## **2017-2018 REPORTING**

Semi-annual service report for the Manitoba Foster Family Network as set out in our service purchase agreement.

**REPORTING PERIOD** 

October 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018



"Fostering Connections"

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agency Kinship/Foster Parent Training Collaborations	Page #1
Peer Support Program	Page #2
Kinship/Foster Parent Training Overview	Page #4
Introduction to Kinship and Foster Care Information Session	Page #5
Basic Level Kinship/Foster Care Training	Page #6
Advanced Level Kinship/Foster Care Training	Page #9
Focus Forums	Page #11
Groups, Events and Gatherings	Page #12
Winnipeg and Southern Region Collaborations	Page #13
Northern Initiative	Page #13
MFFN Board of Directors/MFFN Staff	Page #14

As defined by our service Purchase Agreement it is the responsibility of Manitoba Foster Family Network to provide staff members specific to each region within the province. It is the responsibility of community development workers to develop and maintain relationships with agency and authority staff as well as kinship and foster parents within their region. Part of maintaining such relationship is to provide supports to kinship/foster parents as determined by kinship/foster parents. These services may include but are not limited to:

- Providing education and training.
- Providing direct service supports for appeals, allegations and other challenges.
- Hosting community events.
- Supporting foster parent support gatherings.
- Attending collateral events.

#### **Agency Kinship/Foster Parent Training Collaboration**

Manitoba Foster Family Network is working with several Child and Family service agencies to provide basic level and advanced level kinship/foster parent training through out the province.

This has been accomplished through a staged process.

Successful outcome of that initial process results in a presentation of our training to an agency supervisor and their support team and a collaborative working partnership is formed.

Several CFS agencies have supported the training experience for kinship and foster through participating in many training sessions. This collaboration has been identified as beneficial by both kinship/foster parent participants and agency staff.

## Child and Family Services Agencies MFFN is working in partnership to provide kinship/foster parent trainings.

- 1 Eastman CFS
- 2 St. Anne West Region CFS
- 3 Ebb and Flow West Region
- 4 West Region GGK program Dauphin, Brandon
- 5 Dakota Ojibway Child and Family
- 6 Opaskwayak Cree Child and Family
- 7 Thompson General Authority
- 8 Thompson Awasis Child and Family
- 9 Thompson Northern Cree Nation Child and Family
- Swan River Cree Nation Child and Family
- 11 Swan River Michif Child and Family
- Swan River General Authority
- 13 Dauphin West Region Child and Family
- 14 Dauphin Michif Child and Family
- 15 The Pas Michif Child and Family
- 16 The Cree Nation Child and Family
- 17 The Pas General Authority

#### **Peer Support Program**

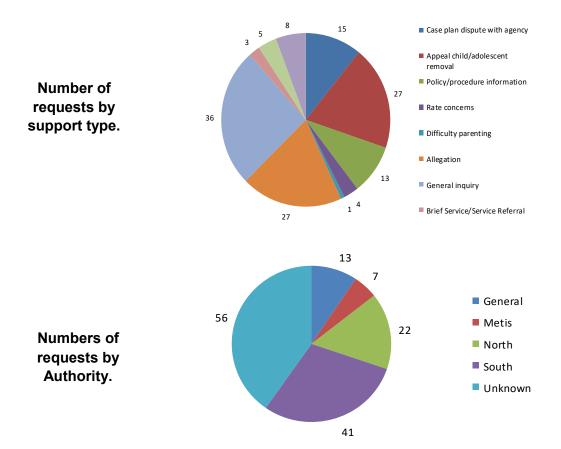
Kinship/foster parents or POS request support through MFFN Peer Support phone line. Peer Support is provided by trained kinship or foster parents. Currently this line is answered live during regular office hours. After hours, foster parents can leave a message and their call is returned.

