Children and Youth Planning Table of Waterloo Region

2017 Annual Update

The Children and Youth Planning Table of Waterloo Region is a community-wide partnership of service providers, researchers, planning bodies and funders serving children, youth and families in our community.

Vision

Happy, healthy children and youth – today and tomorrow.

Mission

To collectively mobilize as one system for children and youth in Waterloo Region that relentlessly strives to maximize wellbeing throughout generations.

Shared Goals for Child and Youth Wellbeing in Waterloo Region

To achieve our vision we have developed six Shared Goals for Child and Youth Wellbeing. A great deal of energy and time has been dedicated to the development of the goals and into a shared measurement system that will monitor progress over time as we strive to reach our goals.

The Children and Youth Planning Table is honoured to support UNICEF Canada as a member of the One Youth Advisory Team.

One Youth has a goal to improve the wellbeing of children and youth across Canada by:

- **Measuring wellbeing** through a new Canadian Index of Child and Youth Wellbeing
- **Designing innovative solutions** in partnership with Overlap to address some of the most pressing issues facing Canadian children and young people today.
- **Influencing change** by disrupting the status quo and showing that dreams are not only possible for Canada and for its children, but must become a national priority.

Connecting with this work is helping to ensure that our local Shared Goals align with national priorities.

Did You Know?

In 2017, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs selected the Children and Youth Planning Table among five collaboratives across Ontario to learn more about effective local integrated planning.

Membership and Engagement

Members

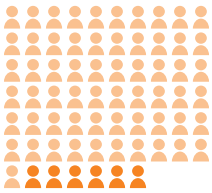
Over **480 community partners** are connected connected to the Children and Youth Planning Table. This is almost a 10% increase over 2016.

There were **three** Children and Youth Planning Table meetings this year where all members were invited to attend. On average **123 members attended** each whole membership meeting. This was a 30% increase over 2016.

On average, **20% of meeting attendees** attended a Children and Youth Planning Table meeting for the first time. At the annual forum in November, 42 were first time attendees!

Voting Member Organizations

There are **67 Voting Member organizations, six** of these organizations joined as voting members in 2017.



The Voting Member organizations have been engaged in considerable strategic planning and decision making over the last year.

39% of Voting Member Organizations felt **more involved in 2017**

Voting Member organizations officially nested the work of the Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centre Planning Committee (OEYCFC) under the Children and Youth Planning Table. Voting Members dedicated many hours together to recommend a comprehensive plan for the OEYCFC transformation.

As we gain momentum, we extend our reach!

This year we formed new relationships with the local tech sector, including Plasticity Labs, eHealth Centre of Excellence and WorldVuze.

We worked directly with WorldVuze to hear from local children and youth about what is important to them for wellbeing and bring their voices directly into our work.

Engagement

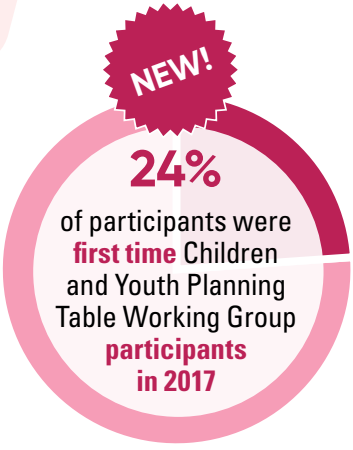
76% of members feel **well informed** on the work of the Children and Youth Planning Table

72% of members feel that a **trusting environment has been created** among Children and Youth Planning Table members

60% of **members** feel engaged in the work of the Children and Youth Planning Table

70% of members from a **Voting Member** organization feel engaged

90% of members who have been **involved for 5+ years** feel engaged



24% of participants were **first time** Children and Youth Planning Table Working Group **participants in 2017**

Our Work

Family Compass

The Virtual Access Team leveraged the expertise of Communication and Marketing professionals within their organizations to officially brand the 'joint virtual access point' as Family Compass. Development of this go-to site for services for children and youth has been the collaborative effort of the Children and Youth Planning Table, Special Needs Strategy Planning Table and Moving on Mental Health Strategy. Visitors to Family Compass will have three 'doors' to choose from when they visit the site:

Family Compass Waterloo Region
Guiding you to services for children and youth

Search for Services – a self-search for local health, social and recreational services for children and youth

I Have a Concern – a tool to help parents, youth and caring adults find the best starting point organization to address developmental concerns in a child or youth

Supports for Parents – resources for parents to learn, find support and connect with other parents (via Parenting Now)

Funding for development and marketing has been provided by Developmental Services Resource Centre and KidsAbility, and launch is around the corner in February 2018!

Shared Foundation for Practice

The Shared Philosophy of Practice became Shared Foundations for Practice. Foundation is defined as **a basis upon which something stands or is supported**. This change better reflects the intent of the Shared Foundation for Practice and how we as a collaborative work together in our community.

In 2018, the extended version of the Shared Foundation for Practice will be available online for all members to access resources and dive deeper into the four pillars of the shared foundation.

"We have built very important relationships with many of our community partners. Relationships that go well beyond shared goals or visions. We work together in much more of an intentional way, sharing our knowledge and resources with each other and really establishing a common purpose in our community."

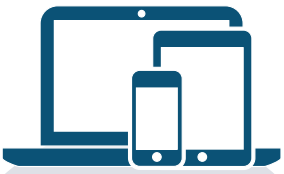
— Children and Youth Planning Table Member on their experience working as part of the collaborative

Communication

The Communication Advisory Team supported the development of a dedicated website for the members of the Children and Youth Planning Table. This website provides a go-to site.

We have designed the website to help members and partners stay connected to the work of the Children and Youth Planning Table and to the system level work that is underway for children and youth in our community.

www.childrenandyouthplanningtable.ca



Did You Know?

Copp Marketing + Design provided significant development work for our new website in-kind.

Thank you Copp Marketing + Design!

Alignment with Wellbeing Waterloo Region

Over the past year our community has come together in conversations to find innovative ways to impact wellbeing through the initiative—Wellbeing Waterloo Region. Working together, the community has identified three areas of community wellbeing that they would like to explore to achieve greater impact:

Affordable Housing:
Create more safe, stable and affordable housing across Waterloo Region.

Healthy Children and Youth:
Give all children and youth the foundation they need to thrive and reach their potential.

Social Inclusion:
Create welcoming and inclusive communities where people feel like they belong.

Creating meaningful and lasting change will require that we work together in new and more connected ways. We look forward to exploring how the Children and Youth Planning Table can support the work of Wellbeing Waterloo Region.

Funding and In-Kind Support

The work of the Children and Youth Planning Table is made possible by grants and in-kind contributions. In addition to financial support from Lyle S. Hallman Foundation and Children's Services at the Region of Waterloo, countless partners have contributed time and resources to support the work of the Children and Youth Planning Table.

Children and Youth Planning Table Funding Sources

- Lyle S. Hallman Foundation $152,162
- Region of Waterloo $111,628
- Region of Waterloo (In-kind) $71,909

Did You Know?

More than **$32,500** of funding was provided this year by community partners to support projects of the Children and Youth Planning Table. Thanks to Developmental Services Resource Centre, KidsAbility and Waterloo Region District School Board for investing in the work of the Children and Youth Planning Table!

Total Number of Hours Contributed by members in Working Groups

- Communication Advisory Team
- Data Team
- Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centre Working Group
- Shared Foundation Implementation Team
- Steering Committee
- Sustainability and Governance Working Groups
- Virtual Access Team

Total – 1642 hours