

The Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth

Who we are

- The Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth provides an independent voice for Ontario's children and youth who are either "in care" or on the margins of government care. Reporting directly to the Legislature, the Advocate's Office partners with children and youth, including those who are First Nations and those with special needs, to elevate their voices and prompt action on their issues.

Purpose of the Advocates Office

- To encourage communication and understanding between children and families and those who provide them with services
- To educate children, youth and their caregivers regarding the rights of children and youth
- Conduct investigations and make recommendations to improve children's aid society services and services provided by residential licensees where a children's aid society is the placing agency **(NEW)**

Who we serve

- Children and youth who receive or seek services approved under the *CFSA* and *YCJA*. These services are listed below:
 - Child Development Services (services for children with developmental or physical disabilities)
 - Child Treatment Services (services for children with a mental or psychiatric disorder)
 - Child Welfare Services
 - Community Support Services
 - Youth Justice Services
- Who are held in court holding cells and being transported to and from court holding cells
- Who are pupils of provincial schools for the deaf, schools for the blind or demonstration schools under Section 13 of the *Education Act*
- Who are admitted to an emergency secure treatment program under the *CFSA* (i.e. Robert Smart and Youthdale) to explain their rights to a review of the admission
- Indigenous/First Nations children, on and off reserve
- Children who have died while connected to government care

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Our Teams

- Individual and Systemic Advocacy
- Community Development
- Investigations **(New)**

Systemic Projects related to the Cross-over Youth Project

- Searching for Home: Re-imagining Residential Care
- HairStory
- My Real Lifebook
- Serious Occurrence Report
- Feathers of Hope

Contact Us

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