THE HUB

Grande Prairie and Area Family Resource Network



IN THIS ISSUE

NATIONAL FAMILY WEEK

OCTOBER IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

VISIT WITH MLA FOR GRANDE PRAIRIE AND MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS!

OCTOBER CALENDAR

PROGRAMS

GRANDE PRAIRIE SPOKE AGENCIES

COMING SOON!

Stronger Together: Building Family Resilience



National Family Week is fast approaching! Canadians in communities across the country come together for local celebrations during National Family Week. This week provides an opportunity to celebrate families and reflect on their importance in our lives.

L-R Brandi Upstone (NCSA); Kara Boulton (YMCA): Gaitane Gilje (FRN); Liz Krysa (SSPPT); Tanice Jones (FES/HF); Brandy Pilon (FES/FRN) Front: The Honourable Tracy Allard



Thank you to the Honourable Tracy Allard for visiting our new space at the beginning of October. Thank you to all our Spokes for the great representation! This year, National Family Week is from October 5-11th, 2020 and the theme is "Stronger Together: Building Family Resilience". Now more than ever we need to appreciate the people in our lives, build connections that last, and encourage resilience.

We invite you to share your National Family Week activities on Facebook and Twitter with the hashtag **#CNFW2020**. Below, we have drafted sample language to share on social media, but feel free to write your own!

"Happy National Family Week! This year we are especially grateful for those closest to us. We are stronger together!

#CNFW2020

Recognizing, Reporting, and Responding to Child Abuse from a Distance

October is #ChildAbusePreventionMonth

School staff often play a key role in recognizing and responding to the signs of child abuse. COVID-19 has resulted in fewer opportunities for educators and other safe adults to identify the signs of physical, emotional, or sexual abuse, neglect, or children witnessing domestic violence. This year 'Back to School' looks a little different for everyone and changes like online schooling, physical distancing, cancellation of extra-curricular activivites, and postponed appointments with doctor's or dentist's has significantly altered at-risk children's access to support networks. Without them, Alberta's vulnerable children are at a greater risk of abuse and neglect and that should concern us all.

"We ask that you take special consideration of the children and families in your classes that may need additional supports or more frequent check-ins to ensure they are safe, and their needs are being met,"

Minister of Education, Adriana LaGrange

We must work together to continue to provide appropriate support to vulnerable children and their families and remain alert to any indicators children may be unsafe at home.

- Have a plan in place for keeping tabs on children who were on the school's radar.
- Make phone calls to students and families to check-in. Inability to connect with child (without reason) may be cause for concern.
- Create space for student voice videos, Zoom, Google Classroom.
- Send messages to students, reminding them you are there for them.
- Have access to demographic information, addresses, phone numbers
- Provide hopeful and optimistic messaging.
- Ask open-ended questions when checking in with students:
 - What is it like being at home?
 - What are some sad things that happened this week?
- Provide words of support:
 - · We are in this together. You are not alone.
 - I want to make sure you are safe.
- Adapting services to best support students and families.
- Monitor for signs of distress and refer to necessary supports.

Signs of Abuse and Neglect:

Identifying abuse can be difficult to detect on messaging apps, phone calls, or video conferences. Therefore, we must be extremely vigilant at looking for signs of potential abuse or neglect. Signs like the ones below MAY signal the presence of child abuse:

*f*outh Centre

- · Unexplained marks or bruises
- Basic needs or age-appropriate care not provided
- Neglect; changes in physical appearance
- · Seems frightened of parents
- Reports an injury caused by parent or caregiver
- Changes in mental health; shows anxiety, depression, fear, suicidal ideation, withdrawn
- Sending/posting concerning messages; writing about negative experiences
- Indicators of domestic violence; aggression, shouting, items being broken

For a comprehensive list of behaviours and warning signs, please refer to https://www.alberta.ca/what-is-child-abuse-neglect-and-sexual-exploitation.aspx

Established in 2012 to serve children and youth who have experienced abuse, the Caribou Child & Youth Centre was the second Child Advocacy Centre of its kind in the Province. The Caribou's comprehensive multidisciplinary team works together to provide the best possible services for children and their families. The Caribou Centre was designed to provide a safe and comfortable environment where children could disclose abuse, thus, reducing their trauma and anxiety. Intervention and treatment in child abuse cases is strengthened when agencies work together toward common goals, including support services for the child, and holding offenders accountable.

Duty to Report

If you suspect that a child is unsafe or at risk, you must report it. Reach out to appropriate services if you have a gut feeling something is not right. We can feel our "spidey" senses tingling, even from a distance.

