



# Children and Family Services Pandemic Working Group

**Location:** Zoom  
**Date:** Thursday, January 7, 2021  
**Time:** 12:00pm to 1:00pm

## Agenda & Notes

Agenda Item	Notes
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Reconnect &amp; note status as Working Group of CYPT</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The Pandemic Working Group (PWG) is officially a working group of the CYPT.</li><li>- Change means having backbone support from Alison Pearson and Monika Bodemer</li><li>- Monika to resend meeting invites with new Zoom info</li></ul>
<b>Emergency Child Care (ECC)</b>	<b>Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ECC funding is for school age children for the week of Jan 4<sup>th</sup></li><li>- 0 to 4 child care remains opens</li><li>- Approx. 100 children receive ECC. Criteria is strict; largely intended for front line/health care workers</li><li>- No concrete details for week of Jan 11<sup>th</sup></li></ul>
<b>Child Welfare</b>	<b>Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 2 families have volunteered to take on COVID-positive children, and 5 families are willing to take kids with parents who are positive. This resource has not been yet required, but it is available</li><li>- In comparison to the first wave, the # of COVID-positive cases has increased in group homes for both staff and resident during the second wave</li><li>- Over the holidays, there has also been several child deaths due to co-sleeping—encouraged to provide messaging to community that reiterate dangers of co-sleeping</li></ul>



<p><b>Online Learning</b></p>	<p><b>Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School boards have ensured that families that need devices for learning have received them and are ready for online learning</li> <li>- Vulnerable and complex learning students have the option to receive in-person schooling</li> <li>- Elementary students are expected to return to in-person schooling, with vulnerable and complex learning students being taught via congregated classrooms</li> <li>- In order to support families, children, and youth, relying heavily on social workers, youth workers, etc.—employing an “all hands on deck” approach to make a success of online learning</li> <li>- Families, youth, and children who need additional support (e.g. newcomers) have the option to reach out to classroom teachers. As well, school boards are making use of outside services and resources, such as interpreters. As well, Carizon Resource Coordinators are working to find ways to provide additional supports to schools.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Any actions that could done by this group to support school boards and families during this time?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Parents are responding well to reach-outs during the day</li> <li>o <a href="#">Family Compass</a> is a great service to share to help parents and families receive the support they require</li> <li>o Current Family Compass phone support is provided via 211. Additional phone support would be helpful</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Safe Isolation Site (SIS)</b></p>	<p><b>Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carizon is supporting the SIS), which is being actively used</li> <li>- Prior to the holidays, had 7 beds at disposal. This has now increased to 30</li> <li>- There’s an anticipated need for more hotels and currently working to determine what’s available</li> </ul>
<p><b>Holiday Break/Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Debrief any needs that have arisen during the holiday break and any needs emerging to start 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Front Door</b> is still in the process of moving into Carizon and Lutherwood sites, but has had no shift in services during the move</li> <li>- <b>Carizon</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Working with partners to identify gaps and are starting different groups to start filling said gaps. Debbie to follow up with more information</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



# Children and Youth Planning Table

of Waterloo Region

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Over the holidays, there has been an increased need for support re: family violence. Carizon is in the process of applying for a grant that will enable to provide said support</li><li>○ If interested in knowing more about the grant or being involved, please reach out to <a href="#">Debbie</a></li><li>- <b>211</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ In the near future, Alison will be meeting with United Way and 211 Provincial re: what needs to be done locally to keep records accurate and up-to-date (United Way is a main funder for 211)</li><li>○ If interested in knowing more or being involved, please reach out to <a href="#">Alison</a></li></ul></li></ul>
<b>Next Steps</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Next meeting: January 21, 12pm to 1pm</li></ul>