	# requesting
	peer support
October	21
November	17
December	21
January	33
February	23
March	24
Total	139

**By Authority** 

Types of Peer Support requested by kinship or foster parents by Authority

		-	-			
Support Type	General	Metis	North	South	Unknown	Total #
Case plan dispute with agency	2	1	3	6	3	15
Appeal child/adolescent removal	2	1	5	13	6	27
Policy/procedure information	2	0	3	5	3	13
Rate concerns	0	0	1	2	1	4
Difficulty parenting	0	1	0	0	0	1
Allegation	2	1	4	6	14	27
General inquiry	3	2	2	0	29	36
Brief Service/Service Referral	0	0	1	2	0	3
Transitional Planning Concerns	0	0	2	3	0	5
Support/information	2	1	1	4	0	8
Total	13	7	22	41	56	139



#### **Peer Support Program Training**

During this reporting period MFFN hired a new Peer Support Coordinator. Craig Collins has been engaged in a program wide review of the program service delivery. He has enhanced existing program standards to implement a solution based brief intervention approach to better serve caregivers seeking assistance and support. He has developed training packages and piloted them with the team at a 3 day program retreat in March, 2018. Currently there are 8 trained MFFN peer support providers and recruitment is on-going to add to this total.

Peer support trainings for MFFN volunteers are provided monthly. The trainings are facilitated through group trainings, individual reviews, assessments and telephone conversations. During this reporting period the Peer Support Team convened for the annual three day group training conference.

DateSpecialized TrainingLocationMarch 20, 21,22Program TeamSanford, Mb.

## Program Material developed during this reporting period.

- 1. Best Practices for Minimizing Allegations
- 2. Allegations: Alternative Dispute Resolutions
- 3. PSP: Program Service Manual

The MFFN Peer Support Program strategically identifies and develops training topics to assist Peer Support Providers to adequately respond to callers. This approach enables callers to clearly identify challenges they may be experiencing. Strategies for resolving challenges are provided and resources such as MFFN print material, Manitoba Child and Family Services legislative web pages and community resources are suggested as a means to respond to their concerns. Coupled with the professional opinion of the Peer Support Provider, this solution focused supportive approach is designed to facilitate a clear and effective action plan.

**Peer Support Providers** are the primary resource delivering this service to Manitoba's kinship and foster parents. Their total volunteer hours represent time they make available to receive calls plus the time they volunteer to attend trainings.

**Peer support call estimated service delivery time.**Average call times are calculated from population samples and used to estimate hours of program service delivery.

Peer Support Provider's volunteered 1,993 hours

Average Call Time **25 minutes** 

Estimated direct service time provided.

58 hours

#### **Alternative Dispute Resolution Support**

In some cases a kinship or foster parent requests support to assist them with preparing for meetings with an agency, appeal a child removal, or support in an alternative dispute resolution process. Such support has often been made available for callers within the Winnipeg region. As assistance is requested by home care providers in various communities MFFN does not have the ability to support, in person, such requests provincially.

To more effectively respond to this need province wide MFFN is developing information packages for distribution. Currently ANCR is reviewing the information regarding dealing with allegations for accuracy, and finalized versions will be made available to assist callers.

MFFN Peer Support information package's focus is to empower care providers to strengthen their understanding and skills when experiencing the challenges associated with allegations, team meetings, transition meetings and case planning disputes.

#### **Kinship/Foster Parent Training Overview**

Introduction to Foster/Kinship

Basic historical understanding and awareness of care expectations.

**Basic Level Kinship/Foster Parent sessions** 

Basic level understanding of kinship/foster parenting competencies.

**Advanced Level Kinship/Foster Parent sessions** 

Parenting strategies, tools and skills to enhance competencies.

**Facilitator Train the Trainer** 

Skill development for facilitating group training through MFFN.

**Training Material Update & Re-Writes** 

Working with kinship and foster parents to improve MFFN trainings.

#### **During this reporting period**

Introduction to Foster Care sessions were provided in the Winnipeg area. Sessions were offered on Saturday mornings.

Participant attendance continues to be recorded in participant's MFFN produced training vitae; as well as on MFFN attendance forms. It is note worthy that most participants presented as valuing this personal resource tool and often attended make-up sessions to complete their training vitae.

Participants continue to request advanced level training and presented as enjoying their empowerment as individuals in a peer group. Participants continue to state it is empowering to meet and discuss with others who are providing care.

