



ALIGN

Association of
Community Services

In Alberta
200,000
vulnerable children
and families need
your voice!

WHO IS ALIGN?

ALIGN Association of Community Services is a network of over 120 child and family service agencies that employ over 10,000 staff and provide services to over 200,000 vulnerable children and families each year. These are services such as early intervention, in-home support, counselling, parenting programs, family reunification, kinship care, foster homes, youth shelters and group homes.

Take action and find out more at www.200000.ca

THE SITUATION

In Alberta, most child and family services are contracted out by the Government of Alberta and are provided by community agencies (most of whom are ALIGN members). This system saves the Government money because agencies are able to provide services with lower overhead costs than services provided directly by the government. Using qualified local community agencies to deliver these services also helps keep more children in their homes and communities in a safe and effective way.

THE PROBLEM

Increasing funding for vulnerable children and families is often not attractive to governments working in four-year election cycles because tangible results take longer to manifest themselves.

In Alberta, this has meant an insufficient increase in funding for agencies carrying out this vital work. Standards of care are increasing regularly (as they should) and so are general operating costs for the agencies. Without an increase in funding from the government, many agencies are left with uncertain futures.

THE SOLUTION: SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Government of Alberta needs to fix the way it determines the amount of funding it provides to community agencies who deliver vital services to Alberta's most vulnerable children and families. Funding should be indexed and grow as standards increase and operational costs rise.

www.200000.ca