

**Serenity Child and Parent Society**

**“A Place to be a Family”**

**Proposal for Funding**

**Under The Mentorship of:**

**Community Options Society &**

**Growing Together Child and Parent Society Board of Directors**

**Children First and Success by 6**

# I. Executive Summary

## Project Description

### Mission Statement

To provide a safe and caring residential resource for Young Parents and their children, which will provide them with a “chance” to co-create healthy familial patterns and themes for future generations, and to work with them in a manner which will enhance optimal growth and development of infants, children, and youth, through assessment, intervention, prevention, advocacy, and education.

Our proposal is for a four-suite complex, Community Funded, Staffed Family Care Home for 4-6 pregnant Young Parent's 19 and under, including exceptions up to the age of 25 and/or their infants or children under the age of five, who are in need of housing, and life skills support, with a Child Care Centre attached. Depending on funding this may happen in phases and may initially be for smaller numbers.

We are currently looking at possibly modeling our house to be similar to the Kiwanis House in Victoria, which has eight suites and is staffed by the YWCA Outreach program. They accept Mom's on Supervision orders, Independent Living, Youth Agreements, Income Assistance, Homeless, etc. for up to a year and provide them with a safe environment, support, counselling, life skills training, parenting skills, communication skills, etc. etc.

<http://www.kiwanisvictoria.com/khouse.html>

We are also looking at possibly having two stages to our housing. The first stage having twenty four hour a day supervision in one of the suites for two or three of the Parent's, and the Second stage, in two of the suites, would be where the Parent's have individual suites and are moving more to independence, but are

still attached to a support person in the complex. The fourth suite would be where an onsite support person lives and could be accessed in case of emergencies. Another model, which we are looking at, is Aunt Leah's program in Vancouver where they currently have two Moms' and infants living in a house together, and each of them is assigned a support worker. When they are ready for more independence they may then move to an independent suite in the community where a support person lives upstairs and is there for them in case of emergency. <http://www.auntleahs.org/>

Both of these resources have huge waiting lists. In addition to this we would like to add a Childcare centre within the resource for the Parent's and have some community spaces available as well. In the future we would like to add an Academic component and an Elders support component.

Our main priority, is to provide this resource with twenty four hour a day supervision and to possibly serve as a referral from MCFD (Ministry for Children and Families) Lalum'utul'Smun'eem (Cowichan Tribes Child and Family Services) or other Child and Youth Care Professionals in the Community, for parent's already in care and then give birth to a child. Or, simply as a resource to prevent homeless Parent's and infants from being separated at birth and to provide them with supervised time to stabilize their lives and/or to connect with extended family, as an option to removal, or time to discover themselves that they are not at a time in their lives where they are ready to parent. It is our hope that this resource may serve to minimize the bonding and attachment disruption issues resulting from possible multiple placements that could be created when a parent and an infant are separated at birth.

Our proposed resource could also serve as a MCFD "Immediate Safety Plan," or a "Family Development Response," or "A Family Preservation Resource," due to domestic violence, for example.

We may also be able to provide this resource to parents and their infants who are in the midst of domestic violence and require more than one month, which is currently the time limit for the safe house, to stabilize their lives and seek

healthier life alternatives. In our research so far CWAV (Cowichan Valley Women Against Violence) has reported to us that they have had thirty-eight women in the last year who could have benefited and been referred to this type of program.

## ABOUT THE SERENITY CHILD AND PARENT SOCIETY

The Serenity Child and Parent Society is a local non-profit society, which was incorporated on November 1, 2006 and received Charitable Status in January 2007. It consists of a board of directors with the following members: Lorna McPherson, Lenore Benedict, Melissa Hicks, Curtis Evans, Ruth Forsythe, Kelly Buccini, Amanda Whitefield, Gerry Fewster, Candace Kirby, and Penny Whiteford, with the following occupations:

Fully delegated child protection social workers

Early Childhood Educator

Social Work student

Mechanical Engineer

Child and Youth Care worker with a CYC Bachelor of Arts degree  
and a Specialization in Child Protection.

Registered Care and Activity attendant

Young Mom

Retired Legal Secretary

Community Counsellor

University Professor

## PROJECT BACKGROUND

This project began in January 2006 by Duncan residents Lorna McPherson and her daughter, Jessica McPherson.

Lorna is a mid-career mother of four children who holds a Child and Youth Care Degree with a Specialization in Child Protection. She has worked for the Ministry of Children and Families in the areas of guardianship, family service, and investigation, and took her full delegation training in February 2006. Lorna's experiences have shown her that there is a huge unmet need in our community for young parents who are lacking the skills and resources to provide their children with safe and caring living and growing environments.

Jessica has followed her mom's passion for working with children and has a diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care from Malaspina University College in Nanaimo.