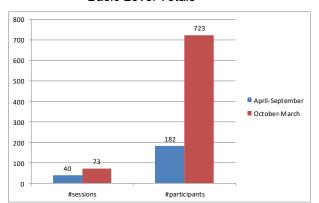
Collaboration with CFS agencies continues to develop to facilitate training in several communities. Agency foster parent support workers have attended and participated in training sessions which has enhanced the training process.

Our Northern Initiative community development worker has established training connections within the Thompson region. This has been facilitated through connection with various CFS agencies in the region. Networking with CFS agencies has been positive and resulted in increased numbers of participants.

Feedback from foster/kinship parents has been consistently positive across all trainings. Two new foster parent trainers co-facilitated with MFFN staff to provide training sessions.

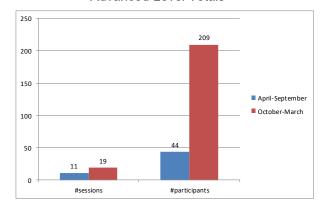
## MFFN has experienced a significant increase in the number of participants supported through our trainings.

#### **Basic Level Totals**



The increase in the number of kinship/foster parent training sessions provided has an impact upon the direct service hours in providing this resource. The total direct service hours indicated does not include transportation to and from communities.

#### **Advanced Level Totals**



	Total # sessions (Intro/Basic/Advanced)		Total Direct Service Time
April 2017- Sept. 2017	56	x 4 hours/	224 hours
October 2017- March 2018	96	session	384 hours

#### Introduction to Kinship/Foster Care Information Session

	# contacts interested in				
	fostering				
October	61		# sessions	Location	# participants
November	26		provided	Location	attended
December	13	October	1	Winnipeg	9
January	48	January	1	Winnipeg	5
February	34	February	1	Winnipeg	13
March	16	March	1	Winnipeg	17
Total	198	Totals	4		44

#### **Participation Feedback Information**

At the conclusion of the information session participants are asked to complete a form to provide feedback of their training experience.

Participants can respond with;				
strongly disagree	disagree	unsure	agree	strongly agree

# feedback forms submitted

31

#### Section1: General comments on the training

#### Participants were queried if;

They found the training helpful

They believe the information will be useful

The presentation helped clarify information

They felt the time was sufficient for the material involved

100%	Strongly agree or agree
0%	unsure
0%	Disagree or strongly disagree

#### Section 2: Specific comments related to topic material

#### Participant were queried if;

Developed insight into kinship/foster care

Developed understanding of responsibilities, rights & roles

Were aware of child care provider expectations

Were aware of training and skill development expectations

Were aware of supports and resources offered through MFFN

Were aware of the next steps to become care providers

_		
	98%	Strongly agree or agree
	2%	unsure
	0%	Disagree or strongly disagree

**Section 3:** Asks if the individual would participate in kinship or foster parent training offered through the Manitoba Foster Family Network in the future?

100%	Interested in continuing MFFN training
0%	No response
0%	Not interested

#### **Section 4: Comments**

Participant comments are separated into feedback regarding training content or training process. Comments are further identified as either analytical or reflective in nature.

Training Content			
Analytical Reflective			
Positive	3	4	
Challenges identified	0	0	

Training Process				
Analytical Reflective				
Positive	2	11		
Challenges identified	1	0		

NOTE: Previous MFFN reports provide clarification for this style for grouping data.

#### **Basic Level Kinship/Foster Care Training**

During this reporting period **73** sessions were provided to **723** participants involving **292** direct service hours.

Feed back data presented is the percentage average of sessions collected from feedback forms from each particular session.

Responses to standard general questions and specific comments continue to indicate a high level of approval for

the presentation style and information provided.

The increased number of training sessions and participants benefited from collaboration with CFS agency's alternative care teams. In some sessions foster support workers participated in training sessions enhancing the process.

Participants continue to express a desire for connection and communication between their peers.

