



Inspiring Hope + Wellness in Our Community

MEDIA RELEASE

June 23, 2017

OTF GRANT HELPS CHILDREN WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES IN A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Kitchener – On Friday, June 23rd, Carizon shared the results of a pilot project that established a multidisciplinary team approach to helping children with mental health challenges. An Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant allowed for the delivery of a comprehensive system of assessment that included professionals like occupational therapists, psychologists and speech and language therapists, to share their expertise so that the children could experience greater success in their learning environment. Local MPP Mike Harris’ representative, Meghan Martin, and OTF Grant Review Team member Gebre Berihun were on hand to congratulate Carizon’s staff on this project and learn more about how it made a difference in the lives of the children.

“This is a great example of our community coming together to ensure our children are getting the specific help they need through thorough assessment and potential direction toward individual, yet comprehensive, solutions to their individual situations,” said Michael Harris, MPP for Kitchener -Conestoga.

“This support is critical to ensure that residents of Kitchener-Waterloo receive the assistance they need to thrive in an educational setting,” said Daiene Vernile, MPP for Kitchener Centre. “Providing people with resources early in life will set them up for success down the road. The Ontario government is committed to investing in the future of our children and youth.”

“Adding specialized knowledge from other service sectors and multidisciplinary assessments lead to better understanding of the children and their needs,” said Carizon CEO Tracy Elop. “This in turn provides the team with the ability to implement the most appropriate treatment interventions that result in the best possible outcomes.”

Carizon is a multi-service community organization committed to improving the future of individuals and families through supportive, therapeutic and preventative programs.

www.carizon.ca

An agency of the Government of Ontario, the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is one of Canada’s largest granting foundations. With a budget of over \$136 million, OTF awards grants to some 1,000 projects every year to build healthy and vibrant Ontario communities.

www.otf.ca.

- 30 -

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