



York Region Children's Aid Society (CAS) is dedicated to the well-being of children in our community.

We are child-focused and family-centred.

We advocate for children.

We strengthen families by offering support to parents.

We provide secure, nurturing environments for children who cannot live at home.

At the core of this work is respect for the families we serve and collaboration with our community partners.

Our mission is to ensure the well-being of children in York Region through protection, prevention and advocacy, in partnership with families and community.



York Region  
Children's Aid Society

**Mailing Address**

York Region Children's Aid Society  
Incorporated as Children and Family  
Services for York Region  
Kennedy Place  
Box 358, 16915 Leslie Street  
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 9A1

905.895.2318

1.800.718.3850

**General Inquiries:** [inquiries@YorkCAS.org](mailto:inquiries@YorkCAS.org)  
**Foster Care:** [fostering@YorkCAS.org](mailto:fostering@YorkCAS.org)  
**Adoption:** [adoption@YorkCAS.org](mailto:adoption@YorkCAS.org)  
**Employment:** [human.resources@YorkCAS.org](mailto:human.resources@YorkCAS.org)  
**Volunteer:** [volunteering@YorkCAS.org](mailto:volunteering@YorkCAS.org)  
**Community Outreach:** [outreach@YorkCAS.org](mailto:outreach@YorkCAS.org)

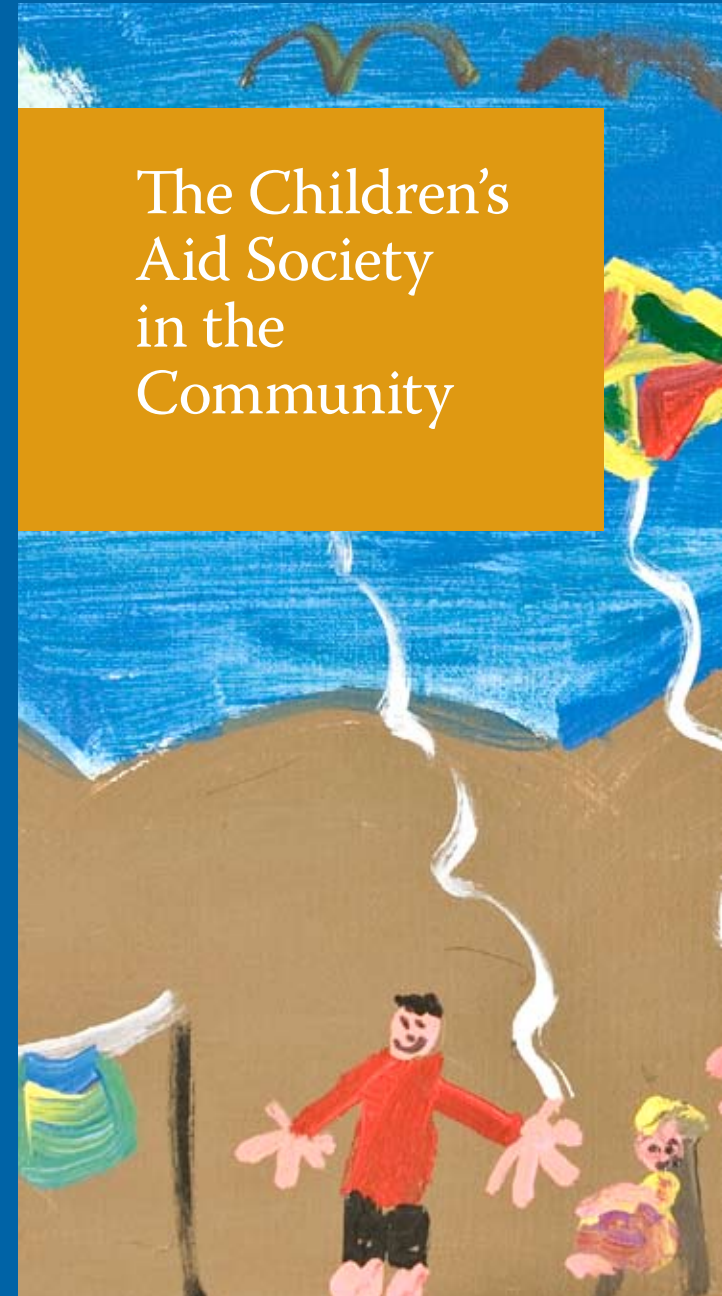
For more information,  
please visit the York CAS Web site.  
[www.YorkCAS.org](http://www.YorkCAS.org)

The painting on our front cover was made by  
George, 6.



York Region  
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# The Children's Aid Society in the Community



# Protecting children, strengthening families

Child protection is our responsibility. We respond to requests for assistance from families who are having difficulties raising children in a safe, supportive environment. We also intervene when an assessment reveals that a family needs help or that a child is at risk. Most of the time, an assessment is conducted when someone in the community – a police officer, a neighbour, a teacher – calls York Region Children's Aid Society to let us know their concerns about a child.

When our assessment identifies concerns, the way that we respond depends on the family, their situation and whether we find neglect or abuse. One approach would not suit every family so we help different people in different ways. A strong focus on diversity ensures that children and families are served in ways that make sense not only for their

situation but for their culture and background.

In some cases, we connect a family with other community resources that can help solve their problems. Sometimes, our protection workers help families grow stronger and more able to cope. From time to time, that means working with families so that children can be raised by extended family or friends. In other cases, children must be removed from the family home to protect them and to provide them with a nurturing place to grow up. Children are placed in foster homes or, when there are special concerns, residential treatment homes.

While the objective is always to reunite the family, that's not always possible. In those cases, we make permanent plans for the children – adoption, long-term foster homes or planning for independence.



## Your role in child welfare

Every citizen has an individual responsibility for the welfare of children.

That means that as a citizen of Ontario, you have a duty to report any concerns you may have about the well-being or safety of a child. You do not need proof. Your concerns are sufficient – please telephone York Region CAS at 905.895.2318 or 1-800-718-3850 immediately.

When you call, you will be asked to report your concerns about a child who may be suffering from abuse or neglect to a child protection worker. We will ask for some information about the child and the family and why you are concerned. Your report is confidential and, if you choose, you can remain anonymous.

Based on the information, we will determine if further investigation is required.

## More about the Children's Aid Society

York Region Children's Aid Society (CAS) is a non-profit agency, one of 53 in Ontario funded by the Ontario Government and operating under the legislative mandate of the Ontario Child and Family Services Act.

We are governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. They are members of our community with diverse backgrounds and experience and they share a commitment to ensure the well-being of children.

York Region CAS relies on other volunteers as well. Tutoring, mentoring, driving children to appointments and lessons are all volunteer activities that enrich the lives of the children in our care. We welcome volunteers.

Vital, as well, are the foster families who take in vulnerable children and offer them a safe, nurturing environment in which to grow up. York Region

CAS is always looking for people in the community willing to become a foster home or a treatment foster home for children who are special.

York Region Children's Aid also relies on our community for donations. Community support provides the children and families we serve with the things that most of us take for granted – a school trip, piano lessons, a computer for college. They are the things that enrich and normalize the lives of vulnerable children.

If you want to know more, please visit our Web site at [www.YorkCAS.org](http://www.YorkCAS.org).

Community groups, schools and other organizations are invited to request a special presentation on the York Region CAS. Please email [outreach@YorkCAS.org](mailto:outreach@YorkCAS.org) or call 905.895.2318 or 1.800.718.3850 and ask for the Outreach Supervisor.