

# IN SUMMER 2022, THE OST COLLABORATIVE FUNDERS WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE \$125 000 TO SUPPORT THE 2022 OST SUMMER FUNDING GRANT

## 13 FUNDED PROGRAMS PROVIDED SUMMER PROGRAMMING TO OVER 1000 CHILDREN AND YOUTH



## OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

would not have had other resources or opportunities for the academic and social support that was provided by the OST programs



## OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

were able to pursue employment or educational opportunities as a direct result of the child care provided by OST programs



## OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

said they enjoyed the summer program, made a new friend, and learned something new

OVER 130 STAFF FROM OST SUMMER PROGRAMS ATTENDED THE 2022 OST CONFERENCE

#### Conference sessions included:

- Handling Disclosures
- Supporting the Mental Health of Children and Youth
- Responding to Challenging Behaviour
- Youth-Led Play
- and more!

As part of the Conference week, OST groups also had an opportunity to take a subsidized First Aid course

"We are very grateful to have funders like OST to support our summer program every year. The program is still going strong and many families benefit from it. Newcomer families do not know summer programs exist and if they do they can't afford the high cost. This program allows many students to go back to school and on their first day of class share the connections they made, the new knowledge they gained and the friendships that blossomed within a month. Thank you OST committee for this humbling experience. We are very grateful."

### **Natural Supports**

IN 2022, OST GROUPS ACCESSED NATURAL SUPPORTS SUCH AS THE FOOD BANK, LIBRARIES, LOCAL BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY CENTRES, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THEIR PROGRAM AND THE EXPERIENCE OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH INVOLVED.



OST GROUPS ARE NATURAL SUPPORTS
THEMSELVES AND SUPPORT ENTIRE
FAMILIES BY OFFERING MENTORSHIP,
CONNECTION, ACADEMIC SUPPORT,
MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT, RECREATION
OPPORTUNITIES, LEADERSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES, SUPPORT FOR
ACCESSING SOCIAL SERVICES AND
RESOURCES SUCH AS THE FOOD BANK,
CONNECTION TO OTHER PARENTS AND
FAMILIES, AND MORE!

"OUR STAFF WERE INTENTIONAL IN ENSURING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES CONTINUE ENGAGING WITH OUR PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THEM. FOR EXAMPLE, THE EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY CAME ONCE A WEEK TO LEAD LITERACY ACTIVITIES. IN ADDITION, WE HAD A LARGE SELECTION OF BOOKS PROVIDED BY THE LIBRARY FOR THE SUMMER TO REDUCE THE BARRIER OF TRAVEL FOR FAMILIES TO AND FROM THE LIBRARY. THE CLUB ALSO HAD A FIREFIGHTER FROM THE FIRE STATION DOWN THE STREET LEAD [A SESSION ON] FIRE SAFETY AND DO A FIRE DRILL WITH THE CHILDREN. THE STAFF TOOK CHILDREN ON SHORT WALKS TO SAY HELLO TO LOCAL BUSINESSES SUCH AS ZOCALO, OR THE ITALIAN CENTER, BOTH OF WHICH ARE IN-KIND PARTNERS OF THE AGENCY. THESE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF TARGETED INTERACTIONS THAT STRENGTHENED NATURAL SUPPORTS FOR FAMILIES IN THE COMMUNITY, AND OUR PROGRAM."

### **Moving into 2023**

## EVERY YEAR IS A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY AND THIS YEAR WAS NO DIFFERENT!

ALTHOUGH GROUPS
WERE AT CAPACITY,
WITH SOME DOUBLING
THEIR INITIAL
REGISTRATION
NUMBERS, THERE WERE
STILL MANY CHILDREN
IN THE COMMUNITY
WHO WERE NOT ABLE
TO ACCESS
PROGRAMMING

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS WERE THE LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO OST GROUPS HAVING TO TURN FAMILIES AWAY. THE FUNDS LIMIT HOW MANY STAFF PROGRAMS ARE ABLE TO HIRE, HOW MANY PROGRAMMING SUPPLIES AND FOOD SUPPLIES THEY HAVE, HOW MANY PROGRAM SITES THEY ARE ABLE TO RUN, AND WHETHER OR NOT THEY CAN SUPPORT FAMILIES BY OFFERING TRANSPORTATION OR EXTENDED HOURS FOR CHILD CARE

THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN REPORTED INCIDENCES OF DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY AMONG THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY. OST GROUPS ARE AN INSTRUMENTAL SUPPORT FOR THESE CHILDREN AND YOUTH AND THE STAFF HAVE REQUESTED TRAININGS ON MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS SO THEY CAN BEST SUPPORT THESE FAMILIES.

## **2022 OST Funding Grant Allocations**

Organization	Grant Funding Awarded	Number of Participants
Action for Healthy Communities Society of Alberta	\$5 000	116
Alberta Immigrant Women & Children Centre	\$19 000	181
Alliance Jeunesse Famille de L'Alberta Society	\$11 000	53
BGCBigs Edmonton	\$10 500	71
Council for the Advancement of African Canadians in Alberta	\$6 000	112
FOCAS Canada	\$10 000	33
Horn Youth Services Foundation	\$13 000	65
Right 2 Succeed	\$12 000	69
Riverbend ROCKS	\$8 000	58
Rock and Roll Society of Edmonton	\$5 000	17
Sihle-Sizwe Vineyard Foundation	\$5 000	45
Sinkunia Community Development Organization	\$10 000	115
TCLI Foundation	\$10 500	92

NOTE: OST GROUPS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HAVE MULTIPLE SOURCES OF FUNDING. ALL GROUPS HAD AT LEAST ONE OTHER FUNDING SOURCE, IF NOT MORE. THE ABOVE NUMBERS REPRESENT THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING EACH GROUP RECEIVED FROM THE OST FUNDING GRANT BUT NOT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDING THEY USED FOR THEIR SUMMER PROGRAM