

Press Release
December 4, 2007
For immediate release.

Donor Supports Research

Family Services à la famille Ottawa announced today that an anonymous benefactor has donated \$100,000 to the organization to establish the Stuart Peterson Fund; an endowment that will fund research and development in the fields of counselling, education and support.

“This is the largest single donation ever received by our organization”, said Rosemary Laurin, Chair of the Board of Directors, “and we’re delighted to see that the donor wishes to direct it in this manner. It comes at a time when organizations such as ours have few resources to dedicate to creative enhancements of our practices and services”. The name of the fund is fictitious and represents the desire of the donor to also use the funds to support a student in the field and invest in the leaders of the future.

Tim Simboli, Executive Director, explained that “each year the fund will earn interest which will allow us to hire a graduate student in the social services field to research a particular aspect of the services we provide”. A different topic will be identified during the year and research will reflect the emerging issues and changing priorities for many years to come. Plans are underway to select the inaugural candidate and research focus.

The donation of this magnitude was made possible by the favourable tax treatment for donated securities. Family Services hopes that such examples will encourage others to express their generosity in similar ways to the charities of their choice. The Fund will be managed under the direction of the Community Foundation of Ottawa and will reflect the superior earnings that the Community Foundation of Ottawa can achieve.

Family Services à la famille Ottawa is an independent charity founded in 1914, providing counselling, education and support. It helps individuals and families of all sorts who are experiencing major upheavals to achieve healthy and productive lives. Services are made possible by government grants, the United Way/Centraide Ottawa, and the generosity of individual supporters. Approximately 6,000 people were helped by Family Services à la famille Ottawa last year.