

The need



**STAND UP
FOR KIDS™**



CHILDREN'S
AID FOUNDATION
OF CANADA

An estimated **63,000 children and youth** in Canada are in foster or group homes.

Over **235,000 children** are identified as at risk of abuse and neglect in Canada.



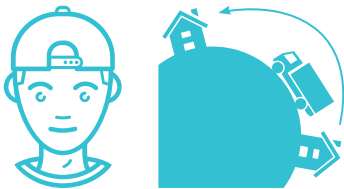
The average youth in care **moves between 7 foster homes**, disrupting their lives with each move.



Exposure to trauma is almost universal amongst children and youth in the child welfare system.



46% of kids in care in Ontario **graduate from high school**, compared with 83% of their peers.



Each year, **2,300 young people** must **“age out”** of care as early as 18 years of age and transition to independent living.

Of children and youth in care, **82% have been diagnosed with special needs.** These can include physical, cognitive, emotional, behavioural, and social difficulties.

Youth leaving care are at a **greater risk of experiencing incarceration, homelessness, unemployment,** and reliance on public assistance.



Youth involved in the child welfare system are **200 times more likely to become homeless** than the general population.

The impact



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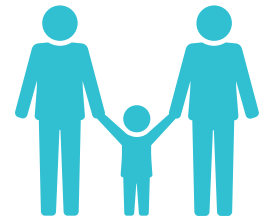


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It takes a community

Together, we are creating a community of support for children and youth involved in Canada's child welfare system. By joining the Stand Up for Kids movement, you can help us create transformational change for our country's most vulnerable kids across the following priority areas:

Strengthening families: We know that, most often, children do better when their families raise them, not the child welfare system. Last year, in collaboration with **14 agency partners, 7,287 kids and 3,219 families gained access to programs and resources** to help them overcome barriers that put them at risk of entering child welfare.



Supporting kids in care: Unlike children growing up in permanent families, those growing up in care lack many of the basics most kids take for granted, like a safe and stable home, and caring adults to help support their growth. Last year, in collaboration with **38 partners, 8,228 kids were helped to successfully gain access to sports and arts lessons and other enriching opportunities** that enable them to explore their interests and passions, and build their confidence.



Empowering youth in transition: When most kids turn 18, they've got the support of a caring parent, access to car keys, and a place to come home to. But when kids in care turn 18, they no longer receive support from the child welfare system and are completely on their own, at risk of homelessness and poverty. This year, in collaboration with **33 agency partners, 6,885 youth were helped to successfully gain access to the resources and supports** necessary to help them transition from child welfare into an independent future.



Children's Aid Foundation of Canada is our country's leading charity dedicated to improving the lives of children and youth growing up in the child welfare system. We raise and grant funds, and deliver a wide range of high-impact programs and services in partnership with 77 child- and youth-serving agency partners that support more than 22,700 vulnerable young people annually. **Stand Up for Kids** is our national campaign for child welfare, which aims to change the futures of Canada's most at-risk kids – those who have experienced abuse, neglect, and abandonment. We know that by helping these young people to overcome their trauma and break the cycle for future generations, they gain the strength and resilience to create a lifetime of their own unstoppable successes.



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Strength to change lives.

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