

Annual Report 2008 - 2009

OUR VISION: ALL children and youth will have the best opportunity to reach their potential.

Ontario's children's rehabilitation providers have been building brighter futures for children and strengthening families in communities across the province for over half a century. OACRS is proud to represent Ontario's 20 Children's Treatment providers as they partner with children and families, communities and government to maximize the potential of 60,000 children and youth with physical, developmental and communication challenges.

OACRS provides leadership and facilitation to champion the collective needs of the sector to government. It collaborates with its members, who are the experts, to advance policy priorities essential to funding and implementation of high quality service delivery. OACRS is committed to creating a strong, united voice for children and families. OACRS is grateful to its members for the financial and operational investments made this year.

OACRS' leadership role was reinforced during development of a new three year strategic plan. *Strategic Directions 2012* will bring focus to our ambitious goal that ALL children and youth will have the best opportunity to reach their potential. OACRS has pledged to advance an integrated system of services for children and families.

Strategic Directions 2012 will inspire action to lead, to advance and to excel. Work is already underway:

- Investment in children pays dividends! OACRS will continue to represent the needs of our children in pursuit of optimal resources;
- Families and children are key partners! OACRS is dedicated to ensuring their voices are heard when key decisions are made;
- Improving quality of life is critical! Advancing partnerships will increase opportunities for an integrated, seamless system of services and supports;
- We are listening! Fostering strong internal ties with our members and delivering on promises made.

OACRS' *Strategic Directions 2012* will provide a framework for planning and action with renewed excitement for the future.

At OACRS we understand the fiscal pressures being faced by our members. All have taken every possible measure to minimize any negative impacts on children and families however the challenges continue to mount for service providers. OACRS is strongly committed to making sure that our sector has optimal resources to serve this province's children with special needs.

OACRS has continued to advance the needs of Ontario's children to the Government of Ontario by raising the profile of OACRS, promoting its members and their expertise, and expressing a united voice for the children and families we represent. Progress has been made on key policy files, a continuing focus for OACRS activities. We continue to work with provincial partners to create alliances. A renewed dedication to member services has resulted in an alignment of OACRS priorities.

Annual reports provide the opportunity to give pause to where we have been and reflect on where we will go, and ... "Oh, the Places We Will Go." The children's rehabilitation sector has a solid foundation of skilled professionals, dedicated volunteers and passionate advocates. *We will succeed...our kids are counting on us.*

Every child has a future! Every kid has potential! Every child deserves the best! *Every Kid Matters!*

On a final note, OACRS extends its thanks to the Board of Directors, the Leadership Council, the Family Advisory Council, the OACRS staff and the numerous committees and workgroups who work tirelessly to ensure our collective voice remains strong and effective. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the children and youth we represent.



Paula Grail
Board Chair



Linda Kenny
Chief Executive Officer

The Year in Review

OUR MANDATE: The Ontario Association of Children's Rehabilitation Services (OACRS) is the united provincial voice for all children a

INFLUENCE WITH GOVERNMENT

- OACRS' "Every Kid Matters" pre-budget campaign lobby was delivered provincially and locally, successfully raising awareness of key decision makers, although it did not result in increased financial resources for the province's children's treatment providers.
- OACRS hosted two highly successful meetings with the Minister of Children and Youth Services and the Board Chairs of our member Children's Treatment Centres to discuss the impact of declining resources on the children and families we serve.
- OACRS met regularly with Cabinet Ministers and senior staff in relevant Ministries, including Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care and Education.
- OACRS and its members worked hard to inform Members of Provincial Parliament of the needs of children with special needs.
- OACRS achieved significant policy advancements reflecting the needs of students with special needs while attending school, an area of continuing focus for OACRS.
- OACRS provided input and advice to the government on a number of pertinent issues such as Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008; Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (Communications Standards; Employment Standards; Transportation Standards); Registered Disability Savings Program and Accessible Housing.

FAMILIES AS KEY PARTNERS

- OACRS has worked in close partnership with the Family Advisory Council (FAC) to develop its membership and advance its work.
- Chaired by Heather Graystone, the FAC has increased its membership to 19 centres from across Ontario.
- The OACRS Family Advisory Council hosted VOICES – workshops intended to support the input of families on key policy issues.
- For two consecutive years, OACRS has secured funding to promote the participation of families at the annual conference.

ADVANCEMENT OF STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIPS

- OACRS has continued to develop its relationships with key stakeholders within the children's sector.
- OACRS holds memberships with:
 - Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres (CAPHC)
 - Canadian Network of Child and Youth Rehab (CYN-CR)
 - Ontario Alliance of Child and Youth Associations (OACYA)
 - Ontario Association of Community Care Access Centres (OACCAC)
 - CanChild Centre for Disability Research Advisory Committee

ALIGNMENT OF OACRS RESOURCES

- OACRS Leadership Council provides the opportunity for member executives to discuss common issues and share information. A Clinical Services Network, along with Management and Clinical Best Practices sub-committees provide a forum for lead clinicians to share experiences, discuss key issues, advance knowledge and develop best practices across the sector.
- OACRS has provided support to the many task groups that have come together to advance operational and strategic priorities shared by the collective membership.
- Staff functions were aligned with the priorities identified by our members through the strategic planning process.



