



**Kawartha  
Haliburton**  
Children's Aid Society

Safe Kids. Strong Families. Thriving Communities.

## Community Engagement 2018: Protecting Young People to 18 years



[khas.on.ca](http://khas.on.ca)

### **Our Vision**

Families and communities that thrive.

### **Our Mission**

Engaging families and the community to protect children, youth and young adults.

### **Our Values**

- Child Centered; Family Focused
- Community Engagement
- Respect
- Culture of Learning
- Diversity

# Protection Services for 16-17 year olds



# CFSA Policy Directive

- Directive requires all CAS to provide the full range of child protection services to youth until their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Guiding Principles consistent with CFSA:
  - Youth-Centred Protection Service
  - Least disruptive approach
  - Permanency
  - Connection to Kin
  - Community and Culture
  - Culturally-appropriate services for Indigenous Youth
  - Diversity

# CFSA Policy Directive

- Same applicability of Eligibility Spectrum:
  - Standards (including Kin)
  - Consultation with Indigenous partners, including the use of Customary Care agreements.



# CFSA Policy Directive

Voluntary Youth Services Agreements (VYSA) for engagement with 16 and 17 year old's



# Voluntary Youth Services Agreement

- Court orders not to be sought admitting any youth into care unless a voluntary agreement has been offered and refused by the youth
- Youth in a VYSA do not have “in care” status. However youth will receive all the supports consistent with youth in care
- If youth is admitted to care by court order or TCA all policy requirements regarding children in care apply



# Voluntary Youth Services Agreement

- OCL must be notified when Society considering at VYSA, TCA, Kinship service or court order to admit a youth
- Eligibility criteria: jurisdiction, in need of protection, no less disruptive course of action available e.g., staying with family, relative or other member of youth's community
- The Youth wants to enter into an agreement



# Voluntary Youth Services Agreement

The VYSA stipulates:

- Terms of agreement
- Demographic information
- Obligation of youth to maintain contact with society
- Complaints procedure information
- Signatures
- Commitment to complete VYS plan within 30 days, supports to be provided



# Voluntary Youth Plan

Voluntary Youth Services Plan (VYS Plan) will be completed within 30 days of signing the VYSA, and updated at least once every six months.

VYS Plan to be reviewed in person at least once every three months.

Plan includes:

- Permanent relationships
- Connections to community, culture, heritage
- Health and well-being



# Voluntary Youth Plan

- Housing
- Education and/or employment
- Life managements skill and personal development
- Identity (race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, family diversity, disability, creed, sexual orientation, gender identify)
- Financial and social supports to be provid
- Roles and responsibilities
- Transition to adulthood planning
- Eligibility for Continued Care and Support until 21(CCSY)

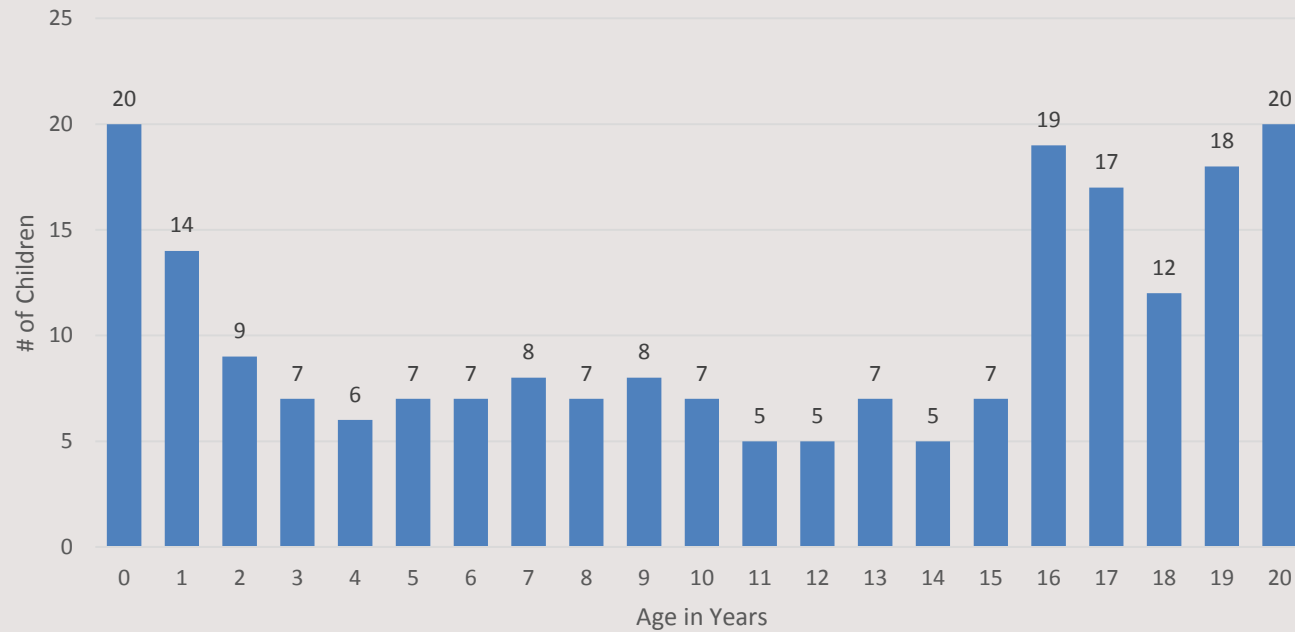


# Voluntary Youth Plan

- Termination of Agreements
- Documentation
- Reporting Requirements



## Children in Care by Age at December 31 2017 (N=215)



■ # of Children by Age

## Percentage of Children in Care by Age Category at December 31 2017