Children's services case workers are ready and able to assess and investigate possible abuse, effects of domestic violence and/or neglect of a child. They remain available to follow-up on concerns and work with families. If you believe a child is in immediate danger, **CALL 911.**

IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE, CALL:
CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE: 1-800-387-5437 (24/7)
GP CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES: 780-538-5102

While the fight against COVID-19 is focused on hygiene and health, the Caribou Child and Youth Centre is working with our partners to protect vulnerable children from the impact of child abuse and neglect.

Thank you, educators, for the incredible work you are doing to support your students and keep them safe.

Checking in with parents

Check -in with parents and have a listening ear. As a school community, develop a resource list for parents in need of support.

Refer to the Alberta Health Services - <u>Help in Tough Times</u> website. This is an excellent resource that provides information on a variety of topics including healthcare services and community/social services.

When checking in with parents, be aware of warning signs that MAY indicate they are at risk of maltreating their child and may need support:

- · Shows little concern for their child
- Sees child as completely bad, worthless, or a burden
- Appears indifferent or uninterested toward the child
- Seems unconcerned of depressed
- Behaves unreasonable or in a bizarre manner
- Abusing drugs or alcohol
- · Frequently blames, belittles, or berates child

Contact

Communications Contact: Buffy MacIntosh

Cell: 587-343-2018

Email: fund development@pacecentre.com

Caribou Coordinator: Erin O'Toole

Office: 780-814-7223

Email: caribou_director@pacecentre.com



www.cariboucentre.com







@cariboucentregp

Resources

Alberta Child Advocacy Centres

www.albertacacs.ca

Canadian Centre for Child Protection

www.protectchildren.ca

- **Grande Prairie RCMP:** 780-830-5700 or local detachment
- Family Violence Info Line: 780.310-1818 (24/7)
- Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868 (24/7)
- LGBT Youthline: 1-800-268-9688 (2 7:30 pm MT Sunday-Friday)
- Indigenous Hope for Wellness Help Line: 1-855-242-3310 (24/7)
- Sunrise Youth Emergency Shelter: 780-539-3287 (24/7)

Information and referral to services: call 211 or visit www.ab.211.ca

October 2020



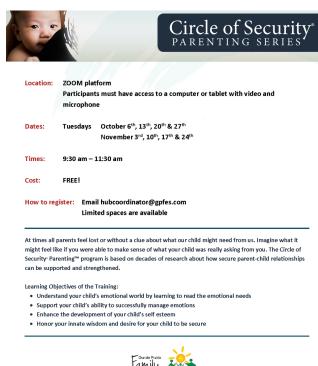
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Books for Babies 1:30-3:00 pm (Registration Full)	2	3
4	5 Developmental Screening 9-3 pm – Book your time!	6 Circle of Security 9:30-11:30 am	7 International Learn & Play 10-11:30 am Walk & Talk 11:00 – 12:00 pm	8 Books for Babies 1:30-3:00 pm (Registration Full) Active Parenting (0-5) 1:30-3:30 pm	9	10
11	12 Developmental Screening 9-3 pm – Book your time!	13 Circle of Security 9:30-11:30 am Love & Logic Early Childhood 6:30-8:30 pm	14 International Learn & Play 10-11:30 am Walk & Talk 11:00 – 12:00 pm FASD Caregiver Support 1:30-2:15 OR 7-7:45 pm Positively Me!	15 Books for Babies 1:30-3:00 pm (Registration Full) Active Parenting (0-5) 1:30-3:30 pm	16	17
18	19 Developmental Screening 9-3 pm – Book your time! Transform your Stress 1:30-3:30 pm Grandparents Raising Grandchildren 8-9:30 pm	20 Circle of Security 9:30-11:30 am Breastfeeding Group 1:30-3:00 pm Love & Logic Early Childhood 6:30-8:30 pm Dad's Discover 8:00-9:30 pm	4:00 -5:30 pm 21 International Learn & Play 10-11:30 am Walk & Talk 11:00 - 12:00 pm FASD Caregiver Support 1:30-3:00 OR 7-8:30 pm Positively Me! 4:00 -5:30 pm Parents/Caregivers Support Group 8-9:30 pm	Books for Babies 1:30-3:00 pm (Registration Full) Active Parenting (0-5) 1:30-3:30 pm	23	24
25	26 Developmental Screening 9-3 pm – Book your time!	27 Circle of Security 9:30-11:30 am Dad's Support Group 8-9 pm Cooking Circle 1:00-3:30 pm Love & Logic Early Childhood 6:30-8:30 pm Dad's Discover 8:00-9:30 pm	28 International Learn & Play 10-11:30 am Walk & Talk 11:00 – 12:00 pm FASD Caregiver Support 1:30-3:00 OR 7-8:30 pm Positively Me! 4:00 -5:30 pm	29 Transform your Stress 6:30-8:30 pm Active Parenting (0-5) 1:30-3:30 pm	30	31

NEED EXTRA INFORMATION or TO REGISTER contact hubcoordinator@gpfes.com 780.830.0920

Developmental Screening Days - Every Monday in October from 9am-3:00pm In person - bring your favorite mask!



