

Legislative
Assembly
of Ontario



Assemblée
législative
de l'Ontario

**Office of the Provincial Advocate
for Children and Youth**

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Dear Friend:

As the Ontario Advocate for Children and Youth, I am writing to support the work of the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Counsellors (OACYC).

Young people in my mandate often talk about the need for a caring, understanding adult in their lives who can make the difference. They call this the "one person theory". Child and Youth Workers have the opportunity, and often are, this one person. Unfortunately we also hear from young people when an adult, including Child and Youth Workers, providing care is anything but. For this reason we support the Association's desire to have the Province create a means of regulating the Child and Youth Work profession.

Child and Youth Care Practitioners offer direct care to special needs children and youth, those in need of protection as described in the Child Family Services Act (CFSA). In addition they also work in residential treatment facilities, schools, hospitals, treatment centres, in the community, and offer services to vulnerable children and youth in Ontario and their families.

Children and Youth in Ontario have the right and are entitled to, consistent, high-quality care. Regulation of the Child and Youth Counsellor profession increases the chances that children and youth will find the care they need.

I would be pleased to provide you with further information should you require.

Sincerely,

Irwin Elman
Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth of Ontario