

Saskatoon Community Foundation awards 2016 Quality of Life Grant to the FASD Network

The FASD Network is pleased to announce it is the recipient of \$10,000 from the 2016 Quality of Life Grant. The Saskatoon Community Foundation awards this grant based on on-going work in multiple areas. A special focus was given to projects that address the needs of early childhood.

The 2016 Quality of Life Grant will be used by the FASD Network to partially fund the expansion of their support services with a one-year pilot project. The main objectives of this pilot project are to empower families and give them the skills to manage the struggles relating to FASD and to be able to implement strategies to increase the capacity of individuals affected by FASD. This pilot project will target high risk families in Saskatoon. High risk families involved in the pilot project have a family member living with FASD and are at risk of having their children apprehended due to neglect or are working toward having their children returned. The Network officially began taking on clients for the pilot project on April 1st, 2016. The trial year of the project will include directly working with five families as well as offering training to the support workers involved with the families.

Often FASD is misunderstood and actions due to a person's disability are seen as neglectful or bad parenting. The Network believes that with proper support, understanding and strategies, the family can function effectively and protection issues would no longer be present. Hopefully by seeing success within the first trial year the Network's intensive needs pilot project can become a full-time support service.

About the Saskatoon Community Foundation

Community foundations are one of the world's fastest growing philanthropic movements, with more than 1,400 foundations in 42 countries. In Canada, Community Foundations of Canada includes 194 community foundations managing almost \$3 billion in assets—a permanent nest egg for Canadian communities. Saskatoon Community Foundation manages an endowment worth more than \$38 million with over \$65 million in total assets managed. Saskatoon Community Foundation granted over \$5,000,000 to charities in 2014.

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community by strategically making grants to other charitable organizations – hunger programs, community theatre, adult literacy programs, summer environmental camps, programs for seniors, and many more.

For more information about the Quality of Life Grant and Saskatoon Community Foundation, contact:

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About the FASD Network

FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) describes a highly complex cognitive disability with a wide range of effects. Each individual living with FASD is impacted differently. Though some individuals have physical symptoms as a result of the disability, FASD is most often prevalent in terms of cognitive, sensory and behavioural functioning.

The FASD Support Network of Saskatchewan Inc. is a non-profit provincial organization that assists both individuals living with the disability and their caregivers. The Network's goal is for individuals living with FASD and their support providers to recognize themselves as safe, supported, valued and contributing members of society.

For more information about the FASD Network and pilot project, contact:

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