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**SERVICES FOR FAMILY AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

2003/2004 ANNUAL REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

Vision

Services for Family and Community Development (SFCD) is a provincial resource program for families with deaf and hard of hearing school-aged children who use sign language for all or part of their communication. Together with families and communities we endeavour to provide culturally relevant services that promote inclusion of the deaf and hard of hearing child in their family and community.

Values & Beliefs

We believe:

- * Each family is unique.
- * Language and communication are vital for healthy family functioning.
- * Families and communities want to accommodate the needs of deaf and hard of hearing children.

Therefore, we will:

- * Individualize our services.
- * Be open and inclusive.
- * Provide education about the needs of deaf & hard of hearing children for families and their communities.
- * Collaborate with families and communities to achieve our vision.

MANDATE

The Services for Family and Community Development was established in 2000 to provide services for families with school age deaf and hard of hearing children. SFCD is one program within the spectrum of services provided through the Ministry of Children and Family Development, Provincial Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Service Menu

Family Development and Networking – Sign Language Development, Educational Workshops, Parent Support, Family Days and Learn Together Program

Provincial Outreach – foster partnerships with existing community resources and parents in order to develop strong networks and access to services.

Immersion Programs – opportunity for families to experience a language-rich immersion environment when visiting our Burnaby site.

SFCD Staff

Linda Ramsey – Coordinator

Roger Chan – Sign Language Specialist (November 2004)

Melissa Campbell – Family and Community Resource Worker

Kathy Glover - Family and Community Resource Worker

Jillian Withers - Family and Community Resource Worker

Richie Dyck –Family and Community Resource Worker (part-time)

THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS :

- 1) Cecelia Klassen – Family Network for Deaf Children/parent
- 2) Doug Lambert – BC Provincial School for the Deaf/Deaf community
- 3) Scott Jeffery – Deaf Youth Today
- 4) Vincent Chauvet – Sign Language/Deaf community
- 5) Leila Loulua – CHHA Parents’ Branch
- 6) Karen Taylor – Provincial Outreach Consultant

A special thanks to the consultative committee for their support and guidance in helping us make the services offered by SFCD relevant and responsive to the needs of deaf children and their families in British Columbia.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 2003/2004

September 2003

- ❑ Kathy Glover and Melissa Campbell responded to Outreach families' requests – offer Family Day, Community Education and direct services to families and professionals. Kelowna families receive sign language instruction with Hester Hussey through video conferencing. Vernon sign class was established for families.
- ❑ Surrey Sign Language Classes moved to YMCA. Current Events continued as monthly event. Community Based Reading offered four times, spaced according to theme.

October 2003

- ❑ Sign Naturally Level 1 offered to siblings and hard of hearing teens as a credit course. Offered from October to May 2004. Nine registered – 7 hoh, 1 coda, 1 soda. Four were successful.
- ❑ October to March – re-established monthly workshops with Brenda Fossett for parents with Deafplus.

November 2003

- ❑ Provincial Outreach trip to Okanagan – Kathy, Melissa and Hester offered programs as per families requests, developing connections.
- ❑ SFCD(Melissa)/WBP(Lisa Anderson) – Internet Safety Workshop offered at YMCA.
- ❑ CHHA parents branch offered Bullying Workshop at PSDHH, Burnaby.

December 2003

- ❑ Provincial Outreach trip to Okanagan – Kathy, Melissa offered meet with professionals and parents.
- ❑ FNDC/SFCD initial meeting regarding In-home sign and Buddy program partnership.

January 2004

- ❑ All sign classes set up for Kelowna (video conference), Vernon, and YMCA. Current Events and CBR continued for Winter session.
- ❑ Brenda Fossett's workshops continued.

- ❑ Learn Together Program initiated. FNDC/Buddy and SFCD/Family Essentials advertised to families. Very positive response to this service model.
- ❑ First Provincial Outreach trip by Kathy Glover to Prince George to meet with professionals and families.

February 2004

- ❑ SFCD(Hester)/WBP(Susan Chernoff) offered Connect, Connect program for parents with teens.
- ❑ Reading and Deaf children – Lynne Mcquarrie offered by FNDC. SFCD provided support and Interpreters for the event. – 38 attended.
- ❑ Provincial Outreach trip to Kelowna

March 2004

- ❑ Sign Classes set-up according to requests for April to June. Kelowna and Vernon continue. Current Events offered at YMCA

April 2004

- ❑ Science World Family Day.
- ❑ Sign Class set up in Burnaby for ESL parents – as per their request.
- ❑ After School Programs set up April to June for students who would be transitioning from elementary to high school and grade 8/9 by invitation only.
- ❑ Provincial Outreach trip to Prince George – collaboration between DCS/DCS-Prince George and SFCD.

May 2004

- ❑ Family Day for ESL families living in Surrey – bridging connections.
- ❑ Children’s Festival – ‘Flying Hands Tent’ – successful event.

June 2004

- ❑ End of Year Family Day for Okanagan families.

July 2004

- ❑ Summer Immersion/Learning Vacation Experience partnership between SFCD/DCS.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2003

Sept. 03 to Aug. 04	Sign Class YMCA	Sign Class Kelo	Sign Class Ver	L T P	Current Events at YMCA	CBR	Family Day	Prov Outreach	Educ Wkshp	Family Immers ion
Sept.	12	15			3	-		28		3
Oct.			9		3	4		-	6	1
Nov.					Cancelled	7		33	10	
Dec.					5			16		
Jan.	10	9	10	4	4			3 plus prof		2
Feb.				13	3	6		17	3	2
March								-		
April	5	10				5	91	39	6	2
May				1			SW- 39 ESL- 23	-		8
June				3				36		2
July				2						11
Aug.				9						
Sept. 04	Cancelled	4	19	19						

KEY SERVICE THEMES

The Accreditation process has been positive for SFCD but time consuming. It has played a role in looking at how SFCD does business.

The Learn Together Program shifted the focus for SFCD services starting January 2004. Through Family Essentials families received in-home sign instruction, information on resources specific to their needs, etc. The trend to individualized service was evident in the Immersion Program.

Sign Classes/children's program were set up at the YMCA. Attendance was average. SFCD built a positive relationship with the YMCA.

Sign Naturally Level 1 was offered as a language credit for siblings and hard of hearing teens.

SFCD focused on Outreach families and built valuable connections within the communities.

GOALS FOR 2004/2005

The program goals for the SFCD for 2004/2005 are as follows:

- Develop SFCD's Family Essentials as part of the Learn Together Program.
- Respond to all requests for services and delivery these according to resources available.
- Develop resources within SFCD.
- Partner with other agencies to offer programs and build support networks.
- Complete Accreditation