontario. Whether that is our Community Development Program, Pape Adolescent Resource Centre, Wendy's Wonderful Kids, Caring Dads, Youth in Transition, Black Education Advisory Committee, Equity Initiatives or Journey to Zero, to name but a few, CAST and the Foundation have worked in partnership for the benefit of many.

From its humble beginnings as a Foundation solely focused on CAST, the Children's Aid Foundation of Canada (CAFC) now has grown to become one of the premier fundraising entities for child welfare across our country. Throughout this process, our partnership has remained intact and the children, youth, families and communities served by our organization are the true beneficiaries. We like to think of this partnership as a shared responsibility.

In order to highlight the positive relationship between the Foundation and CAST, this year's Annual Meetings of our respective organizations will be a joint endeavour and a first time effort.

While CAST has a primary partnership with the CAFC, our colleagues at the Ministry of Children and Youth Services and CUPE 2316, we also work very closely with other community-based agencies, including the Toronto District School Board, Toronto Police Services, Hospitals, Women's Shelters, Children's Mental Health Agencies, and a multitude of grass-roots organizations. As we continue to

work at reducing the overrepresentation of Black children and youth in our care, we have been consulting with an Advisory Committee, comprised of service providers with very strong links within the Black community.

In all of these partnerships, we are also seeking out cross-sector allies to further educate us and build our coalitions. We also regularly reach out to service recipients, in order to hear first-hand their experiences, so that we can ameliorate our interventions. In all of our interactions, we strive to be clear and transparent.

Great teamwork requires contribution, collaboration, cooperation, communication and commitment. As Andrew Carnegie once said, "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."

We would like to sincerely thank all those individuals both internally and externally and the many organizations who help us undertake our important work. Without your ongoing support, we would not be able to accomplish our mission and strive to achieve our vision.

The field of child welfare continues to face many changes. We remain confident that CAST will maintain its leadership role, and adhere to its values as we strive to improve our services in partnership with communities, organizations and the children, youth and families we serve.



Sheila Jarvis
Chair, Board of Directors



David Rivard
Chief Executive Officer

TDSB and CAST partner with newcomer families



From left to right: Kirsten Vaillancourt, Charlotte Cosgrove, Sherrie-Ann Alexander, Rose D'Alimont and Laurie Moore

New country, new expectations. The hotel within the Muirhead public school's catchment area had become a shelter for refugee families. Families spanning the globe had begun to call the community "home". Muirhead's Principal Baila Goldfarb, began to see trends – inconsistent attendance, worries about lack of supervision and parents' reliance on physical discipline. Clearly a reactive approach wasn't going to work. Instead, she made a phone call to Sherrie-Ann Alexander, Intake Supervisor and Rose D'Alimont, Toronto District School Board Manager of Social Work.

What happened next was a collaboration that reduced the need for child welfare intervention. Quickly a team was formed which included Sherrie-Ann Alexander and Intake workers Charlotte Cosgrove and Kirsten Vaillancourt, TDSB Social Workers Laurie Moore and Nancy Burch, and Chief Social Worker Rose D'Alimonte began to strategize about what would help these families.

The result was a series of four workshops delivered on site at the hotel where the families were living. The first workshop was an opportunity for the team to meet and interact with the families so they could identify topics to be discussed in future sessions. "We sat in a circle and listened. Where were they from? How did they get there and who is in their family," said Sherrie-Ann Alexander. The parents also wanted to talk about school registration, community resources, after-school programs, recreational activities for the children, and employment counseling.

The second session was much harder as it focused on discipline. The team took a conversation-based approach and reviewed CAST's recommendations about appropriate and inappropriate discipline. The families acknowledged there were cultural differences and expectations and many reported physical discipline being a common practice in their home countries. The impact of physical discipline was discussed and positive discipline strategies and resources were provided to the families.

The third session focused on school registration and support. TDSB Social workers explained school registration and the supports that could be provided by the school social workers. During this time, TDSB also provided social skills training for school-aged kids to help with trauma and their transition to life in Canada.