	Session Date	Community	Agency	# Participants
Session1	11/16/17	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	16
Child Development	1/23/18	Roblin	open	2
Child Development	1/24/18	Carmen	Westman	15
	1/24/18	Winnipeg	open	8
Session 2	11/30/17	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	16
Attachment & Relationships	1/31/18	Carmen	Westman	11
Attachment & Nelationships	1/31/18	Winnipeg	open	7
	2/1/18	Roblin	open	2
Session 3	10/3/17	Winnipeg	open	15
Fostering Family Connections	10/4/17	Winnipeg	open	5
r ostering r armiy connections	10/10/17	Steinbach	Eastman	15
	10/12/17	Bellsite	open	7
	12/7/17	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	15
	2/7/18	Carmen	Westman	12
	2/7/18	Winnipeg	open	2
	2/8/18	Roblyn	open	2
Session 4	10/10/17	Steinbach	Eastman	15
Misunderstanding Behaviours	10/10/17	Winnipeg	open	20
ivilsuriderstariding beriaviours	10/12/17	Bellsite	open	7
	10/11/17	Winnipeg	open	5
	12/14/17	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	12
	12/14/17	Thompson	open	8
	2/13/18	Roblin	open	2
	2/14/18	Carmen	Westman	13
	1/14/18	Winnipeg	open	5
	3/27/18	Dauphin	GGK	11
Session 5	10/17/17	Winnipeg	open	23
Presenting Behaviours	10/18/17	Winnipeg	open	7
resenting behaviours	10/24/17	Steinbach	Eastman	19
	10/26/17	Bellsite	open	7
	12/14/17	Thompson	open	8
	1/18/18	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	13
	2/20/18	Roblin	open	2
	2/21/18	Carmen	Westman	12
	2/21/18	Winnipeg	open	5

### **Basic Level Kinship/Foster Care Training**

Session 6	10/24/17	Steinbach	Eastman	19
Guiding Behaviours	10/24/17	Winnipeg	open	20
Calaing Bonavioure	10/25/17	Winnipeg	open	5
	11/2/17	Bellsite	open	7
	12/15/17	Thompson	open	8
	2/1/18	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	12
	2/27/18	Roblin	open	2
	2/28/18	Carmen	Westman	10
	2/28/18	Winnipeg	open	5
Session 7	10/19/17	Thompson	open	9
Teaching Life Skills	11/1/17	Office	open	4
readining Life Okins	11/7/17	Steinbach	Eastman	16
	11/7/17	Winnipeg	open	15
	11/9/17	Bellsite	open	7
	3/6/18	Roblin	open	2
	3/7/18	Carmen	Westman	11
	3/7/18	Winnipeg	open	6
	2/8/18	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	10
Session 8	10/19/17	Thompson	open	9
Observing, Recording & Reporting	11/7/17	Steinbach	Eastman	16
Observing, Recording & Reporting	11/14/17	Winnipeg	open	15
	11/15/17	Winnipeg	open	4
	11/16/17	Bellsite	open	7
	2/15/18	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	10
	3/13/18	Roblin	open	2
	3/14/18	Carmen	Westman	10
	3/14/18	Winnipeg	open	7
Session 9	10/16/17	St. Pierre	open	8
Fostering Self Care	10/20/17	Thompson	open	9
r Ostering Gen Gare	11/21/17	Steinbach	Eastman	18
	11/21/17	Winnipeg	open	16
	11/22/17	Winnipeg	open	1
	11/30/17	Bellsite	open	7
	2/22/18	Portage La Prairie	Long Plains/Portage (DOCFS)	7
	3/20/18	Roblin	open	2
	3/21/18	Carmen	Westman	11
	3/21/18	Winnipeg	open	4
	3/29/18	Thompson	open	23
Overview or Catch Up for Sessions	10/5/17	Sessions overview	Portage (DOCFS)	9
o to the or outer op for occording	3/1/18	Portage La Prairie	Portage (DOCFS)	8
	3/8/18	Portage La Prairie	Portage (DOCFS)	8

Total number sessions

73

Total number participants

723

#### **Basic Level Kinship/Foster Care Training**

# feedback forms submitted for all sessions

236

#### Section1: General comments on the training

#### Participants were queried if;

They found the training helpful

They believe the information will be useful

The presentation helped clarify information

They felt the time was sufficient for the material involved

# 96% Strongly agree or agree 4% Unsure \* 0% Disagree or strongly disagree

4 querying if time allowed for presentation of material involved was sufficient.

#### Section 2: Specific comments related to topic material

Participant were queried if;

Enhance your kinship/foster parenting.

