

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

OCTOBER 20, 2011

This past fiscal year has seen a few highlights for our organization. Of course the most notable occurrence was the celebration of Chimo's 40th Anniversary on June 5th of 2010. As was mentioned in last years report, this was an extremely well attended event and the feedback was excellent. It was, as it should be, a child focused event and they had the most fun of all. I am very proud of the work done by so many of our staff to make this event an unqualified success. AMAZING!!!!!!!!!!

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE 2010/2011 FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1, 2010 TO MARCH 31, 2011

1. OBSD (OUTCOME BASED SERVICE DELIVERY)

Perhaps not surprisingly this rather significant shift in service delivery for the whole Child and Family Services Ministry has been somewhat more difficult to enact than may have been previously thought. The Ministry has recently offered a new Request for Proposals specific to Aboriginal programming and this is expected to be awarded at any time. Although we continue to move in the general direction of full implementation, there is speculation that it may yet be as much as 18 months or more before this is complete. Chimo has continued to work towards a partnership with Altacare Resources and we believe that this is a logical and suitable partnership. There are new opportunities being presented fairly regularly and of course we remain open to considering these.

2. CHIMO STAFF

Chimo prides itself on having and maintaining an incredible group of young and enthusiastic staff members. Often I have witnessed these staff going above and well beyond the standard, volunteering to take on special projects and advocating with the public and Children's Services for their young people. I believe our average length of staff service in all areas comfortably exceeds the provincial average. That having been said we can see that we are moving into another phase where recruiting and maintaining staff will be more difficult.

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

There have been some changes in programming over the course of the past year and they are as follows.

- **Healing Home Closure.** The Healing Home has served youth struggling with addictions for 11 years. This year we were given the opportunity to enter into a new venture. This new program is the **YYC Transition Program** and it operates out of an infrastructure home that is new to us. Effective April 1, 2011, Chimo has begun taking young people from the government operated treatment centre, the Yellowhead Youth Centre. This facility will specifically target youth transitioning from this program to independent living. To date we have met with great success and with a current capacity of three, we have been primarily full.
- **Parenting Home Move.** As a result of the above move, which made the old Healing Home facility available, we moved Chimo 7, a parenting home, from their previous location to the vacant past Healing Home. The new home has nearly twice the square footage as well as a fully fenced yard with a huge lawn for toddlers and the like to play on. This move also allowed us to increase the number of moms served from two to three.

Further to the above, regarding all of Chimo's Properties, we are making a concerted effort to attend to matters of our own infrastructure. These properties are an investment in Chimo's future and need to be cared for. We believe it is a necessary investment and as such we are forging ahead.

3. CHIMO'S PARTNERS

Chimo continues to seek partnerships in the community that compliment or enhance the quality of service provided by this agency. Please find below a list of those community and service agencies that we list amongst our alliances and partnerships.

- ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES (FORMERLY AADAC YOUTH SERVICES)
- ALTACARE RESOURCES
- EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION
- ISKWEW HEALTH AND WELLNESS
- BENT ARROW
- TERRA ASSOCIATION
- TIM HORTON CHILDREN'S RANCH
- YELLOWHEAD YOUTH CENTRE

Although this list does not represent the full spectrum of partnerships these are the primary contributors. We are blessed to have good friends and associates in the community.

4, CHIMO'S BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S

President Dean Cook
Vice President Brenda Balderson

All of our board members are amazing! Chimo has the good fortune to be guided by a board with strong and competent leadership. Chimo's board members are well known to many of our staff.

I believe this sort of camaraderie and dedication to a single purpose serves our agency well.

In the past fiscal year we had 5 meetings of the Board of Director's. They were as follows:

May 10, 2010
June 30, 2010
September 29, 2010
December 1, 2010
March 9, 2011

During the past year we said goodbye to our youth board member of a number of years. She was an active and enthusiastic member of our board and she has been missed. We continue to work to find a replacement youth board member.

The Board of Director's meets annually to consider Strategic Planning for the coming year. Last year this occurred in May of 2010.

This past year was also noteworthy in that our long term auditor Duncan Sabine Collyer, was no longer doing audits and that we needed to find a new auditor. They recommended a local firm and as a result of this recommendation this years past audit was completed by **Penny M. Fair & Co.**

In closing, as always, and this does not go without saying, it is my great privilege to have the opportunity to work with the many individuals who collectively run this agency and provide service to our young people. I know that I am a very fortunate person to work amongst such dedication. As to the young people we work with, well they exceed my expectation **every day!** They are the jewels in our collective crown and we love them all.

OUR YOUTH do indeed **DESERVE OUR BEST** and I really believe that we strive to ensure they receive our best!