The final session focused on children's mental health and infant wellness. Aisling Discoveries Child and Family Centre was invited to present some of their programs. Parents and the team participated in a robust "what to do" discussion when parents face challenges like sibling rivalry, appropriate discipline, children lying and tantrums. CAST Infant Nurse Specialist Krista Rodrigue provided information regarding infant wellness, safety and safe sleep.

The number of participants in each session grew steadily purely by word of mouth from fifteen to thirty-five participants. Twenty-two participants who completed

the feedback form said they found the workshops to be helpful. Participants noted the information was helpful as was the opportunity to meet other parents and hear about their experiences and opinions. They volunteered topics for future workshops and told the team that longer

workshops, child care and more interpretation services would help for future programs.

"This was a successful first attempt," said Laurie Moore, "it was clear to all that this partnership showed us a way forward to help newcomer parents and families."

Powerful Partnerships

Breaking the Cycle with Mothercraft – an early identification and prevention program designed to reduce risk and to enhance the development of substance-exposed children (prenatal - 6 years) by providing both substance abuse and parenting programs with moms and their babies; CAST is a founding partner and sits on the Steering Committee and the Clinical Team

Caring Dads Scarborough site – we co-deliver this program with Aisling Discoveries; families going through the Caring Dads program can also access the counselling services at Aisling – 3 year partnership

Child Development Institute delivers the Mothers in Mind Program at all three CAST sites; trauma informed group supports the parenting of mothers who have experienced trauma and their children (ages birth to 5 years) – 2 year partnership

Child and Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC) – a creative community response to child abuse investigations; partnership with the Children's Aid Society, Toronto Police, Hospital for Sick Children and mental health agencies; CYAC brings together professionals involved in child abuse cases under one roof for a coordinated, seamless, interdisciplinary response to child abuse victims in Toronto

Healthy Families Program – partnership with Canadian Mental Health Association for the past 4 years with 4 multi-disciplinary mental health practitioners working out of Toronto Branch providing service to our clients; ongoing funding provided by TCLIN

Healthy Teens Program – partnership with Turning Point Youth Services for the past 3 years with a mental health clinician sitting with our Adolescent teams and providing service to at-risk youth; recently secured 3 year funding from United Way

Infant Mental Health Promotion (HSC) – longstanding involvement on this coalition working to promote optimal outcomes for kids 0-3

Jean Tweed Centre – longstanding partnership around addictions and mental health services for women providing trauma-informed practice groups and Strengthening Families groups particularly for Black families

Support and psycho-educational group for kin caregivers who are looking after a child because of the parent's poor mental health – we co-facilitate this group with Family Outreach and Response (FOR), a community mental health service (now part of CMHA) that provides counselling and education support for those impacted by a loved one's mental health

