

# THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH WE SUPPORT



CHILDREN'S  
AID FOUNDATION  
OF CANADA

An estimated **59,000 children and youth** in Canada are in foster or group homes.



The average youth in care **moves between 5 foster homes and 5 schools**, disrupting their lives with each move.

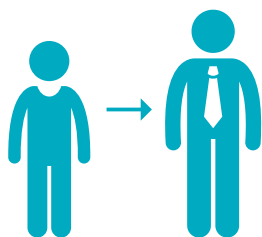


**Exposure to trauma is almost universal** amongst children and youth in the child welfare system.

An estimated **300,000 children** are identified as at risk of abuse and neglect in Canada.



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



Each year, **thousands of 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



CHILDREN'S  
AID FOUNDATION  
OF CANADA

## 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 us, you can help us create transformational change for kids in vulnerable situations across Canada in the following priority areas:

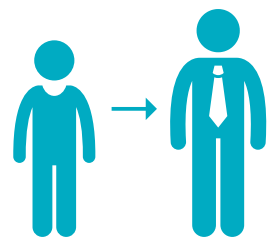
**Strengthening families:** We know that, most often, children do better when their families raise them, not the child welfare system. Last year, **3,021 families gained access to programs and resources** to help them overcome barriers that put them at risk of entering child welfare.



**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, **8,163 kids were helped to successfully gain access to enriching opportunities** that enable them to explore their interests and passions, and empower their resilience.



**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. Last year, **4,889 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 standing up for children and families involved in the child welfare system and standing alongside youth with lived experience. We raise and grant funds and deliver a wide range of high-impact programs and services in partnership with child- and youth-serving agencies across the country.