Committees and Leadership

and youth with physical, communication or developmental challenges.



OACRS STANDING COMMITTEES

Board Development: Diane Pick

- Results from the Board Appraisal Survey reflect high satisfaction scores for the second year in a row. The Committee will be focusing on a new recognition program, as well as OACRS Board training.

Finance: Peter Chirico

- OACRS underwent significant changes this year to its financial operations and policies to increase diligence and transparency.

Governance: Caroline Stone

- OACRS policy manual underwent a fulsome review this year. Many new policies have been developed to enhance accountability to our members.

OACRS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

OACRS and its members experience great benefit from sharing resources, expertise and knowledge. Over the course of the year, many committees and workgroups come together to advance our collective priorities. This year, we worked on:

- Developing a Clinical Services Network chaired by John Laporta to advance best practices, clinical outcomes, knowledge and networking;
- Children with Developmental Disabilities. OACRS members are concerned about the needs of children with developmental disabilities that would be best served within the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. Work is underway to make policy recommendations to government about this population;
- Information Management Systems: Under the leadership of Anne Huot, 12 participating members have continued to work toward the replacement of a new system to increase efficiency and data integrity;
- The Management Information System Advisory Committee has continued to work through its liaison, Jenny Greensmith, to quantify data related to wait times and wait lists;
- Finance Managers: John Scace convenes Financial Managers from member agencies to participate in teleconferences on a quarterly basis to address issues, concerns that pertain directly to financial management;
- On a short term basis, task groups came together to work on projects such as:
 - Review of Provincial Auditor General's report on children's mental health
 - Input into issues related to the provision of school based therapy services
 - Organizational Safety and Accreditation
 - Space planning for children's treatment centres
 - Capital Planning
 - Professional development and education