Understand how to communicate to others the care you provide.

Strengthen and empower yourself as a kinship/foster parent.

Identify yourself as a valuable, skilled member of the team which surrounds a child in care and their natural family.

Develop parenting solutions to assist children and adolescents make positive changes in their lives.

**Section 3:** Asks if the individual would participate in kinship or foster parent training offered through the Manitoba Foster Family Network in the future?

100%	Strongly agree or agree
0%	unsure
0%	Disagree or strongly disagree

97% Interested in continuing MFFN training
3% No response
0% Not interested

#### **Section 4: Comments**

Participant comments are separated into feedback regarding training content or training process. Comments are further identified as either analytical or reflective in nature.

Training Content			Traini	ng Process	
	Analytical	Reflective		Analytical	Reflective
Positive (CA+) (CR+)	41	17	Positive (PA+) (PR+)	12	34
Challenges identified (CA-) (CR-)	3	0	Challenges identified (PA-) (PR-)	4	4

NOTE: Previous MFFN reports provide clarification for this style for grouping data.

#### Sample of comments provided

- PA- The time crunch doesn't allow a lot of parent/parent connecting.
- CR+ As a foster care coordinator who has fostered and attended programming in both roles I find these training sessions and their presentation extremely beneficial to foster parents and social workers.
- PR+ Find the training excellent. Essential for all foster parents. Would like a program for providing infant care.
- CA+ This is challenging me in communicating more of how and why I do what I do, which is a great challenge.
- PR+ I have found I have shared info with others in different fields.
- PR+ Very good both the content and discussions between/with other foster parents.
- PR- I wish we has another hour felt rushed.
- PR+ I love to come you both keep it very interesting and the time flys by so fast. Keep up the good work.
- PA+ I really appreciate the principle of addition and the principle of subtraction.
- CA- Unfortunate part is the unrealistic ideas with agencies that are difficult if not close to impossible to alter.

<sup>\*</sup> Total percentage of responses to question 4 querying if time allowed for presentation of

#### **Advanced Level Kinship/Foster Care Training**

During this reporting period **19** sessions were provided to **209** participants involving **76** direct service hours. Feed back data presented is the percentage average of sessions collected from feedback forms from each particular session.

Advanced level training provides increased focus on parent skill development. Parenting exploration of strategies, skills and tools introduced at the basic level focuses on various aspects of providing care. Advanced level training is designed to assist participants to clearly

identify the parenting they offer to support healthy child development and work as a valuable team member within family services.

MFFN continues to refine existing training materials, and identify new pilot opportunities.

Responses to standard general questions and specific comments continue to indicate a high level of approval for the presentation style and information provided.

	Date	Session	Community	Agency	# Participants
Guiding Behaviours	10/12/17	#1-3	Swan River	open	2
	10/14/17	#1	Winnipeg	West Region (GGK)	17
	10/21/17	#2	Winnipeg	West Region (GGK)	16
	12/4/17	#3	Winnipeg	West Region (GGK)	13
	1/23/18	#1	Steinbach	Eastman	14
	1/23/18	#1	Winnipeg	open	10
	1/30/18	#2	Winnipeg	open	10
	1/6/18	#3	Winnipeg	open	10
	1/13/18	#2	Steinbach	Eastman	16
	2/13/18	#3	Steinbach	Eastman	14
Skills for Life	1/13/18	#1	Winnipeg	open	12
	1/20/18	#2	Winnipeg	open	11
	1/27/18	#3	Winnipeg	open	14
	3/1/18	#1	Bellsite	open	2
	3/8/18	#3	Bellsite	open	5
	3/15/18	#3	Bellsite	open	6
Fostering Family	2/6/18	#1	Winnipeg	open	14
Connections	2/13/18	#2	Winnipeg	open	13
	2/20/18	#3	Winnipeg	open	10

Total number sessions

19

Total number participants

209

#### **Advanced Level Kinship/Foster Care Training**

# feedback forms submitted for all sessions

67

#### Section1: General comments on the training

#### Participants were queried if;

They found the training helpful

They believe the information will be useful

The presentation helped clarify information

They felt the time was sufficient for the material involved

# 98% Strongly agree or agree 2% Unsure\* 0% Disagree or strongly disagree

#### Section 2: Specific comments related to topic material

#### Participant were queried if;

Enhance your kinship/foster parenting.

