



## About Us

### What We're About!

#### (Our Mission)

By encouraging healthy patterns of living, Pacific Centre Family Services enhances and promotes the quality and dignity of life of individuals and families within our diverse community.

#### What We Do!

Pacific Centre Family Services Association is dedicated to maintaining outstanding services for the people we work with through education, counselling and creative programming. We have locations in Colwood, Langford and Sooke, British Columbia, Canada and feature the following programs:

- Substance Use Program (Counselling and Referrals for Adults)
- Community Outreach Prevention and Education (Support for Youth 5-18)
- Youthtalk (email counselling for youth)
- Affordable and Fee for Service Counselling
- Youth Services (Parent/Teen Counselling and Mediation)
- Stopping the Violence (Counselling for Women Dealing with Abuse)
- Youth and Child Counselling and Expressive Therapy Program (SAIP)



#### What About Accountability?

PCFSA's operations are administered by an Executive Management Team and are overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors comprising members of the community.

Professionally trained counselling staff includes social workers, counsellors and child, youth and family care workers.

Counselling staff members are professionally qualified and/or may also be registered with:

- Board of Registration for Social Workers
- Canadian Counselling Association or BC Association of Clinical Counsellors
- Registered Art Therapists
- Child and Youth Care Association of BC

To fulfill its commitment to high levels of effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction, Pacific Centre Family Services Association seeks feedback from a range of stakeholders including program participants, community partners, staff and funders.

#### PCFSA's Code of Ethics

All staff and PCFSA agents\* must understand and apply the Code of Ethics as a guide to their behavior in work and work-related activities. Staff members hold an influential position as role models for their program participants and as representatives of the Centre. Therefore, the behavior of staff and agents must be ethical, respectful, and competent at all times. Violation of these standards has the potential to seriously damage relationships with the program participants and may be grounds for dismissal.

\*PCFSA agent - Refers to any person involved in the Centre who interacts with any program participant or their family, and shall include (but not be limited to) all paid employees, practicum students and volunteers.

#### Rights of youth and children

The [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) (UNCRC) is the world's most signed Convention. It is designed to protect the lives and dignity of children and youth (anyone under age the age of 18). It outlines the minimum standards for the healthy development of children and youth.

### **What are child and youth rights?**

There are 54 articles and 2 optional protocols in the Convention that outlines the rights of children and youth and the obligations of adults and government.

You don't have to memorize all the different rights in order to understand them. A simple way to determine what rights children and youth have and how to exercise the rights is to know the 4 guiding principles:

1. **Non-discrimination.** These rights are for all children. Children and youth have the right to be treated without discrimination and have the right to be who they are.
2. **Right to life, survival and development.** Children and youth have a right to the basic things to live, survive, and develop.
3. **Best interests of the child.** Always ask yourself "Is the decision I'm making good for kids?"
4. **Engaging children and youth.** Children and youth need to participate and have their views considered when decisions are being made that affect them.

### **Our organization cares about the rights of children and youth.**

We show this through our range of services that engage and serve children and youth to help them fulfill their potential.

## **A Brief History of Pacific Centre Family Services Association**

**1872** Prior to September 18<sup>th</sup>, Havenwood (acreage on the border of Esquimalt Lagoon, Colwood) was crown land until it was purchased by John Switzer, owner of the Belmont Tanning & Boot and Shot Manufacturing Company. It passed through a few hands until the site was cleared in 1921-22

**1922** The first cottage was built on Havenwood, followed by Pendray House, completed in 1927

**1966** More buildings had been constructed and under different owners the property had been used as a country club and rest home.

**1968** On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dr. Charles Gregory instituted the "Island Child Development & Research Centre" which was incorporated with Constitution and By-Laws. It ran a residential home for 28 children with emotional & behavioral difficulties located at Deer Leap House at 743 Pears Road in Metchosin, owned by the society.

**1969** Name changed to Pacific Centre for Human Development, with original Constitution and new By-Laws

**1972** Pacific Centre for Human Development began leasing Havenwood from Mrs. Ellis.

**1977** Summer camp initiated

**1979** Peg Peters was appointed as Executive Director; and worked until 1990

**1980** Havenwood was purchased by Pacific Centre for Human Development

**1983** Pendray House was the victim of arson by two youths which gutted the main stairwell and part of the upstairs. It was rebuilt over the following 3 years.

**1988** Name changed to Pacific Centre Family Services Association.

- 1990** Dr. Larry Scyner was appointed as Executive Director, and remained with the Association until May 2001
- 1997** PCFSA workers were unionized for the first time
- 2003** PCFSA received full 3 year CARF accreditation in its first attempt.
- 2004** Bee Creek renovation began
- 2004** Launch of PCFSA website
- 2005** Staff and programs moved to Wale Road and Peatt Road sites
- 2006** PCFSA received 3 year CARF accreditation for the second time
- 2007** Havenwood sold to Corporate Hospitality Developments of Calgary
- 2007** Mitzi Dean hired as Executive Director
- 2008** PCFSA celebrates 40 years service and hosts an international two-day academic conference
- 2009** Full Three year CARF accreditation
- 2012** Full three year CARF accreditation
- 2014** September PCFSA purchases 324 Goldstream Avenue
- 2015** Full three year CARF accreditation
- 2016** Blessing and groundbreaking ceremonies at 324 Goldstream Avenue
- 2017** Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of New Centre of Wellbeing (Centre is scheduled to open Fall 2017)  
<http://www.goldstreamgazette.com/news/family-service-provider-expands-fo...>
- 2018** Deborah Wilson promoted to Executive Director on May 1, 2018
- 2018** Pacific Centre Family Services celebrated 50 years of service since incorporation – September 28, 2018

## About Us