Circle of Security - Tuesdays October 6th to November 24th from 9:30 am to 11:30 am via Zoom





Walk & Talk Wednesdays - Every **Wednesday October 7th to November** 25th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm In person - bring your favorite mask!



Active Parenting First 5 years Every Thursday October 8th to 29th from 1:30-3:30 pm via Zoom



Love and Logic Early Childhood - Every Tuesday October 13th to November 10th from 6:30-8:30 pm in Wembley In person - bring your favorite mask!



FASD Caregiver Support Series - Every Wednesday October 14th to December 4th from 1:30-3:00 or 7:00-8:30 pm via Zoom



Positively Me - Every Wednesday October 14th to December 9th from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm In person - bring your favorite mask!



Providing girls, ages 9 to 12, with an opportunity to strengthen their self-esteem, find their voice, challenge themselves, make friends and develop the tools to have a healthy mind and body.

Over this 8 week program your daughter will learn a variety of ways to self-assess, self-create and become self-aware, while at the same time enjoying the company of other girls her age

Find Your Inner Beauty. Examining our ideas of what beauty is and developing a clearer sense of each girl's unique self!

Identifying Self In The Media Matrix: Identifying ways the media manipulates a girl's self-esteem and help them make sense of the information and images that bomberd them daily. This topic will also include building the confidence to deal with peer pressure.

Girl Power: Discovering the power of leadership by understanding what it truly means to be powerful and be physically and emotionally healthy.

Building Relationships: Conversations about the bullying epidemic. Supporting your daughter in finding an amazing network of positive, likeminded, fun friends who accept and love her for who she is. Learning to understand that she can slick to her boundaries when needed to protect herself and stand up for what's right for her.

"Everybody looks in the mirror and is like. wonder why her eyes are huge and mine are smaller. But I realized if you're lucky enough to be different from everyone else don't change." -Taylor Swift



"I was never the girl who thought I need to make sure I look like all the other girls. I think you look best when you stand out." -Selena Gomez

> When- Wednesdays Octobe 14th to December 9th, 2020 Time- 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Where - 9607 102 street. Grande Prairie Family Education Society

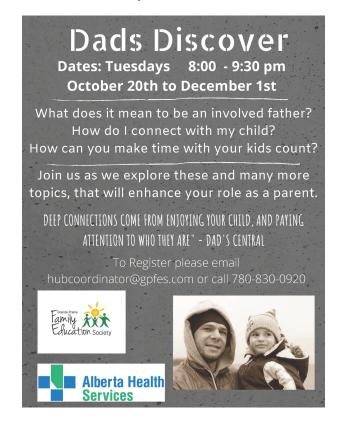
To Register please contact:

For program questions plea 228-3880 x111 or iccp1@ssdca.ca

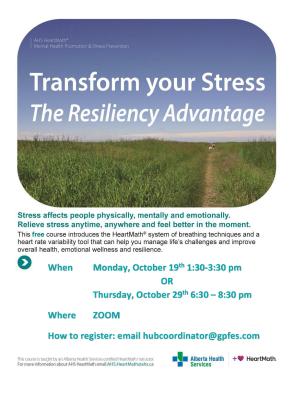
Mandatory orientation for parents October 14th at 5:00pp



Dads Discover - Every Tuesday October 20th to December 1st from 8:00 - 9:30 pm via Zoom



Transform your Stress October 19th 1:30-3:30 pm OR October 29th 6:30-8:30 pm *via Zoom*



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
Support Group
October 19th, November 16 & December 21
from 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm *via Zoom*



Reach out and Connect-Parents/Caregivers Support Group October 21, November 18 8:00-9:30 pm *via Zoom*



Dad's Support Group October October 27,November 24 & December 29 from 8:00-9:00 pm *via Zoom*



Community Spoke Agencies:



Wellness Wednesday - Every Wednesday from 1:30-3:30 pm

Wellness kits are now being offered through the Society for Support to Pregnant and Parenting Teens from the Isolation to Connection Program funded by the Northwest Community Foundations. Offered once a month to the participants of the program, there is a Emotional Wellness Kit & Physical Wellness Kit.