Understand how to communicate to others the care you provide.

Strengthen and empower yourself as a kinship/foster parent.

Identify yourself as a valuable, skilled member of the team which surrounds a child in care and their natural family.

Develop parenting solutions to assist children and adolescents make positive changes in their lives.

**Section 3:** Asks if the individual would participate in kinship or foster parent training offered through the Manitoba Foster Family Network in the future?

!00%	Strongly agree or agree
0%	unsure
0%	Disagree or strongly disagree

100%	Interested in continuing MFFN training
0%	No response
0%	Not interested

#### **Section 4: Comments**

Participant comments are separated into feedback regarding training content or training process. Comments are further identified as either analytical or reflective in nature.

Training Content				
Analytical Reflective				
Positive (CA+) (CR+)	12	4		
Challenges identified (CA-) (CR-)	0	0		

Training Process				
Analytical Reflective				
Positive (PA+) (PR+)	6	10		
Challenges identified (PA-) (PR-)	1	0		

NOTE: Previous MFFN reports provide clarification for this style for grouping data.

#### Sample of comments provided

PR+ Keep up the good work!!

CA+ Finding problems and working to how problem was dealt with well presented

CA+ Hammering home the necessity of better communication/language was well presented

PR+ Like coming to Terracon Place as a venue

PR+ They did a wonderful presentation tonight

PR- Could always use more time to go deeper into topics

CR+ Although the training wasn't directly related to my specific needs there was still so much information that it was helpful

PA+ I really appreciate the dynamics of the make-up of this group, as in, input from different perspectives and situations.

CA+ The hand outs and templates are very helpful and can be applied to day to day life.

PR+ Thank-you for the support and the education.

<sup>\*</sup> Total percentage of responses to question 4 querying if time allowed for presentation of material involved was sufficient.

#### **Focused Forums**

MFFN held the second of three planned kinship/ foster parent forums during this reporting period in partnership with the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth. This forum was titled 'Parent Wisdom Project'.

Forum Date	Location	# participants
January 16, 2017	Winnipeg	20
January 16, 2017	Winnipeg	20

The focus of the project is to gather experiences and opinions about being a caregiver to children and youth in care. While the system can sometimes feel like it pits natural families against foster families, the best care for children and youth includes the wisdom and participation of all adults who care for them and this project sets out to gather each of those voices.

At the conclusion of the forums The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth will be producing a resource tool that can be used by caregivers to help meet best interest of children in care.

#### Section1: General comments on the Forum

Participants were asked if;

They found the opportunity helpful

They believe the information will be useful

The presentation helped clarify information

There was sufficient time.

Strongly agree or agree

Unsure

Disagree or strongly disagree

#### Section 2: Specific comments related to topic material

Participant response;

Share my experiences kinship/fostering parenting.

Communicate to others the care I provide.

Strengthen and empower myself as a kinship/foster parent.

Identify myself as a valuable, skilled member of the team which surrounds a child in care and their natural family.

Better understand the Principle of Addition.

Strongly agree or agree

Unsure

Disagree or strongly disagree

#### **Section 4: Comments**

Participant comments are separated into feedback regarding training content or training process. Comments are further identified as either analytical or reflective in nature.

Traini	ng Content			
Analytical Reflective				
Positive	2	6		
Challenges identified	0	0		

Training Process				
Training Process				
	Analytical	Reflective		
Positive	1	1		
Challenges identified	1	0		

NOTE: Previous MFFN reports provide clarification for this style for grouping data.

#### **Groups, Events and Gatherings**

Categorized by region, the Manitoba Foster Family Network staff and volunteers provided the following services and supports within their region for the current reporting period.

