



ANNUAL REPORT 2022- — 2023



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WHO WE ARE...

C.A.R.E. Jeunesse

The Quebec network of youth in care and alumni of care

About Us

Founded by former youth in care, Centre Amitié, Ressources et Entraide pour la Jeunesse (CARE Jeunesse) is the Quebec network of youth in care and alumni of care. We are a bilingual non-profit organization serving people in and from care aged 16+ across the province.

Our Mission

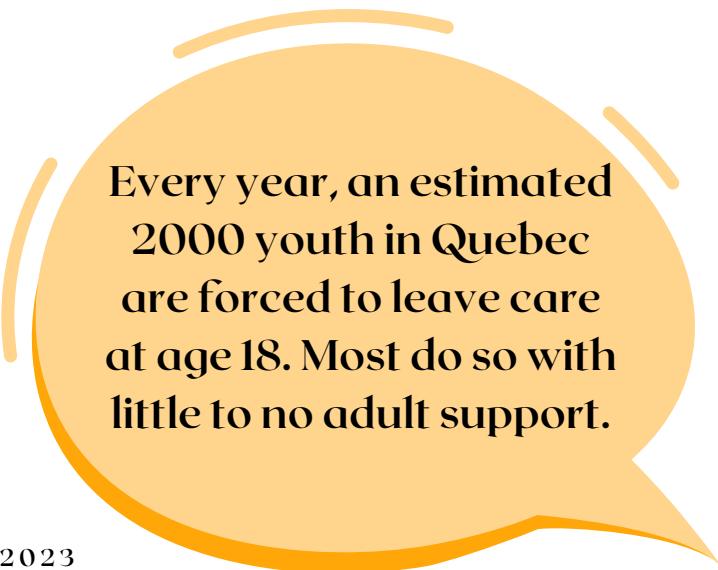
to improve the quality of life in care by providing a safe environment for members to connect and form supportive relationships as well as providing advocacy, education and empowerment opportunities. CARE Jeunesse connects youth to resources, examines policies related to youth in care and offers training and consultation to professionals on the issues relevant to youth in care. CARE Jeunesse offers support to youth and alumni from all systems of care.

Our Vision

To cultivate a community and voice in Quebec for youth in care and alumni of care

Our Values

- Community
- Autonomy
- Inclusion
- Empowerment
- Advocacy
- Respect
- Well-being



Every year, an estimated 2000 youth in Quebec are forced to leave care at age 18. Most do so with little to no adult support.

A WORD FROM OUR LEADER

Varda Mann-Feder, Interim President

**Dear CARE Jeunesse members and supporters,
sponsors, allies and friends,**

CARE JEUNESSE has had a busy year, one marked by productivity and also change. Our membership has increased, both in numbers and as we increased our presence regionally.

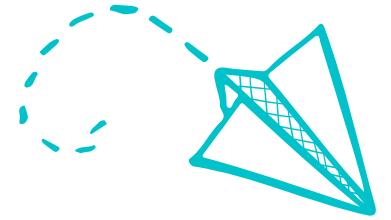
Our services of luggage distribution, assistance with tax returns and gift card distribution have continued to grow. Over the last year, we engaged in more advocacy activities than ever before and provided a series of workshops and programs, mostly online. We were assisted in these activities by a group of dedicated staff and volunteers.

At the same time, this year we saw the departure of some highly valued members of the CARE JEUNESSE team. Our first Executive Director, Talina Henseleit, left on maternity leave and will not be returning. She was a dedicated and energetic leader for our community and a real trailblazer whose influence will be felt for years to come. Christine Baldry, who stepped in as Acting Executive Director, has also left the team, and provided expert management at a critical time.

Lastly, our Board President, Heidy Wager has also stepped down. We thank her for her dedication and hard work. As former Vice President, I stepped in as Interim President in September. I have had the privilege of serving as a board member since our founding in 2013 and I took on this role, in part, because of our fantastic and energetic team of board members.

I have every confidence that CARE JEUNESSE will continue to thrive. As in other years, we are hoping to recruit some new board members, and I want to urge you to consider joining us in our important and inspiring work. I would be delighted to engage with anyone who wishes to explore the possibility of coming on board.

Lastly, CARE JEUNESSE has continued to benefit from the help of many supporters and donors. Your contributions have made our work possible and made a difference in our members' lives. Our gratitude for your help is immeasurable.



I look forward to serving our community in the months to come. I hope you will call on me if ever I can assist in any way, as we further our inspirational mission, that of supporting youth as they leave care as well as alumni of care in Quebec.

