



Rehab Open for Business

#NoChildLeftBehind

#SpecialNeedsTragedy

Key Financials

The Need:

The Province of Ontario, reported on June 2017, the Demographics by Exceptionality from the Special Education Funding Overview by the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education "support every child reach every child" reported that **178,533** children are identified as having special education needs of those the following groups require essential services:

- **10,533** are identified as having multiple exceptionalities,
- **8926** have developmental delay or physical disabilities.
- **3570** children are identified as having a Speech Impairment
- **2142** children are deaf and hard of hearing

Current Established Funding:

- The 2018/2019 expenditure estimates for MCYS include \$121,209,700 for Children's Treatment and Rehabilitation Services, \$7,058,300 for Complex Special Needs and \$11,140,000 for Coordinated Services Planning

Examples of Small Businesses growing and thriving due to Direct Funding models in Canada:

Kids Physio Group – opened and expanded to 5 Clinics in British Columbia

NexusTherapy.ca established because of the OAP.

The Problem

Over 25,171 children and youth have been identified by the Province of Ontario as having developmental and rehabilitative requirements. The current system is broken. It is comprised of 21 Children's Treatment Centres across the province. They are designed with system needs as a priority. They decide who gets treatment and who waits. **Sporadic** consultation is provided to caregivers who are not qualified medical professionals. Our children require hands on therapy, except they can't access it. Per the results of extensive studies commissioned by previous governments over the past 15 years, families have continued to report the inability to access service. The Children's Treatment Centres have a **monopoly** on rehabilitative services. If they refuse to help a child, a caregiver has nowhere else to turn. Millions of taxpayers' dollars are poured into an ineffective system that does not provide hands-on therapy.

The Solution

As noted by the Province of Saskatchewan and the Country of New Zealand, a person-centered framework results in better outcome. New Zealand's framework, as referred to in the Managing Transformation, a Modernization Action Plan for Ontario. Direct Funding is the solution. It will create opportunity for rehabilitation services without waitlists where the child resides. It provides choice, control and access to needed essential treatments. It will create small business growth in the rehabilitation sector. For example, since the implantation of the OAP, a growth in small business has been realized. This generates tax revenue at various levels, the university level and the small business levels. Many clinics will result in less waitlists, flexible hours, shorter commutes for disabled children, and will increase diversity in delivery as well as effectiveness in treatment. Children and families can receive services in their language which decreases costs associated with translation services and increases **efficiency** in delivery service. For example, in the Province British Columbia, they have experienced an increase in private clinics to provide children with timely service because of their direct funding program.

The Investment

As reported in the MCYS expenditure estimates, \$132,349,700 dollars are available for these children. Additional funding of \$136,000,000 can be found in the capital budget earmarked for bricks and mortar. This funding is better spent on timely ongoing weekly treatment and services for this small group of approximately 25,171 of Ontario's most vulnerable children and youth. This will ensure many of these children grow to be contributing taxpaying members of our society.

It is time Ontario stopped relying on charity and leaning on families for our most vulnerable children. It is time for a **REAL investment**. Our plan for the people must stop the erosion of essential services.

By investing in children and youth with disabilities, you are investing in Ontario's economy.