VISION

An Ottawa community committed to seeing all children and youth reach their full potential.

FRAMEWORK FOR PROMOTING HEALTHY CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The work of the Children and Youth Agenda will be guided by the following principles:

We, the community of Ottawa...

- believe the healthy development of children and youth is a shared community responsibility;
- recognize that children, youth and their families have a unique and essential voice in the community;
- will foster and promote collaboration through open and respectful communication;
- will ensure inclusion, equity and respect for diversity;

Key Element: Safe and Caring Environments

PUBLIC POLICY

CONNUNTY, SCHOOL AND NEIGHBOURHO

CAREGIVERS AND STEEL

CHILD/YOUTH

Optimal Developmental

Outcomes

Physical

• Emotional

• Cognitive

• Social

• Spiritual

- Clean and Healthy Environments
- Positive Learning/Work
- Environments

Influencing Factors:

Community Supports

• Safe and Caring Places

to Interact/Play/Work/Learn

- for Families, Children and Youth • Family-Friendly Workplaces
- Shared Community Responsibility for Children and Youth

Key Element: Opportunity to Develop Competencies

Influencing Factors:

- Positive Learning Experiences
- Develop Social Skills
- Positive Sense of Self
- Engaged in Recreation/ Leisure/Arts/Culture

and youth for making healthy transitions from birth to adulthood

Community Identified Priority Outcomes at a Public Policy Level:

- a) Increased focus on addressing the social determinants of health
- **b)** Increased advocacy for resources and supports for healthy development of children and youth
- c) Increased advocacy for improved access to health and mental health services
- d) Improved policies which enhance sustainability and harmonization of funding processes and criteria among funders

Community Identified Priority Outcomes at a Family Level:

a) Expanded engagement of children, youth and their parents/ caregivers in planning for and designing services

CREATED BY THE CHILDREN & YOUTH AGENDA

Priority Outcomes: a) Improved support and/or resources for families to have stability in their lives

and Caring Environments

Community Identified

Key Element: Safe

b) Improved inclusion and access to programs and services for children and youth who have special and/or diverse needs

- c) Improved access to and participation in quality, affordable, culturally and developmentally appropriate leisure (eg. Play, sports, culture, recreation, arts) activities by all children and youth
- d) Increased support to develop community/school partnerships

Key Element: Opportunity to Develop Competencie **Community Identified Priority Outcomes:**

- a) Increased engagement in school and in learning
- b) Increased positive social skills, self esteem and confidence for children and youth
- c) Improved healthy behaviours for children and youth
- d) Increased supports for children





To work together with families, caregivers and members of the community for the healthy development of children and youth.

- will base our decisions on evidence-based knowledge and practices;
- will optimize resources through sharing ideas, experience, skills, and knowledge, and
- will honour Canada's commitment to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Influencing Factors:

Key Element: Meeting Fundamental Needs

• Nutritious Food

Health Services

and Neglect

• Freedom from Harm

and Affordable Housing

• Health Care and Mental

• Safe, Stable

• Sleep

Key Element: Meeting Fundamental Needs Community Identified Priority Outcomes:

- a) Increased community capacity to alleviate the effects of poverty
- **b)** Increased access by children and youth to enough nutritious food to lead an active, healthy life

Key Element: Stable and Nurturing Relationships

Influencing Factors:

- At least One Caring Adult
- Positive Peer Relationships
- Positive Parenting • Participation in Neighbourhood, School and Community

Key Element: Stable and Nurturing Relationships **Community Identified Priority Outcomes:**

- a) Improved parenting knowledge, resources and skills
- **b)** Increased access to caring and supportive adults in the community
- c) Improved knowledge of and access to supports and services

Community Identified Priority Outcomes at a Community, School and Neighbourhood Level:

- a) Increase access to and sharing of information and resources by communities regarding services and emerging trends
- **b)** Increased capacity of organizations and neighbourhoods to recognize and respond to changing community needs
- c) Improve the coordination in services for children and youth and their parents/caregivers

PARTNERS