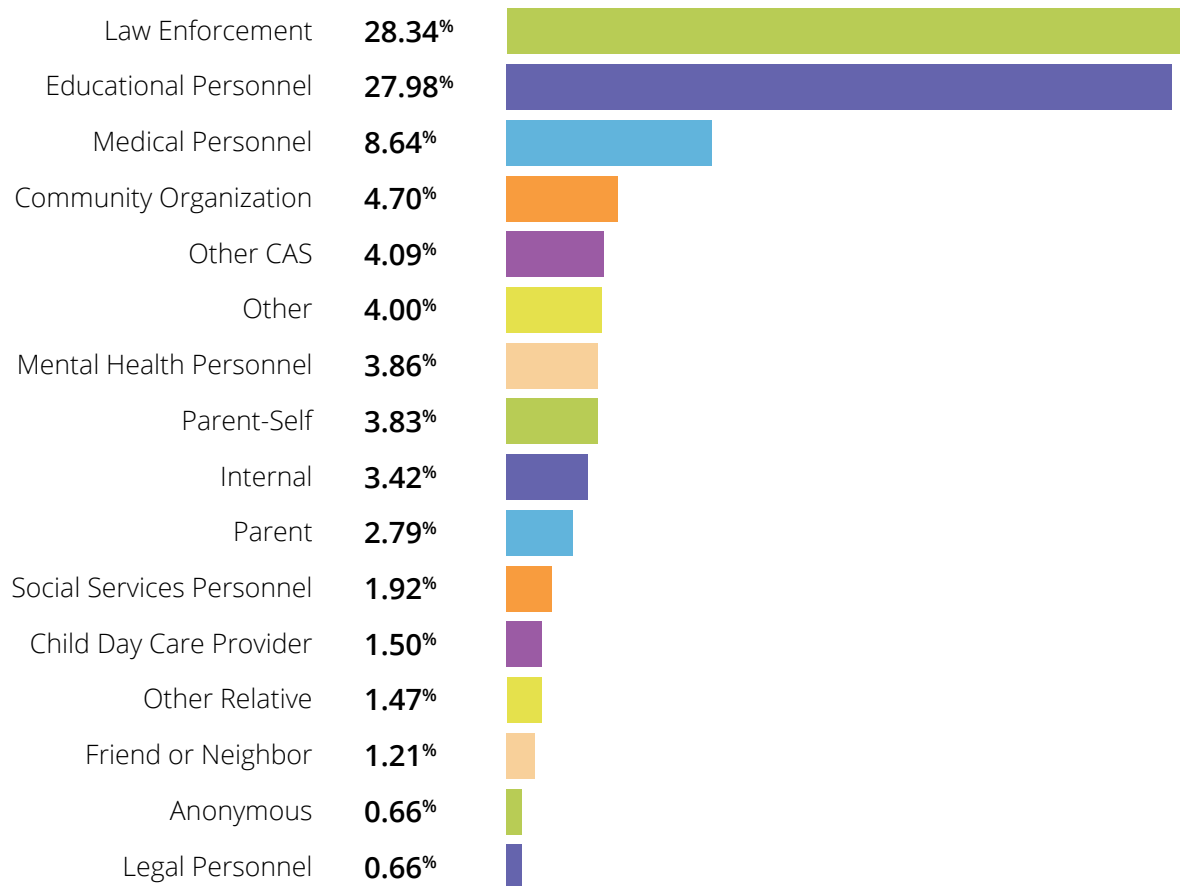
Toronto Public Health – informal partnership lasting more than five years that helps CAST staff focus on service to clients with mental health issues and trauma in a monthly case conference with a Public Health Nurse

Ujima House – a program for young and potential fathers focused on a culturally based parenting intervention for fathers having access with their children; funded by CAFC