Breastfeeding Group - Every third Tuesday of the month from 1:30 to 3:00

It is a group for understanding and assisting with breastfeeding.

Cooking Circle - Once a month, on the last Tuesday of the month from 1:00 to 3:30

It is a group that gives our young adults a chance to build connections while having fun in the kitchen. Our goal is to support healthy eating habits and education on basic cooking skills.

Contact Society for Support to Pregnant & Parenting Teens 780-538-3854 for more information



Family Connect Child, Youth and Family Support

Program Details

Family Connect is a voluntary, early intervention program that provides support to families with children 7-17 years old to strengthen family functioning. Parents are supported to create a nurturing and safe family environment, build resiliency within themselves and their children, build new social connections, and learn about positive parenting and child development. Families can participate in the program for up to three years.

Free Services

All services offered as part of the Family Connect are completely free.

- Supportive counselling and goal setting
- Parent education
- Family interactive programming and activities
- Personal and family advocacy
- Information and referrals to additional



To access the Family Connect

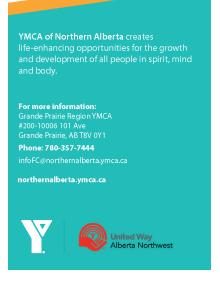
Call 780 357-7444 to set up an appointment.

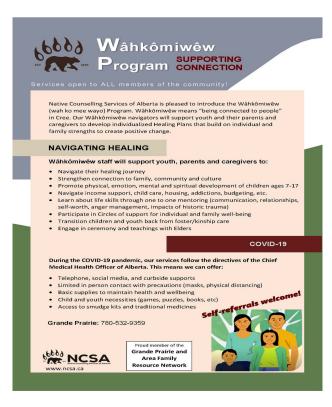
Diversity Statement

The YMCA is an inclusive, charitable organization that values diversity.

YMCA Family Violence Statement

The YMCA believes that violence in any relationship is unacceptable and that everyone exposed to family violence is impacted including unborn babies, children, youth and adults. We also believe that everyone has the capacity for change and growth and we will support anyone in an abusive relationship to get the help they are looking for.







Coming Soon!

Email hubcoordinator@gpfes.com or call 780-830-0920 to get on the list for our Wellness program

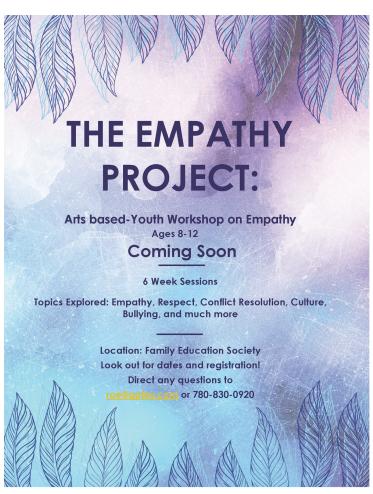




Don't miss out on our new and exciting program coming soon!

Please participate in the survey link below to help us shape program delivery

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8G5TN7W





130K+ Help Services & Resources At Your Fingertips. The HelpSeeker app is a free network of location-based services, resources, and support you need to help your clients and the community. HelpSeeker allows you to privately browse thousands of community, provincial and federal health and social services, programs, resources, helplines and benefits for mental health, counseling, parenting, education and training, addictions, domestic violence, affordable housing, shelters, food support services, recreation, and more. Visit https://helpseeker.org/ to download the app



LOCAL COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED:

- Beaverlodge
- Grande Prairie
- Grande Prairie, County No. 1
- Hythe
- Rycroft
- Saddle Hills County
- Sexsmith
- Spirit River
- Spirit River No. 133
- Birch Hills County
- Wembley

What is The Family Resource Network?

Complied from The Provincial Government of Alberta

Provincial Family Resource Networks (FRNs) deliver high quality prevention and early intervention services and supports for children aged 0 to 18.Networks provide a range of services and supports that focus on strengthening parenting and caregiving knowledge, social support, coping and problemsolving skills, access to community supports and resources, improving child and youth development, building resiliency and fostering well-being. Through a 'hub and spoke' model of service delivery, Networks (hubs) will coordinate the prevention and early intervention services in all geographic areas and in various cultural communities across the province – either directly or through collaborative partnerships with qualified service agencies or providers (spokes).