

Staff Report to Council - for Information

Title: 2024 Child Activity Assistance Program Outcomes

From: Tina Metcalfe, Director Human Services

Date: February 6, 2025

Report Number: HS-2025-004

Report Purpose:

This report is for information.

Report Summary:

In 2024, the Child Activity Assistance Program (CAAP) provided financial support to more than 70 children facilitating their participation in over 120 activities and programs.

Through a partnership with the Municipality of Kincardine entered into the summer of 2024, Bruce County flowed financial support to six children for 13 additional activities.

Feedback received from families supported includes: "I had a fantastic experience; the service was incredible.", "Happy to be part of this supportive community." and "I have used this program twice now and have been completely satisfied."

A media release will be distributed to inform the community about the application process. More information can be found at: Child Activity Assistance Program | Bruce County

Background/Analysis:

The Child Activity Assistance Program assists Bruce County families with the cost of activities such as school trips and nutrition programs, extracurricular activities, and arts and cultural programs for dependent children living in the home under the age of 18.

Council approved recommended updates to the program in 2023 to reflect the changing fiscal environment including:

- 1. Mirroring the family gross income threshold to Low Income Cut-Off for a family of four.
- 2. Increase funding per child to \$500.
- 3. Removing child support as a source of income to mirror federal and provincial income reporting requirements.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

Payments made through CAAP contribute to the community investment made by the County of Bruce. Funds are allocated through the County budget approval process. Remaining 2024 Kincardine partnership funds will be distributed through the 2025 CAAP application process.

Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:

Community and Partnerships - Build a strong and inclusive community

Community and Partnerships - Enhance and grow partnerships

Link to Departmental Plan Goals and Objectives, if any:

We enhance the quality of life for individuals, families and communities by ensuring integrated and comprehensive services that will remove barriers and create opportunities.

Report Author:

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Departmental Approval:

Tina Metcalfe, Director, Human Services

Approved for Submission:

Christine MacDonald, Chief Administrative Officer