

*Strengthening Families.  
Building Communities.*



Children's Special  
Services

Manitoba 

Raising a child can be very rewarding, and it can also be challenging. All families face challenges at one time or another. Families raising a child with a disability have unique challenges.

## WHAT IS CHILDREN'S SPECIAL SERVICES?

*Children's Special Services* is a program that assists families who have children with developmental and/or physical disabilities with some of the additional needs they may have. Services are intended to strengthen families and support parents to care for their children at home in their own communities, where children grow and thrive.

*Children's Special Services* believes that parents and family members are the most important people in a child's life, and that parents know best the needs of their family and their child.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR CHILDREN'S SPECIAL SERVICES?

Children under the age of 18 living in Manitoba who live with their birth, adoptive or extended families are eligible. A medical diagnosis must confirm they meet the qualifying upper limit of one or more of the following conditions:

- mental disability;
- developmental delay;
- Autism Spectrum Disorder;
- lifelong physical disability;
- a high probability of developmental delay due to a pre-existing condition; a parent who has a mental disability; or, significant prematurity with medical and/or biological factors.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Families can be referred to *Children's Special Services* by the Child Development Clinic, a physician, or they can contact the office in their community to apply for the program directly. Written confirmation of the child's diagnosis is needed to apply.

Once eligibility is determined, a Family Services Worker is assigned to the family to discuss their needs, goals and priorities with them. The worker informs families about the supports that may be available through *Children's Special Services* as well as supports that may be helpful from other service agencies, such as child care facilities, schools, and voluntary organizations. The worker can help families arrange the services they need. A worker will remain involved with the family until the child turns 18 years of age or the family no longer needs service.

## What Services and Supports are Available?

### RESPITE

Respite is a break from care giving. It can be provided in or outside of the child's home for parents who may need a short-term break. For children who have lifelong, complex medical needs, respite can be provided by a registered nurse.

### CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Child Development Workers work with parents to identify their child's strengths and goals. Together they find ways to assist the child to develop and learn new skills. Service may be provided in the child's home or a child care setting.

## THERAPY

A Family Services Worker can refer families with children with disabilities to the *Provincial Outreach Therapy for Children (POTC) program* or the *Children's Therapy Initiative (CTI)*. Therapies that may be available include: occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, and audiology, and can be provided in the family home, in a child care setting or in schools.

## BEHAVIOURAL SERVICES

Behavioural specialists may provide an assessment of a child's challenging behaviours, and together with the family, develop a plan that addresses the child's needs.

## APPLIED BEHAVIOUR ANALYSIS FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Parents raising children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder may be eligible for *Applied Behaviour Analysis*, an intensive intervention program that teaches parents strategies to support their child's behavioural development.

## SUMMER GAP PROGRAMMING

*Children's Special Services* helps children maintain their skills during the summer months by providing for the extraordinary costs needed to help children access the programs and activities that promote what they have learned.

## AFTER SCHOOL CARE FOR ADOLESCENTS

After school care is provided in a group setting and may be available for adolescents who are no longer able to access child care but still require care and supervision outside of school hours.

## SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

*Children's Special Services* may cover the cost of certain supplies and equipment that are necessary as a result of a child's disability.

## HOME/VEHICLE MODIFICATIONS

Funds may be available for making modifications to a family's home or vehicle to accommodate the child's disability. Examples are: railings, lifts, and widened doorframes.

## TRANSPORTATION

Assistance may be available for families who need financial support to cover the costs of transportation to and from medical appointments and specialized services for their child with disabilities. This is mainly for families in rural and northern Manitoba.

## ARE THERE LIMITS TO THESE SERVICES?

*Children's Special Services* recognizes that the circumstances of each family are different and assesses the needs of each family individually.

The amount of service a family receives will depend on eligibility for service, assessed need and the resources available.

## WHO DO I CONTACT?

To speak with someone about *Children's Special Services*, please contact the Manitoba Family Services and Housing regional office in your community.

