

## NEWS RELEASE and MEDIA INVITATION

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023



In 2014, May 14<sup>th</sup> was proclaimed into law with the Children and Youth in Care Day Act, 2014. For the past nine (9) years, the day has been about acknowledging the valuable contributions that current and former youth in care make to our communities, as well as to celebrate the strength and resilience that is shown by children and youth in the face of adversity.

Last year, the provincial campaign titled **#ForgetMeNot** intended to bring renewed attention to the unique challenges faced by children and youth in care in the Ontario child welfare system, as well as to highlight their accomplishments.

This year, continuing with the **#ForgetMeNot** theme, we are asking all Ontarians the question: **Are you there for kids in care?** This question is about reminding communities, government and service providers that these young people continue to need critical supports. They cannot be forgotten.

There are approximately 12,000 children in care across Ontario, each one facing many unique challenges. They require allies, advocacy and collaboration to support them on their life's journey. Strong networks and meaningful relationships do make a difference for children and youth in care, let's be there for these young people and support their success. It is important that children and youth know and feel that the community cares for them.

The Kawartha-Haliburton Children's Aid Society will be celebrating the children and youth we work with on May 10th, our first in-person celebration since 2019. Please join us in showing these young people that as a community we see them, we hear them, and we want to celebrate their accomplishments and be part of their success by learning more about how you can show up for children in care in our communities.

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