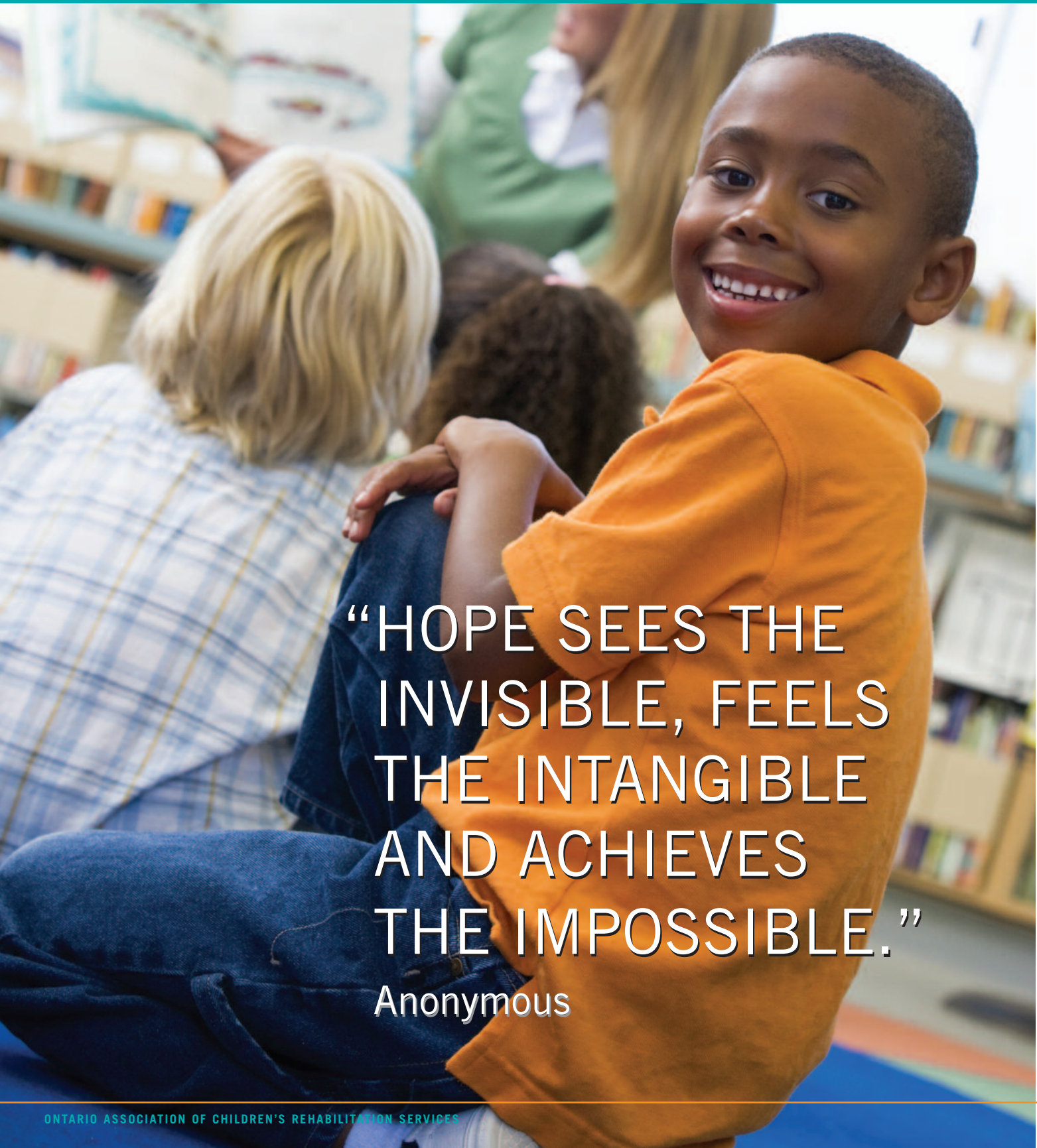
Statement of Operations



Year Ended March 31, 2009

<u>Revenues</u>	2009	2008
Memberships	\$305,070	\$237,966
OACRS Annual Conference	113,295	117,800
MIS Development	40,930	116,200
MCYS Family Funding	22,615	-
Interest Income	7,968	9,033
Other Revenue	520	-
	<u>490,398</u>	<u>480,999</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>		
Salaries and Benefits	\$191,340	147,359
OACRS Annual Conference	77,720	79,807
Consultants	43,868	12,784
MIS Development	40,930	116,200
Website	39,314	34,858
Office	33,140	22,195
Professional Development	21,350	8,172
Public Education	11,048	4,741
Audit	5,000	3,178
Public Relations	4,884	444
Board	3,900	5,290
Other Expenses	3,564	-
Committees	3,244	3,109
Amortization	1,775	2,411
Outcome Measures Expenses	-	21
	<u>481,077</u>	<u>440,569</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$9,321	\$40,430

*For a complete Audited Financial Statement please contact the OACRS office.



“HOPE SEES THE
INVISIBLE, FEELS
THE INTANGIBLE
AND ACHIEVES
THE IMPOSSIBLE.”

Anonymous

Members, Staff & Sponsors

2008 - 2009 MEMBERS

Bloorview Kids Rehab (Toronto)
Child Development Centre – Hotel Dieu Hospital (Kingston)
Children's Rehabilitation Centre – Algoma (Sault Ste. Marie)
Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent
Children's Treatment Centre Sudbury Regional Hospital
Children's Treatment Network of Simcoe-York
ErinoakKids Centre for Treatment and Development (Halton-Peel- Dufferin)
Five Counties Children's Centre (Peterborough)
George Jeffery Children's Centre (Thunder Bay)
Grandview Children's Centre (Oshawa)
John McGivney Children's Centre (Windsor)
Kidsability – Centre for Child Development (Waterloo)
Lansdowne Children's Centre (Brantford)
McMaster Children's Hospital – Developmental Paediatrics & Rehabilitation (Hamilton)
Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre
One Kids Place/La Place Des Enfants (North Bay)
Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre
Pathways Health Centre for Children (Sarnia)
Quinte Children's Treatment Centre (Belleville)
Thames Valley Children's Centre (London)

BOARD MEMBER

Tracy Kitch
Vicki Johnston
Susan Vanagas-Cote
Paula Grail
Nicole Graham
Louise Paul

Bridget Fewtrell
Diane Pick
Stacy Greenwood
Barb Olsen
Marcela Diaz
Louise Leonard
Heather Graystone

Tim Wright
Peter Chirico
Caroline Stone
Jenny Greensmith
Shelley Haggart
John Laporta

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Shawna Wade
Vicki Johnston
Susan Vanagas-Cote
Donna Litwin-Makey
Sally Spence
Louise Paul

Bridget Fewtrell
Diane Pick
Eiji Tsubouchi
Vicky Earle
Elaine Whitmore
Stephen Swatridge
Rita-Marie Hadley

Kathleen Kitching
Tim Wright
Judy Sharpe
Kathleen Stokely
Jenny Greensmith
Margo Russell-Bird
John Laporta

EXECUTIVE OF THE BOARD

Chair: Paula Grail – Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent
Vice-Chair: Diane Pick – Five Counties Children's Centre (Peterborough)
Treasurer: Peter Chirico – One Kids Place/La Place Des Enfants (North Bay)
Secretary: Caroline Stone – Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre

STAFF & CONSULTANTS

Chief Executive Officer: Linda Kenny
Director, Member Services: Jennifer Inkpen
Administrative Coordinator: Tracy Harper-Anam
Government Relations Consultant: Kim Donaldson, Capital Hill Group
Strategic Planning Consultant: Paul Muldoon, PGM Consulting
Media Consultant: Axiom News
Special Education Columnist: Lindsay Moir, Comhnadh Consulting
Auditors: Grant Thornton LLP
Financial Services: Bloorview Kids Rehab

HONORARY PATRON

The Hon. David C. Onley
Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

SPONSORS – 2008 CONFERENCE – EVERY KIDS MATTERS • THANK YOU!

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Home Health Care
IDA
The Medicine Shoppe
Dell Lewis & Krall Home Health Care
Dell Home Health
Durham Medical
Hunt's Healthcare Inc.
Kelly's Home Health Centre
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