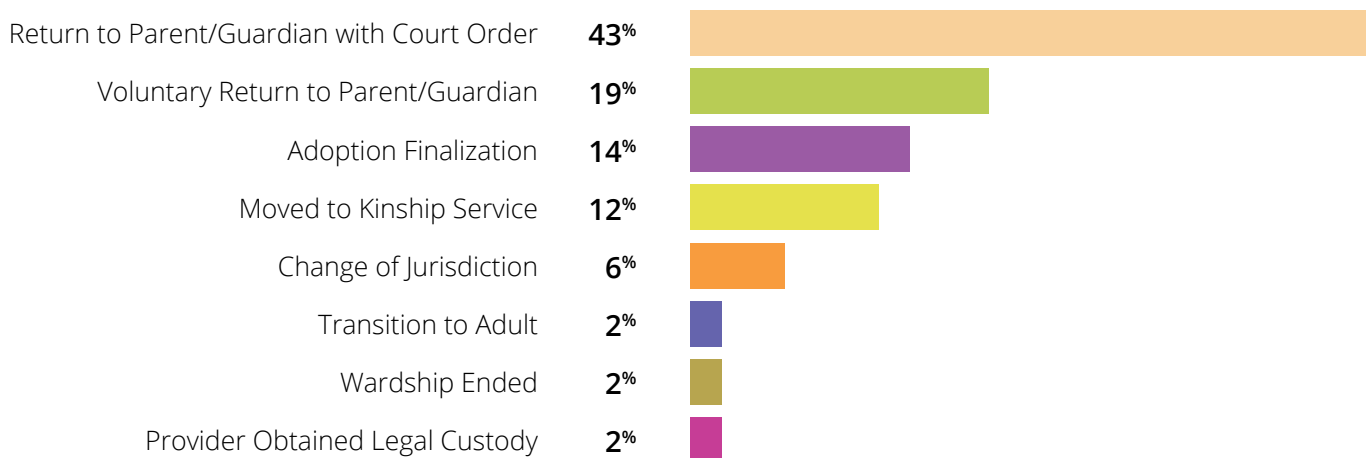
Note: List is not all inclusive

Year in Review

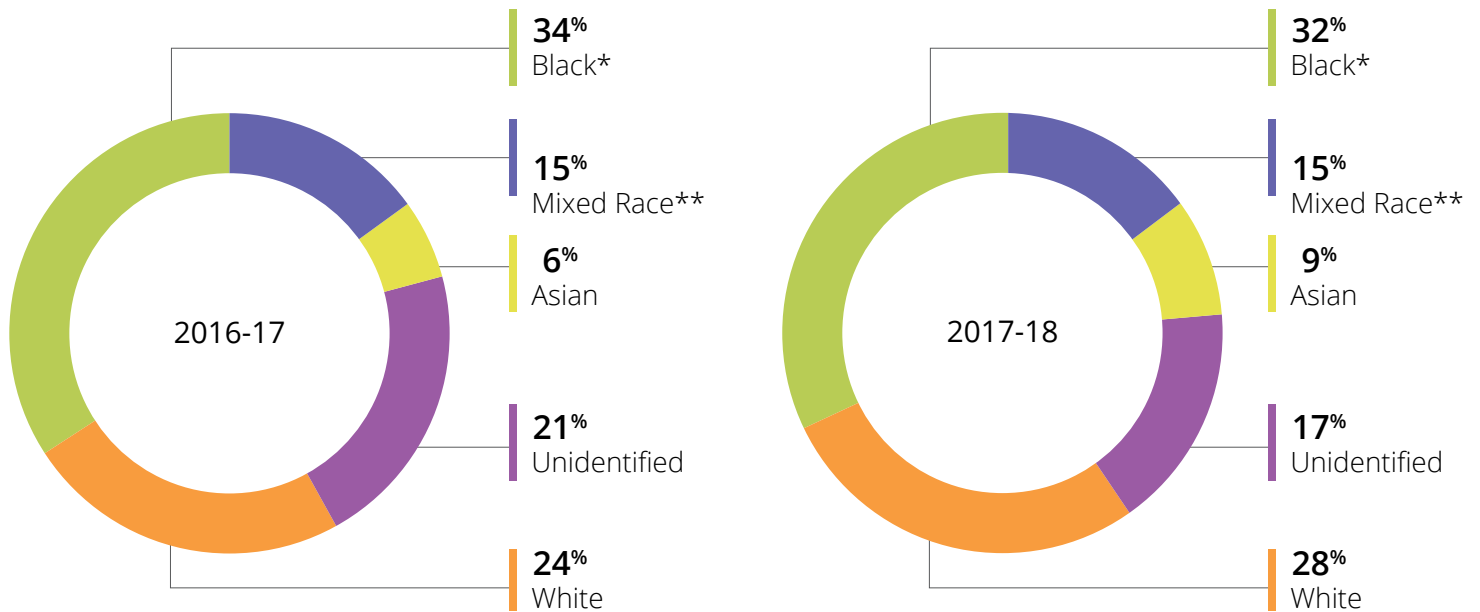
Top 15 referral sources



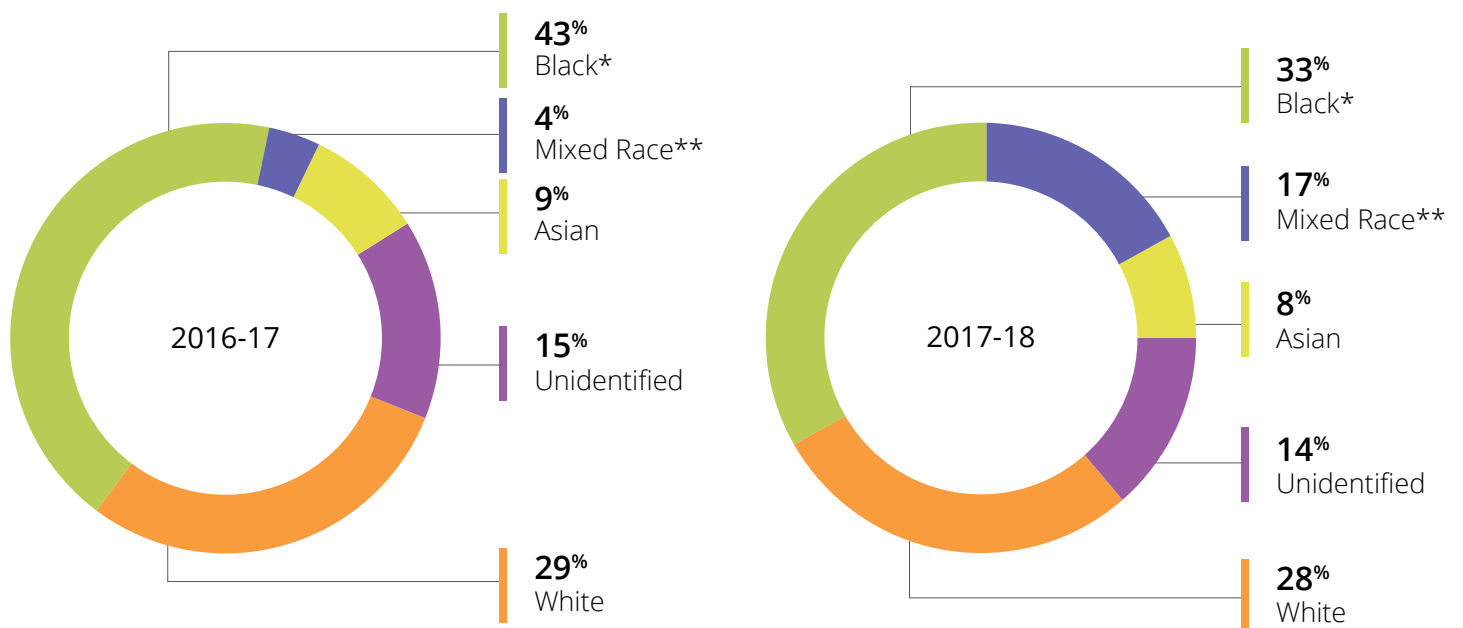
Children and youth discharged from care



Children and youth admitted by race



Children and youth discharged by race

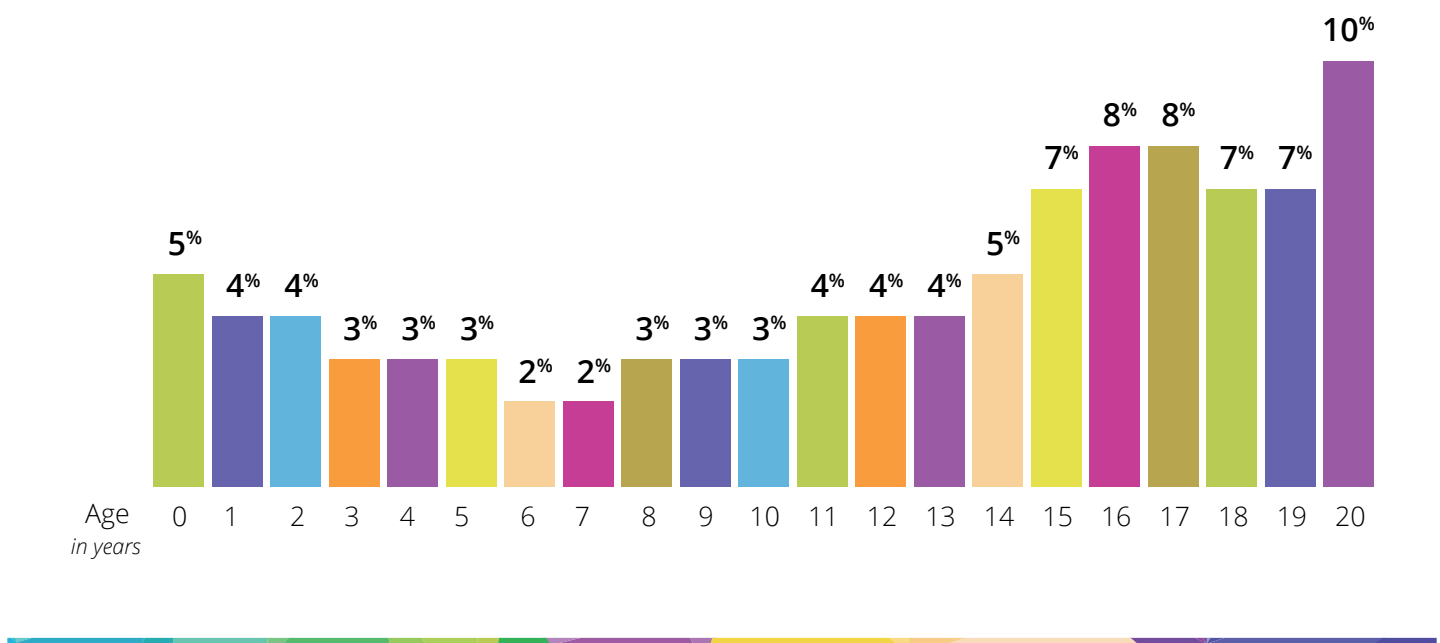


* Black data on all graphs includes those children with at least one parent who identifies as Black

** Mixed race data on all graphs includes those children whose parents identify as being from different races (excluding Black)

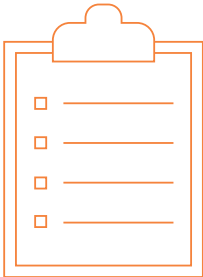
Note: Numbers are rounded for presentation purposes

Age of children and youth in care 2017-18



Snapshot of our work

Referrals that Resulted in a Service Record



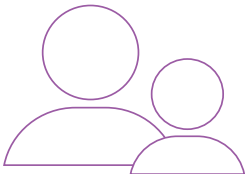
14,236 2016-17
14,715 2017-18

Investigations Completed



8,060 2016-17
6,972 2017-18