## REGIONAL OFFICES

### CENTRAL REGION

#### Regional Office

63 Stephen Street  
Morden, MB R6M 1Z6  
Phone: 204-822-2870  
Fax: 204-822-2879

#### Area Office

25 Tupper Street North  
Portage la Prairie, MB  
R1N 3K1  
Phone: 204-239-3092  
Fax: 204-239-3198

### WESTMAN REGION

#### Regional Office

2nd Floor, 340 – 9th  
Street  
Brandon, MB R7A 6C2  
Phone: 204-726-6336  
Fax: 204-726-6539  
Toll Free:  
1-800-230-1885

### PARKLAND REGION

#### Regional Office

309 – 27 2nd  
Avenue SW  
Dauphin, MB R7N 3E5  
Phone: 204-622-2035  
Fax: 204-638-3278

### INTERLAKE REGION

#### Regional Office

Box 9600, 3rd Floor  
Administrative Bldg.  
Selkirk, MB R1A 2B5  
Phone: 204-785-5100  
Fax: 204-785-5109

### EASTMAN REGION

#### Regional Office

Box 50, 20-1st  
Street South  
Beausejour, MB  
RoE oCo  
Phone: 204-268-6028  
Fax : 204-268-6222  
Toll Free:  
1-866-576-8546

#### Area Office

242 - 323 Main Street  
Steinbach, MB R5G 1Z2  
Phone: 204-346-6390  
Fax: 204-346-6394

### NORTHERN REGION

#### Area Office

102 - 143 Main Street  
Flin Flon, MB R8A 1K2  
Phone: 204-687-1700  
Fax: 204-687-1708

#### Area Office

Provincial Building  
3rd Street and Ross  
Avenue  
The Pas, MB R9A 1M4  
Phone: 204-627-8311  
Fax: 204-627-8265

#### Area Office

Box 5, 59  
Elizabeth Drive  
Thompson, MB R8N 1X4  
Phone: 204-677-6570  
Fax: 204-677-6517

## WINNIPEG OFFICES

### DOWNTOWN / POINT DOUGLAS COMMUNITY AREA

#### Downtown West

2-391 York Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0P4

#### Downtown East / Point Douglas

2A-111 Rorie Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3B 3N1

Intake: 204-948-4092  
Fax: 204-948-1334

### RIVER EAST / TRANSCONA COMMUNITY AREA

#### ACCESS River East & ACCESS Transcona

975 Henderson Hwy.,  
Winnipeg, MB R2K 4L7  
Intake: 204-938-5100  
Fax: 204-938-5229

### RIVER HEIGHTS / FORT GARRY COMMUNITY AREA

#### River Heights & Fort Garry

Unit 6-677  
Stafford Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3M 2X7  
Intake: 204-938-5299  
Fax: 204-938-5311

### ST.BONIFACE / ST. VITAL COMMUNITY AREA

#### St. Boniface and St. Vital

100-614 Des Meurons  
Street  
Winnipeg, MB R2H 2P9  
Intake: 204-945-8040  
204-945-2270 (French)  
Fax: 204-948-3282

### ST. JAMES ASSINIBOIA / ASSINIBOINE STH. COMMUNITY AREA

#### St. James Assiniboia & Assiniboine South

2-2015 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3J 0K3  
Intake: 204-940-8365  
Fax: 204-940-2636

### SEVEN OAKS / INKSTER COMMUNITY AREA

#### Seven Oaks & Inkster

Unit 3-1050 Leila Ave.  
Winnipeg, MB R2P 1W6  
Intake: 204-938-5600  
Fax: 204-938-5609

For more information, please contact  
Children's Special Services

119-114 Garry Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 1G1  
Phone: 204-945-0808, Fax: 204-945-0082

Visit Our Website: [www.gov.mb.ca/fs/pwd/css.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/fs/pwd/css.html)  
(Français au verso)