Region	Event	Date	Location	Attendance
South	MFFN Kinship/Foster Appreciation Pizza Party	10/17/17	St. Pierre	37
South	MFFN Foster/Kinship presentation	11/5/17	Long Plains Spirit Lodge	43
Winnipeg	MFFN Kinship/Foster Appreciation Pizza Party	10/17/17	Winnipeg	U/A
Winnipeg	MFFN Foster/Kinship presentation	11/29/17	Yellow Quill College	14
Winnipeg	Cookies with Santa	12/5/17	Winnipeg	U/A
Winnipeg	MFFN Holiday Open House (collaboration with Sobeys)	12/11/17	Winnipeg	60
Winnipeg	MFFN Foster/Kinship presentation	12/30/18	Garden City Collegiate	U/A
Winnipeg	MFFN Foster/Kinship presentation	3/23/18	ANCR	10
North	MFFN Kinship/Foster Appreciation Pizza Party	10/16/17	Swan River	U/A
North	Cree Nation Foster Family Conference	02/28/18	The Pas	55
North	Cree Nation Orientation	01/11/18	Swan River	50

#### **MFFN Contacts database**

MFFN manages a data base of approximately 2652 kinship/foster parents contacts. We also maintain a database of 228 collaterals such as CFS offices and band offices that we maintain connection with.

#### **MFFN Newsletter**

2 Newsletter were sent out province wide during this reporting period.

#### **E-Mail Blasts**

During this reporting period 16 e-mail blasts were sent out to kinship and foster families regarding a variety of service announcements.

#### **Social Media**

Manitoba Foster Family Network maintains a Facebook book page, Instagram account, and Twitter account which we use to update kinship and foster families about trainings and care notifications.

#### **Collaborations**

MFFN works collaboratively with a variety of community resources to enhance kinship and foster knowledge.

Agency/Organization/Institution	Focus/purpose
University of Manitoba	Partnership with Looking After Each Other; Dignity Project Align with contributing partner's exploring what has worked or
	has not worked and why for those impacted by FASD.
Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth	Forum presentation
	Parent Wisdom Project
Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth	Safe Sleep Practices
	MFFN continues to integrate safe sleep practices into training material in response to the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth

#### **Northern Initiative**

The Manitoba Foster Family Network continues to work with communities and agencies to increase opportunities for kinship and foster parent connections and trainings. Communication with child and family service agencies has mainly focused on providing awareness of The Manitoba Foster Family Network as a resource available to them.

#### **North Region Collaborations**

MFFN works collaboratively with a variety of community resources to enhance kinship and foster knowledge.

Agency/Organization/Institution	Focus/purpose
Anxiety Disorders Association of Manitoba	
Inter-Agency of Swan Valley	Enhance opportunities to expand knowledge of The Manitoba Foster Family Network.
The Pas & Area FASD Committee	Generate and foster connections with other service and
Addiction Foundation Manitoba	community providers to participate and contribute in the giving and receiving of invaluable support, ideas,
Canadian Mental Health Association	contacts and referrals to enrich families and
Elbert Chartrand Friendship Center Flin Flon	communities. Listening to agencies needs regarding families and
FASD The Pas	accurately respond with appropriate actions to empower
Friendship Center Flin Flon	families
MacDonald Youth Services	Expand opportunities to outreach and interact within communities and community needs.
Ma Mawi Wi Chti Itata	,

#### **Board of Directors**

It is the goal of the Manitoba Foster Family Network to maintain a board of directors comprised of four members from the North, three from the South and two from Winnipeg. To date our board of directors is as follows:

Member	Region	Position
Marion Brading	North	President
Linda Ens	South	Treasurer
Patti Skirzyk	South	Vice-President
Andrea Lagasse	South	Member at Large
Tonni DuMoulin	Winnipeg	Vice-President

#### Staff

Manitoba Foster Family Network has two locations. The head office is in Winnipeg, Manitoba and the sub-office is in Swan River, Manitoba. In order to deliver community based programming travel is a job requirement of all MFFN staff.

Staff Member	Position	<b>Primary Location</b>
Jennifer Karaim	Executive Director	Winnipeg office
Terri McNaughton-Wright	Education Coordinator	Winnipeg office
Brad Wright	Curriculum Developer/Wpg CDW	Winnipeg office
Charlotte Sauder	North CDW	Swan River office
Craig Collins	Peer Support Coordinator/South CDW	Winnipeg office
Haley Stodgell		Administrative Assistant