Ongoing Family Service Cases



2,507 2016-17
2,172 2017-18

Financials

(In thousands of dollars)

| Revenue By Source | 2016-17 | 2017-18 |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Government of Ontario | 163,751 | 167,277 |
| Government of Canada | 5,570 | 4,544 |
| Children's Aid Foundation | 3,819 | 4,278 |
| Sundry | 1,904 | 1,924 |
| Total | 175,044 | 178,023 |

| Government of Ontario Revenue by Program | 2016-17 | 2017-18 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Child Welfare Program | 160,442 | 162,830 |
| Generic contracts | 2,067 | 3,385 |
| OCBe | 1,242 | 1,062 |
| Total | 163,751 | 167,277 |



| Expenses | 2016-17 | 2017-18 |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Salaries & Benefits | 93,961 | 94,750 |
| Boarding | 48,668 | 44,511 |
| Other | 33,593 | 34,666 |
| Total | 176,222 | 173,927 |

| Summary of Operations | 2016-17 | 2017-18 |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Revenue | 175,044 | 178,023 |
| Expenses | 176,222 | 173,927 |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses | (1,178) | 4,096 |

Audited financial statements are available upon request.

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Sheila Jarvis, Chair
Margot Trevelyan, Vice-Chair
Mark Foerster, Treasurer
Yeugenia Kazantseva, Secretary
Irene Mukasa, Diversity Lead

Board Members

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Marv Bernstein | Carla Moore |
| Randolph Carter | Haroldene Peters |
| Catharine Dutt | Neil Price |
| Michelle Joseph | Kanchan Rakhra |
| Victoria Kondo | Eva Serhal |
| Niru Kumar | Salim Zulfikar Somani |
| Steve Malone | |



Our Branches



CENTRAL
30 Isabella Street



NORTHWEST
20 De Boers Drive



SCARBOROUGH
843 Kennedy Road



CHILDREN'S
AID SOCIETY
of TORONTO

LA SOCIÉTÉ
DE L'AIDE à
L'ENFANCE
DE TORONTO

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