

Investing in Children 2004 Annual Report



www.investinginchildren.on.ca



Working with others to put all children's needs front of the line

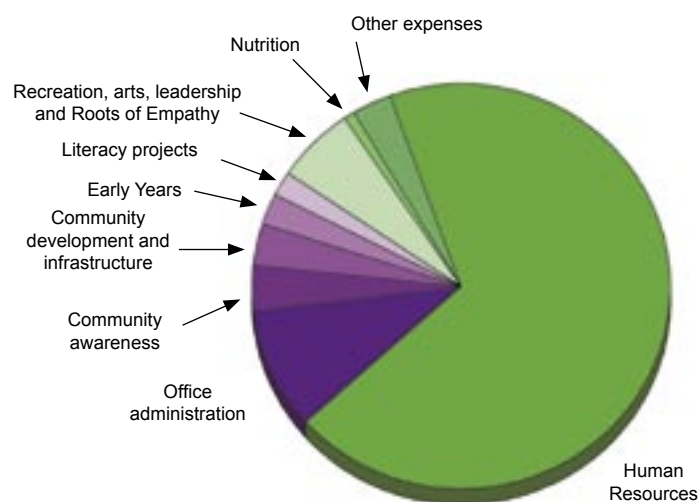
A Message from the Executive Director

The past year at Investing in Children has again been marked by increased community awareness of the needs of families and children and by the unique role we can take in facilitating solutions. We are proud of our new initiatives: Kids First Day, Reading Rocks!, Making Children Matter, as well as our continuing projects.

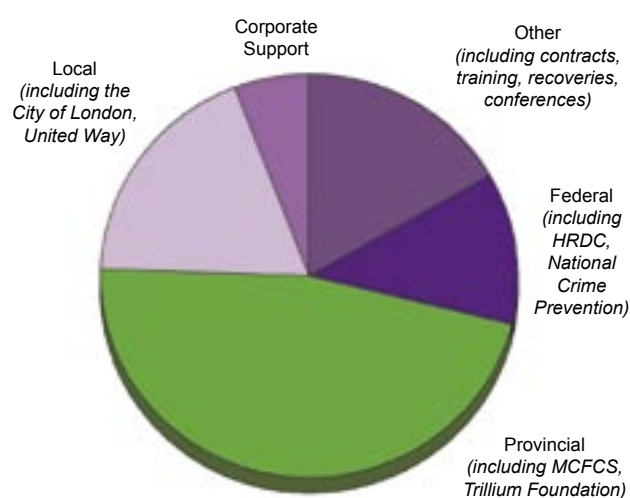
As an organization, we live what we talk about: collaborative solutions, the synergy of sharing ideas and resources; ongoing evaluation and change; and leadership rather than ownership. Thanks to an outstanding staff, committed volunteers, generous community partners and a supportive Board of Directors, we show every day that the whole of our effort is indeed greater than the sum of our parts!

Jan Lubell, *Executive Director*

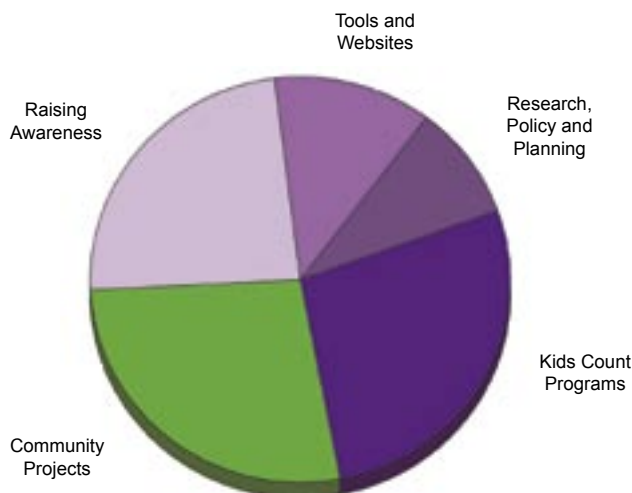
Expenditures



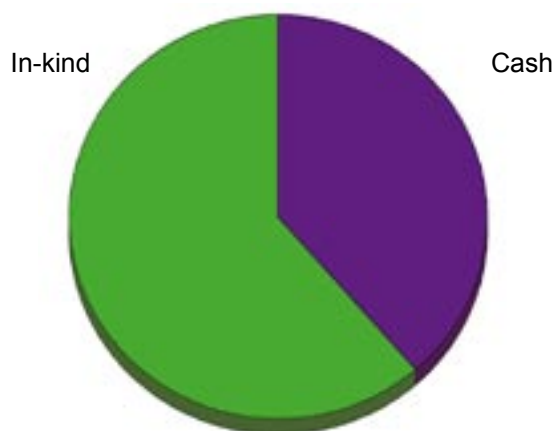
Revenue Sources



Program Expenses



In-kind vs. Cash Donations



For every \$1 we receive in cash donations, Investing in Children leverages more than \$1 in other support for use in our programs and projects.

Our Vision

Investing in Children will be a impassioned and trusted leader, making London the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Our Mission

Investing in Children is a diverse group of community leaders who are passionately committed to improving the lives of children and families by increasing community focus on children, facilitating collaborative initiatives and stimulating new opportunities.