*Warm regards,
Varda Mann-Feder
Interim President
CARE Jeunesse*

ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

Membership Growth:

We have 302 care-experienced members and 211 allies. This represents a 40% & 32% increase, from 2021, respectively with care experienced members representing nearly 60% of members. We continue to build partnerships province-wide with the Aires Ouvertes and Programme Qualification des Jeunes,. This government program serves the most at-risk youth as they prepare to leave youth protection.



Partnerships/collaborations:

We continue to build partnerships with community organizations that support care experienced members such as Renaitre de la Rue and Y4Y and Bread and Beyond. We also are committed to an ongoing partnership with Batshaw Youth and Family Services. We look forward to a collaboration with John Abbott cegep and their Pathways project that seeks to support students at a post secondary level to continue their studies.



ONGOING ACTIVITY

Scholarships:

CARE Jeunesse, through the Paré Family foundation continues to support two university students as they pursue their degrees. The scholarship supports them until their graduation.

A generous donation from Wendy Clark is providing CARE Jeunesse with the opportunity to develop new scholarships and educational programs for more CAREJeunesse members in Montreal and around the province.

Academic Advising:

In order to improve academic outcomes for alumni of care, CARE Jeunesse provides a dedicated academic advising program for alumni of care. Current and prospective post-secondary students can now be connected at no-cost to a higher education professional who can advise them on the application process or other academic issues they may be facing.

Luggage Program:

CARE Jeunesse is committed to supporting the dignity of youth and young adults from all child protection placements. Youth are regularly shuffled between placements and often are forced to transport their possessions in garbage bags.

CARE Jeunesse offers free luggage to our members and youth centers across Quebec. We have experienced an increase in luggage distribution and outreach sending out more than 151 pieces of luggage since 2022.

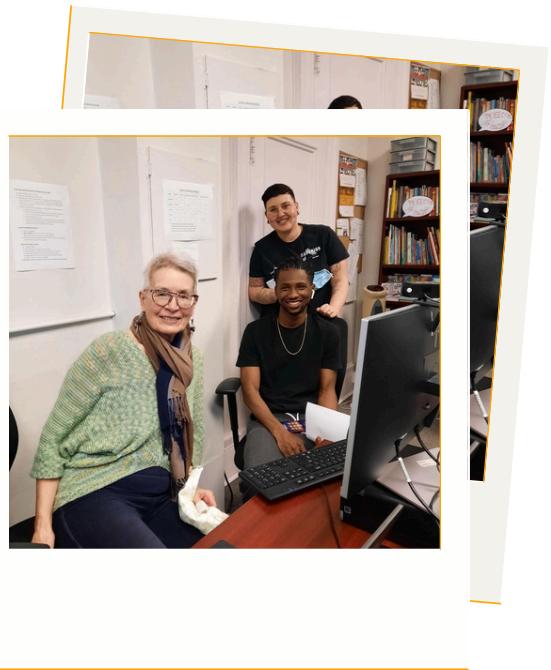


Income Tax Clinic:

Figuring out how to file your income tax can be stressful.

Luckily, CARE Jeunesse members can get assistance in filing their returns through our free tax clinic. We now provide the tax clinic and tax filing service year round.

Since 2022 we have nearly doubled the number of participants!



Advocacy Activities Update:

It has been a fantastic year for advocacy at Care Jeunesse. Many staff, board members and volunteers were involved in a series of meetings, presentations and committees.

Many thanks to Christine Baldry, Anick Charland, Kayla Dorvéus and Mikah Youbi, all of whom had an important role in representing us this year.

September 2022: Care Jeunesse joined Les Partenaires pour le bien être des Jeunes Placés et Ex-placés, a committee comprised of youth activists, representatives from community organizations, researchers and former commissioners from the Laurent Commission. The purpose of the committee is to advocate for youth in and from care, and engage in activities that sensitize policy makers and the public to the challenges facing youth from care. Since the first meeting, the group has produced a series of letters to politicians and provincial ministers, has engaged in television appearances, and has written several letters to the editor that were published in La Presse. Anick Charland represents Care Jeunesse in the Partenaires group.

January 2023: Care Jeunesse was invited by Senator Moody, a federal senator, to participate in a Youth Roundtable and give feedback on the importance of a federal framework for children and youth.

Advocacy Activities Update Continuing...

Kayla Dorvéus, Mikah Youbi and Christine Baldry provided a presentation on the importance of a youth strategy for youth in and from care.

