



## **MEMORANDUM**

It is with profound sadness that we inform you of the passing of Dominic Verticchio, Executive Director of The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton. After a lengthy illness and courageous fight, Dominic passed away on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, at the age of 68.

Throughout his 41 year career with The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton, Dominic dedicated his time, energy and talents to improving the experiences of children and families involved with the agency. For the past 18 years, Dominic served as the Society's Executive Director, leading the agency through many challenges and changes while remaining steadfast to the Society's commitment of working in partnership with families and the community to protect the safety and well-being of children and the strengthening of families, while valuing diversity and promoting equity.

During his tenure, Dominic was actively involved on a number of community boards and planning tables. In addition, he participated on various Ontario Association of Children's Aid Society Committees and was valued for his insightful and reflective comments on child welfare service system issues.

Through a robust capital campaign, in 2005, Dominic's leadership, vision and his determination facilitated the agency's move to the Poscor Centre of Children & Families thereby allowing staff to work together under one roof as a unified organization and providing the opportunity for additional services to benefit children and families including an on-site access centre and a medical/dental clinic.

Dominic was deeply committed to ensuring that youth in care have the opportunity to achieve academic success. Thus, in 2003 he spearheaded the development of the annual Grape Expectations Gala event to raise funds to support Crown Wards and former youth in care in their pursuit of post-secondary educational opportunities through annual educational bursaries. To date, this fundraising event has raised over \$1.3 million.

Dominic was a strong presence within the organization, and in the Hamilton community. He will be deeply missed and remembered as a forward thinking leader in the field of child welfare. His mentorship and guidance will continue to positively impact the work of The Children's Aid Society of Hamilton for years to come.

Please join us in extending our heartfelt condolences to Dominic's family at this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Gareth Llewellyn  
President, Board of Directors

Mary Meyer  
Interim, Executive Director