Both Lorna and Jessica have known young girls who struggled first with an unexpected pregnancy, and then with the challenges of being a young, single mom. Because of this, they have a passion to help these girls make choices that will be best for their own lives, and that of their child.

(See Resumes & Code of Ethics – Appendix B,C in full version of proposal available on the homepage)

## II. Goals

### **Pre-Establishment Goals:**

To obtain, Sustainable, Committed, Capital and Operational funding from the community for a minimum of three years.

To obtain donations from the community for our needed resources which we will list shortly.

To contact Licensing to determine requirements for a Transitional Home/Child Care Center for Young Parent and submit completed applications.

To contact and connect with like minded professionals to join our staffing team at the Serenity House.

**Post-Establishment Goals:**

To interview prospective parents and determine their commitment and suitability for our program ( i.e. clear boundaries, visitation of partners, chores, meetings with support persons, and restrictions on all drugs and alcohol).

To continue commitment to research all available grants and funding to enhance and sustain the program.

To follow CYC and ECEC code of ethics and core beliefs during all aspects of the creation and implementation of this program.

To maintain our evaluation plan on a continual basis.

A thorough needs assessment was completed in early 2006 showing that we could expect to have a full program within 2 months of opening. This would be either young women who have already had their baby, or are still pregnant.

### III. Summary of Current Local Numbers

<u>Summary of Current Local Numbers</u>		
Resource Name		Number
Cowichan Valley Women Against Violence		38

House of Friendship		21
Cowichan Family Life		20
Community Options Society		16
Festiburt Clinic - Four Maternity Physicians		3
Cowichan Valley Opening Learning Cooperative		11
MCFD Children in Care under the age of five. Note: This does not include 1 <sup>st</sup> Nations children in care on reserve.		50
Personal Awareness		10
<b>Note: Some parents may be working with more than one of these resources</b>		
<b>and not all the parents would be eligible or accepting of this program.</b>		
<b>Therefore we are estimating the number of parents that could potentially</b>		
<b>use this Transitional Home resource locally at 30-40 parents.</b>		

(Appendix E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M pertain to this section)

## IV. Needed Resources and Equipment

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- **Construction Manager and Architect**
- **Property c/w building suitable for our project requirements**
- **Or... property large enough to accommodate a suitable constructed building, with donated materials and labour from suppliers and qualified workers.**
- **Childcare center Equipment Indoor/Outdoor**
- **Minimum three years of committed Operational Funding**
- For:**
  - **Ongoing Transportation for the Young Parents and their Children.**
  - **Hydro**
  - **Cablevision**
  - **Internet**
  - **Diapering and Hygiene Materials**
  - **Food**
  - **3-4 New Computers, c/w printers and one fax/scanner/printer**
  - **Taxes**
  - **Wages**
  - **Staff**
  - **Insurance**
  - **Office/Craft Supplies**
  - **Cleaning Supplies**
  - **Funding for special Events for Parents, Children and supervision**
  - **Furnishings for the Bedrooms, Kitchens, Living quarters, common areas, and child care center.**
  - **Licenses**
  - **Professional Training**
  - **Support from the Community**

## V. Proposed Budget for 1<sup>st</sup> Year Only

<b>SERENITY HOUSE PROPOSED BUDGET</b> - October, 12, 2006	
<b>1st Year Only</b>	
<b><u>Income</u></b>	
12 Child Care Spaces (\$700.00/month ea)	\$100,800.00
Rent from Suite (\$500.00/month)	\$6,000.00
Parent Rental Income (4parents @\$520.00/month)	\$24,960.00
Possible Gaming Funding	\$12,000.00
Child Care Operating Fund	\$33,243.21
MCFD Young Parent Programming	\$42,068.70
IN-KIND Donations	\$25,000.00
<b><u>Total Income</u></b>	<b>\$244,071.91</b>

<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	
3-ECEC Child Care Staff @ \$37,440.00/year each (260 days @ 8 hours per day @ \$18.00/hr. Including 20% for benefits)	\$112,320.00
1-CYC Executive Director @ \$37,440.00/year each (260 days @ 8 hours per day @ 18.00/hr. Including 20% for benefits)	\$37,440.00
1-Weekly Support Person @ \$37,440.00/year each (260 days @ 8 hours per day @ 18.00/hr. Including 20% for benefits)	\$37,440.00
<b><u>24/hr Supervision Addition</u></b>	
<b>Weeknight, and Weekend Staffing, Which</b>	