June 2023: Amanda Keller and Varda Mann-Feder appeared on Montreal City News , on cityTV, commenting on the situation of youth in care in Quebec.

June 2023: Heidy Wager was a featured panelist at a Resilience Event sponsored by the CIUSS de L'ouest de L'ile and the YMCA, discussing the needs of youth transitioning out of care.

August 2023: Anick Charland and Varda Mann-Feder participated in a presentation to the policy advisor for the Quebec Minister of Employment on behalf of the Partenaires. The purpose was to advocate for a more holistic approach to employment support for youth from care.

September 2023: Mikah Youbi represented Care Jeunesse at a training session for Youth Protection Workers, advocating for the needs of youth in transition from care.

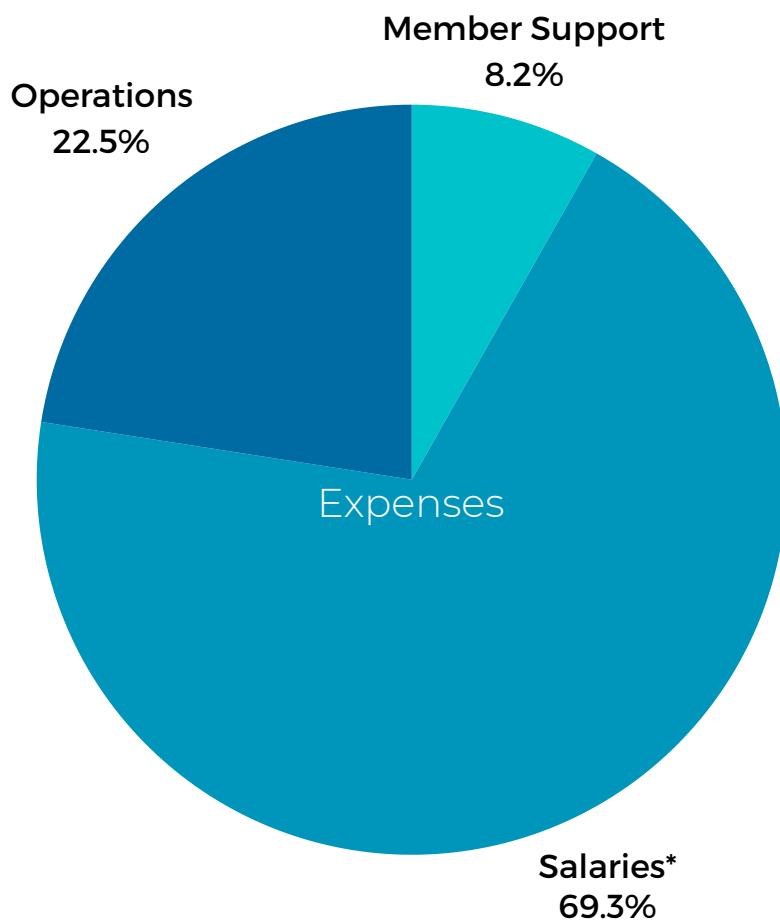
Finance Update

Here's a glance at our last year!

Revenue

92,051 - Grants
14,365 - Donation
625 - Fundraising
2,259 - Bank Interest

TOTAL: 109,300



Expenses

90,636 - Salaries
10,738 - Member support
29,495 - Operations

TOTAL: 130,869

Acknowledgments...

Thank you to our members, donors, volunteers, partners and sponsors for your commitment to youth and alumni from care. We would like to acknowledge the support of the community partners below:

- Batshaw Alumni Association
- Batshaw Foundation
- Canada Revenue Agency
- Child Welfare League of Canada
- CIUSSS ODIM
- Concordia University
- Fondation de Centre Jeunesse de Montréal
- Montreal Lakeshore University Womens Club
- Pathy Family Foundation
- Paré Foundation
- Quebec Association of Educators
- Revenu Québec
- Seamont Foundation
- Syndicat des employés de la Commission des droits de la personne et droits de la jeunesse.
- Weredale Foundation
- Greg Kelly - MNA - Jacques Cartier
- Jennifer Maccarone - MNA - Westmount St-Louis
- Pierre Fitzgibbon - Minister for Montréal
- Alexander von Humboldt school students and parents
- Wendy Clarke

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Varda Mann-Feder Interim President
- Anick Charland Treasurer
- Luise Massari Secretary
- Daniel Johnston Administrator

GET INVOLVED

Inspired? Donate to our mission today!



**Want to stay informed? Sign up as a member on
our website or follow us on social media **

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