

**For immediate release**

**Ottawa June 17, 2002      Family Services...evolving with the times**

**Family Services à la famille Ottawa(FSFO)** is the new name for one of Ottawa's oldest social service agencies. Formerly the Family Service Centre of Ottawa-Carleton, the new name and a new logo to go with it were developed during the last year. The name will be officially launched at the 2001-02 Annual General Meeting.

"Our new name will reflect our history, our future and our position in the community. We believe that our name and logo will continue to stand for the quality of our staff, our commitment, and our belief in the integrity of families, individuals and communities" said Dr. Timothy Simboli, Executive Director of FSFO.

"We are proud to say that we have been providing services to individual's and families for over eighty-eight years and have been changing as well as adapting our services to meet our community's needs" said Rev. Allen Box, President of FSFO's board.

FSFO is a social service agency that helps individuals, couples and families in distress or at risk, to attain greater health and well-being and improve coping skills through counselling, education and advocacy. We also provide mental health services, programs for individuals who have experienced or witnessed abuse, family life education groups, services for isolated families and seniors, and an employee assistance program to name a few.

Over the past year FSFO has implemented several new and innovative programs to meet emerging needs in the community. We have implemented the Families and Schools Together program which builds on families strengths and fosters family unity. It provides support to families to help their children do well in school, in their community and at home. This program is in partnership with other community agencies and schools. We also offered groups called "Cause we're kids" which are for children who have experienced their mothers being abused, compounded by issues of race, culture, or ethnicity which create extra stressors. This model offers group support for the mothers as well.

"We are confident that our organization is well positioned to provide not only support for individuals, families and communities, but able to take a leadership role in creating a people-friendly and family-sensitive city" said Dr. Timothy Simboli, Executive Director of FSFO.

The unveiling of the new name and logo will take place at FSFO's main offices at 1 Community Place/1 Centre pour tous; 312 Parkdale Avenue on Tuesday June 18, 2002 from 4pm-5:30pm.

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For additional information on **Family Services à la famille Ottawa** call 725-3601.  
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