<b>Entrance &amp; one Support Person</b>	
1-Weekly Security Staff - Monday-Friday Morning from 12:00am - 8:00am - 32 hours @ \$14.40/hr (\$12.00/hr plus benefits) = \$460.80/weekday, 52 weeks/year	\$23,961.60
<b>SERENITY HOUSE PROPOSED BUDGET - October, 03, 2006</b>	
1-Weekly Support Staff - Monday-Thursday from 4:00pm-12:00am - 32 hours @ \$18.00/hr (\$15.00/hr plus benefits) = \$576.00/week, 52 Weeks/year	\$29,952.00
1-Weekend Security Staff - Night Shifts - 12:00am Friday Night to 12:00pm Saturday Afternoon and from 12:00am Saturday Night to 12:00pm Sunday Afternoon and 12:00am Sunday Night to 8:00am Monday Morning. - 32 hours @ \$14.40/hr (\$12.00/hr plus benefits) = \$460.80/week, 52 Weekends/year	\$23,961.60

<p>1-Weekend Support Staff - Afternoon Shifts  - Support person Friday from 4:00pm to 12:00am and 12:00pm - 12:00am Saturday and 12:00pm-12:00am Sunday. 32 hours @ 18.00/hr (15.00/hr plus benefits) 576.00/weekend. 52 Weekends/year</p>	\$29,952.00
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<b><u>Total Wages for 1st year</u></b>	<b>\$295,027.20</b>
<b><u>General and Admin Expenses</u></b>	
Groceries	\$4,800.00
Utilities & Internet	\$6,600.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$3,600.00
Accounting & Legal	\$3,600.00
Funders Evaluation Costs	\$30,000.00
Insurance	\$2,400.00
Janitorial	\$1,200.00
Office Supplies	\$1,800.00
Travel and Field Trips	\$1,200.00

Training and Staff Development	\$1,200.00
Program Supplies	\$1,200.00
Licenses, Memberships & Dues	\$120.00
Transportation	\$2,400.00
Miscellaneous	\$2,400.00
<b><u>Total General &amp; Admin Expenses</u></b>	<b>\$62,520.00</b>
<b><u>Grand Total Expenses</u></b>	<b>\$357,547.20</b>
<b><u>Total Net Shortage Security Person Option</u></b>	<b>&lt;\$113,475.29&gt;</b>
<b>SERENITY HOUSE PROPOSED BUDGET - October, 03, 2006</b>	

<u>Possible Electronic Security System (1st Year Only) \$3100 for System and 29.95/month</u>	\$3,459.40
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Deduct Security Person's Wages	<47,923.20>
<u>Total Net Shortage Security System Option not including Building and Setup Costs</u>	<69,011.49>
<u>Additional Costs if Building Owned</u>	
Maintenance and Repairs addition	\$2,500.00
Mortgage & Interest (\$4000.00/month)	\$48,000.00
Insurance	\$1,200.00
Taxes	\$1,800.00

<u>Total Building Costs</u>	\$53,500.00
<u>Net Shortage with owned building and Security Person</u>	<\$166,975.29>
<u>Intial Setup Costs</u>	
Program Equipment Indoor/Outdoor	\$30,000.00
Furniture for Suites & Appliances	\$20,000.00
Possible Rezoning Costs	\$750.00
<u>Net Shortage Including Setup Costs, Building Costs and Security Person</u>	<\$217,725.29>

Note: If CCOFP, Gaming, and Ministry Funding is not received;	
<u>Net Shortage Including Setup Costs, Building Costs, and Security Person</u>	<\$305,037.20>
Deduction from wages for Security System Option	\$44,463.80
<u>Net Shortage Including Deduction for Security System vs Security Person and Including Setup Costs and Building Costs would be:</u>	<\$260,573.41>

## VI. Staff and Administration

- 1 Executive Director staff: 40/hr per week
- 3 ECEC staff: 40/hr per week
- 1 Security staff: 32/hr per week
- 1 Security staff: 32/hr per weekend
- 1 CYC support staff: 40/hr per weekday
- 1 CYC support staff: 32/hr per weeknight
- 1 CYC support staff: 32/hr per weekend

Note:

Possible part time Bookkeeper may be required but is not included in the above budget.

Possible practicum students who would be insured through Malaspina University College may decrease our staffing costs.

## VII. Evaluation Plan

Daily routine logs for children in childcare (e.g.. Diapering, Eating, Sleeping)

Daily journaling of children in childcare (e.g.. Social, Emotional, Physical, Cognitive)

Parental Weekly Goal setting evaluation

Create program evaluation questionnaire for parents

Any required accountability reports for funders if necessary

Annual General meeting for evaluation and financial reporting

Weekly Staff Meetings

Quarterly staff evaluations

Create program evaluation questionnaire for staff

Participate in yearly licensing inspections

Plan Quarterly Integrated Case Management (ICM) meetings with professionals in the community that may be working with the parents and children outside of the program.

Monthly Inspection of parents suites and childcare center to determine maintenance and repair scheduling.