

Children's Aid Society forms Task Force

Some children's services agencies in the Region of Halton have had significant increase in service demands. The Children's Aid Society (CAS), for example, has admitted an average of 21.5 children into care each month in 1991, compared to 10.8 in 1989. The average number of child abuse cases dealt with each month has increased from 29.4 (1990) to 50.1 (1991). These increases have put tremendous stress on children's services.

Les Horne and Margaret Morrison will host a meeting on January 30th from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. at E.C. Drury School in Milton. Researcher Bob Fulton will be presenting some significant new information, based on his studies of demographic and social changes in Halton and their relationship to children's services.

of community factors, such as family benefits caseloads, crime rates, unemployment statistics, alcoholism and psychiatric hospitalizations, can be used to accurately predict the demands on child welfare services. As crime rates and unemployment rates rise, for example, so does the number of children admitted to CAS care.

Assistant Director of Halton Children's Aid Society Margaret Morrison says, "I believe that what we are experiencing at Children's Aid is reflective of what is happening in Halton. I am excited by the possibility of pulling together people who can look at creative ways of helping each other and children. As a result of Fulton's presentation, one of the areas we hope to discuss is how

the adult services network can influence the demand on children's services."

Representatives from a variety of concerned organizations and individuals from across Halton Region will be participating at the meeting. If you are concerned about the issue and would like to be involved, please call Sue Gould at 825-6000, Ext. 7153, to register or for more information.

Fulton has found that a number

As Task Force Co-chair and



In response, the Children's Services Coordinating and Advisory Group has struck a Task Force to consider how the community, in the time of fiscal restraint, can determine the breadth of the problem and examine ways of working together to address the issue.

The Task Force, co-chaired by

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