2003-2004 Accomplishments

Over the past year, Investing in Children has been involved in a number of innovative new ventures while continuing many on-going projects. **GREEN** indicates new initiatives begun this past year.

Kids Count Programs

- ▶ **Community Service Clubs**
- ▶ Leadership Camp
- ▶ Kids Power Conference
- ▶ Homework Clubs
- ▶ Arts Adventure
- ▶ Family Literacy Events

Community Projects

- ▶ **Reading Rocks! at River Forks Park**
- ▶ **Courthouse Art Mural**
- ▶ Thames Valley Special Olympic Track and Field Event
- ▶ Roots of Empathy
- ▶ Circus Arts Mentoring Partnership (C.A.M.P.)
- ▶ Math Magic Tent at the Children's Festival
- ▶ Children's Nutrition Network
- ▶ CyberKids Computer Camp



Raising Awareness

- ▶ **Kids First Day**
- ▶ **Making Children Matter: Building Better Communities for Children conference**
- ▶ **2004 Snapshot of London's Children and Youth**
- ▶ **Fun at the Frog**

Tools and Resources

- ▶ **Workbooks - Evaluation, Systems Thinking and Mapping**
- ▶ Community Mapping
- ▶ Training seminars and workshops
- ▶ Websites - *InvestinginChildren.on.ca*, *FamilyInfo.ca*, *EYLearningZone.ca* and *CommCapacity.ca*

Research, Policy and Planning

- ▶ **Research Works! for child literacy, national research project**
- ▶ Participation in local, provincial and national activities

2003-2004 Board of Directors and Council of Partners

- ▷ Althouse College, Alan Leschied
- ▷ Community Lawyer, Mandy Heyninck
- ▷ Crawford Packaging, John Ashby
- ▷ Junior Achievement, Cynthia O'Neill
- ▷ Let's Talk Science, Spencer Seiler
- ▷ London District Catholic School Board, Terry Grand
- ▷ London Public Library, Margaret Mitchell
- ▷ Madame Vanier, Barrie Evans
- ▷ Royal Bank, Eric Sorrentino
- ▷ Scholar's Choice Moyer, Cindy Webster
- ▷ Thames Valley District Health Council, Linda Hebel
- ▷ Thames Valley District School Board, Rosine Salazer
- ▷ UWO Preschool, Mary Lou Vernon
- ▷ Westmount Shopping Centre, Piper Badgley
- ▶ BOB FM, Jim Blundell
- ▶ Boys' & Girls' Club, Don Donner
- ▶ Childreach, Susan Ryans
- ▶ Children's Aid Society, John Liston
- ▶ Community Member, Glenda Pennington
- ▶ Community Member, Patrick Dunne
- ▶ Community Member, Shanthi Radcliffe
- ▶ Fanshawe College, Michael Goodmurphy
- ▶ Frontier College, Kristin Lepine
- ▶ Glen Cairn Community Resource Centre, Petra Taylor
- ▶ Independent Consultant, Nancy Wright
- ▶ Investor's Group, Bill Clunas
- ▶ JJ Barnicke London Windsor Sarnia Ltd., Jack Lane
- ▶ Lerner & Associates, Graham Porter
- ▶ London Block Parent Program, Gail McMahon
- ▶ London Intercommunity Health Centre, Michelle Hurtubise
- ▶ London Interfaith Counselling Centre, Willy Van Klooster
- ▶ London International Airport, Trish Frericks
- ▶ London Police Service, Chris McCoy
- ▶ London Transit Commission, Deborah Luty
- ▶ Merrymount Children's Centre, Ailene Wittstein
- ▶ Middlesex London Health Unit, Diane Bewick
- ▶ Novack's, Paul Caplan
- ▶ Oscar's, Perry Jeffery
- ▶ Psychology and Family Medicine, UWO, Graham Reid
- ▶ Selectpath Benefits & Financial Inc., Wayne Koch
- ▶ Thames Valley Children's Centre, John LaPorta
- ▶ The Toy Shoppe of London, Rose and Clyde Walton
- ▶ United Way, Ruth Young
- ▶ University of Western Ontario, Paul Whitehead
- ▶ Women's Community House, Kate Wiggins
- ▶ YMCA / YWCA, Shaun Elliot

▷ Denotes members of the Board of Directors. To become a member of Investing in Children's Council of Partners, as an organization or individual, please contact the Board Chair or Executive Director.

A Message from the Board

The Board of Directors is once again proud of the achievements of the staff within the Investing in Children organization. We have continued in our commitment to find unique solutions to challenges in making our community a child and family friendly place to live. In promoting the best interests of children, Investing in Children has continued its involvement with Breakfast for Learning Programs, neighbourhood homework clubs and the Circus Arts Mentoring Project, to name a few.

This year was also the year that Investing took on the challenges of organizing a very successful conference, along with Voices for Children, that drew together three hundred people in "Making Children Matter"; "Kids First Day" celebrating children in London; and the unveiling of "Reading Rocks!", a haven along the Thames River that promotes child and family literacy. The Board is so proud of the energy, creativity and commitment our staff display in every way to serve the children of this community.

Alan Leschied and Linda Hebel, *Co-chairs, Investing in Children Board of Directors*



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