

“It takes a Community to Raise a Child”

Let us know how we are doing:

Email us at: info@catchcoalition.ca



OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The success of CATCH relies strongly on Children’s Champions who rise to each occasion to make the Central Okanagan a great place to raise a young family. Each month a group of people called the CATCH Integration Team meet to inspire action to reach CATCH’s goal of creating safe and nurturing communities that families and children need. We would like to acknowledge the participation of the following organizations on the Integration Team:

BC Government – Ministry of Children & Family Development

Central Okanagan Child Development Association Okanagan Regional Library

Consultant - Gene Krupa Parent - Amanda Turner

Highlands Educare Inc. Regional District of the Central Okanagan

Interior Healthy Authority – Public Health School District No. 23

Kelowna Child Care Society The Bridge Youth & Family Services

Métis Community Services Society of BC United Way Success By 6®

Okanagan Boys & Girls Clubs Westbank First Nation

THANK-YOU TO OUR FUNDERS



2010 – 2011

CATCH a Year in Review

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

CATCH, which stands for Community Action Toward Children’s Health, has been active in Central Okanagan for more than 11 years. It’s a network of partners who bring community together with parents to help raise healthy children 0 – 6 years of age.

CATCH’S goal is to unite aboriginal communities, cultural groups, businesses, agencies, organizations, government, and other stakeholders so that they can link resources and work together to create safe and nurturing communities that families and children need.

**It takes a community
to raise a child.**



STRONG FAMILIES

Children's brains and bodies develop according to the environments they experience. Parents and caregivers play a key role in the early years, as do the communities in which they live.



A child's experience in the early years (from birth to age six) sets the stage for the rest of his or her life. There is overwhelming evidence that what happens to children in the early years determines their ability to learn and develop relationships. This affects their future health, wealth, and success. In this year we:

- Participated in the planning and implementation of the 8th Annual Parenting with Pizzazz Conference
- Partnered with Kelowna Child Care Society to produce 5,000 copies of "The New Baby Manual FOR DADS", a 24 hour crib-side assistance manual for new Dads with children 0 – 3 months of age
- Held a workshop on "Anxiety & Young Children – Surprising Solutions for a Growing Problem" by Dr. Gordon Neufeld
- Held a parent and caregiver workshop on "Healthy Interactions" with Cris Rowan who spoke on the impact of technology on child development
- Held a seminar for professionals called "A Cracked Foundation: Attachment and Addictions" with Cris Rowan
- Facilitated a Community Business Luncheon on "15 X 15 Smart Family Policy" by Dr. Paul Kershaw
- Held a seminar for professionals on "15 X 15 Smart Family Policy" by Dr. Paul Kershaw
- Sponsored a workshop to be held at the 2012 Child Care Conference

BEHIND THE SCENES

Tomorrow is the result of the actions we take today. The support we provide for the healthy development of young children is the foundation upon which we build our tomorrow. Our children need the combined support of strong families and communities for healthy development. Whatever you do each day that improves the lives of our young children makes you a part of community action toward children's health. We are privileged to be working with you for a healthier tomorrow in the Central Okanagan. Come to catchcoalition.ca to see how, together, we can make it even better.



- Kent Stralbiski, CATCH Integration Team Chairperson



CATCH is a partnership of many stakeholders who come together for children. We would especially like to acknowledge the tremendous support of Interior Health Authority whose staffs provide in-kind administration of CATCH and engage contracted services on behalf of the Integration Team. They have been instrumental in assisting CATCH for over eleven years now. Thank-you!

www.catchcoalition.ca



ABORIGINAL CATCH

Raising children is a sacred and valued responsibility for Aboriginal communities.



Aboriginal CATCH is made up of early years professionals representing Westbank First Nation, Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society, Métis Community Services Society of BC, United Way Success By 6®, and CATCH who are working together to improve the health of Aboriginal families with children 0 – 6 years of age. This year we:

- Facilitated an application to feature our Aboriginal sculpture at Kelowna General Hospital that was created by Chad Pratch, Métis artist, in 2008 which honours Aboriginal community members who took part in a series of meetings to find out what is important for the health of Aboriginal children
- Held the 3rd Annual Aboriginal ECD Community Gathering themed “Paddling Together” with special guest presenter Kathi Camilleri
- Sponsored and attended the Aboriginal Family Cultural Nights in Lake Country
- Held three Aboriginal Parenting Workshops with Gerald Oleman, a Traditional Knowledge Teacher, with the Indian Residential School Society



- Partnered with United Way Success By 6® to offer a Regional Train-the-Trainer Workshop on the use of the United Way Success By 6® BC’s Granny & Grandpa Connections Box
- Held three Aboriginal Parenting Workshops featuring the United Way Success By 6® BC’s Granny & Grandpa Connections Box
- Developed a bus ad “Celebrating Tradition, Culture, and Language” in the Aboriginal Community
- Co-sponsored the “Tip of the Iceberg” conference with Dr. Asante , Medical Director of the Asante Centre for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- Participated in the Annual Success By 6® BC Conference and Provincial Aboriginal Community Gathering



Catherine Disbery has worked with CATCH as Aboriginal ECD Coordinator since 2007. She helped the Aboriginal CATCH group work together to develop community ECD priorities and coordinate 3 annual Aboriginal gatherings for families with young children. Catherine has a Bachelor of Education and extensive experience working in the Aboriginal community in Regina. She is married with 2 young adult sons.

INFORMATION SHARING

The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place - George Bernard Shaw



This year we:

- Redeveloped the CATCH website at www.catchcoalition.ca and updated as needed
- Connected the Okanagan Parent Resource Guide on the CATCH website to the new host Kelowna Community Resources

- Developed and disseminated two newsletters monthly
- Developed and distributed a new CATCH brochure
- Created a CATCH Facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/miAad7>
- Started a Twitter account: @OKCATCH
- Participated in the Kelowna & District Child Care Committee, Interior Region Early Years Network, and Everybody Gets to Play
- Completed the Children First & United Way Success By 6[®] Provincial ECD Evaluation surveys
- Produced the 2010 State of the Child Report



Eve Layman is the Community Support Coordinator and has been a part of CATCH since volunteering with the Community Dialogue project in 2005. She looks after the website, information database, Facebook and tweets for CATCH. You can find her at many community meetings with a very small computer. Eve has a daughter who loves her Mom's ability to find the fun things for young children to do in the Central Okanagan. See you there!

CHILD FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Child friendly communities act to eliminate poverty; create safe environments for children; review community plans and ask "Is this good for children?" and support parents and caregivers to care for children. This year we:

- Held CATCH Network Gatherings like the luncheon for National Day of the Child where the 2010 State of the Child Report was released
- Initiated the Child Friendly Communities Conversations and gathered input on what is still needed
- Gathered information on Child Friendly Community models used successfully elsewhere
- Participated in the West Kelowna Official Community Plan meetings
- Participated in the planning and implementation of the Child Care Provider's Appreciation Event
- Developed a Child Friendly Community bus ad to be launched in early 2011
- Published an article in Okanagan Parent Magazine – "Is it Good for Children: Benefits of a Child Friendly Community"
- Developed the Child Friendly Transportation Tool Kit



Myrna Kalmakoff is CATCH's Mainstream Community Coordinator. Since 2005 she has worked with a variety of individuals and community groups through a wide range of projects and events to help make the Central Okanagan the best possible place to raise children. Her career and educational experience includes management, parenting education and fitness and nutrition. She is a parent to 3 children who are fortunate to have grown up in this wonderful community.