



# FAMILY SUPPORT NEWSLETTER

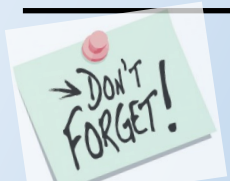
## FASD: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder - Awareness Day -

Every September, on the ninth day of the ninth month of the year, International FASD Awareness Day is observed around the world. Since 9/9/99, this day is dedicated to raise awareness about the dangers of drinking alcohol during the nine months of pregnancy.

The FASD is an umbrella term which describes the range of effects (physical, mental, behavioural, and/or learning disabilities) that may occur to an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. FASD is irreversible and lifelong permanent brain based disability.

This year again, the FASD Action Network hosted a FASD Awareness Day Breakfast at Kingston Community Health Centres and invited families, agency staff and community members. Dr Dawa Samdup, Developmental Pediatrician of Kid's Inclusive, presented the advances in the research and the diagnosis. Sophie Kiwala announced, as a leader of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, a first-ever FASD strategy for the Ontario's government: \$26 million will be invested in the next four years to increase awareness and expand support for children, youth and families affected by FASD.

For more information about FASD, please visit:  
[Fascationnetwork.weebly.com](http://Fascationnetwork.weebly.com)  
FASD Action Network Kingston on Facebook  
[www.cmaj.ca/lookup/doi/10.1503/cmaj.141593](http://www.cmaj.ca/lookup/doi/10.1503/cmaj.141593)  
[www.ontario.ca/FASD](http://www.ontario.ca/FASD)



## Upcoming Events

### October 12th and November 9th, 2017:

1:00– 7:00- Family Drop-In at our new location :  
645, Gardiners Road, suite # 201 (right above Marlin Travel)

### October 2nd:

Parents Meeting Parents Group - Get together at Raxx

### November:

Holiday Family-Pot-Luck

Join the Family Support and the Child Care Resource Consultant teams for our first Open House at Gardiners Road

And don't forget to check those helpful links:

<http://www.planningnetwork.ca/en-ca>

<https://www.supportyourway.ca/>

## What's new in the Family Support Program?

### New office:

The Family Support team is pleased to welcome you in our new space shared with the Child Care Resource Consultant Program . Please check your email and join us for our Open House in November: **645 Gardiners Rd, Suite #201**

### New positions:

Some changes have also occurred in our team:

After working for thirteen years within the Family Support Program, *Erin Impola* is now the Manager of the Family Services Division, including:

- ⇒ The Family Support Program
- ⇒ The Child Care Resources Consultant Program
- ⇒ The Family Home Program
- ⇒ The Respite Services

*Hailey Latimer* is the new Coordinator of the Family Support Program.

While *Diane Stewart* and *Leslie Moore* continue to support their own families, *Melanie Occhipinti* joined our team and is now the new Family Support Worker. Melanie has a broad experience working with children, youth and families. Her background includes working in a women's shelter, a children and youth's home, and a medico-social institute for children with special needs.

We also welcome *Brandon Augustyn*, a third year Child and Youth Worker Student who will be working with us until next April.

## Our service is now available in French!

The City of Kingston has been "designated" under the *French Language Services Act*, which means that a person has the right to communicate and receive available services in French.

Since Melanie is now the new Family Support Worker, she will be the reference person concerning the French language within Community Living Kingston & District.

A Franco-Foire will be held in Kingston on October 20th and 21st, more details on: [salonsantekingston.ca](http://salonsantekingston.ca)

If you need more information about the Newsletter or French Services please contact *Melanie Occhipinti* at 613-507-8460 ext#2229 or by email at [melanie.occhipinti@clkingston.ca](mailto:melanie.occhipinti@clkingston.ca)  
This newsletter is also available in French