

FAMILY & PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

CARING FOR SEARCHING FAMILIES

Our commitment to our searching families extends to offering emotional supports throughout their search or during the reunification process.

We provide ongoing emotional support, and can help our clients identify counseling and practical supports in their local area.

We have established partnerships with professional coaches and counsellors to provide the immediate emotional assistance and support the client requires while the investigation process is being conducted and the guidance in order to strengthen the family unit to provide healthy unconditional support for each other.

I can honestly say that it is because of MCSC's direct involvement in our case that my children are back at home. Their support does not end after the children are home, but continues in different ways to help with the transition and issues that continue to occur as a result of the abduction.

Melissa Hawach,
mother of Hannah and Cedar, reunited in 2006



We believe that clients involved in a Family & Peer Support Program specific to their unique situation see a better outcome in their wellbeing than if they attempt to "get through it" on their own.

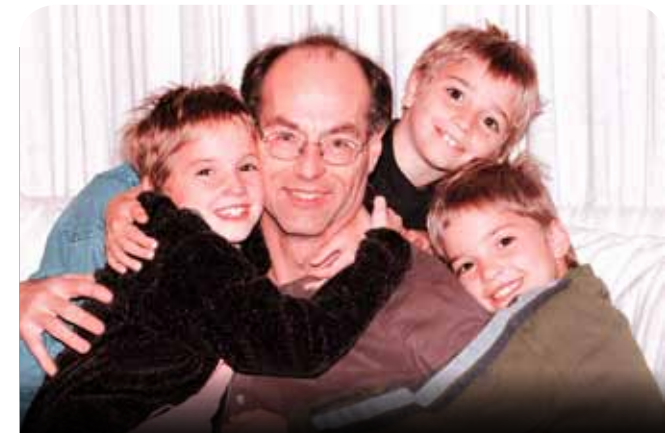
Our program addresses specific situations such as:

- a child is missing
- a child is abducted by a family member
- a child is abducted by a non-family member
- a child runs away
- when a child is recovered
- when a family member or loved one is faced with mental illness
- when a family member or loved one is faced with alcohol or drug use issues
- or general feelings specific to their situation.

Our program assists clients to address these situations by offering:

- **Skills** to cope with stress during the investigation process
- **Support** during the recovery and reunification process
- **Strategies** to face any potential outcome in long term cases

1-800-661-6160
www.mcsc.ca



I can only say that without your support throughout this ordeal, I definitely would not have come through it. You guys were the glue that bound the search efforts together.

Craig Merkley,
father of Gray, Olivia and Peter

PROGRAM SERVICES

There are three service areas to our program:

- **ONE-ON-ONE COACHING:**
Need someone to talk to? We can connect you with our program specialist.
- **CONVERSATION WITH A PEER:**
Being able to talk to another parent or loved one who has gone through what you are going through.
- **GROUP SESSIONS:**
Online meetings facilitated by our program specialist that teaches individual and family skill development like communication, problem solving and ambiguous loss. This assists clients in building healthy strategies in dealing with a missing child.

FLEXIBLE

Our program format can be designed to suit each client's specific needs.

ACCESSIBLE

Our program is provided across Canada through online support, conference calls, skype or face to face sessions.

AFFORDABLE

Our program is provided at **no cost** to clients of MCSC.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

The traumatic experience of a missing child can raise feelings and emotions of:

- Losing "who you are" as an individual
- Family feeling incomplete
- Missing what you did together
- Heartache of thinking of her/him every day
- Family members and loved ones struggling to cope
- Fears that they might not return
- Not knowing what happened
- Trying to accept temporary absence

Our Family & Peer Support program will provide:

- Hope – not alone and someone to turn to
- Coping strategies – learn what to do to keep going
- Family survival techniques – collaborating strengths
- Education – communication, self care, ambiguous loss, family care
- Support – ongoing coaching and peer support



MISSING
CHILDREN
SOCIETY OF CANADA

Reuniting families since 1986

NATIONAL HEAD OFFICE

Suite 219, 3501 - 23 St NE
Calgary, Alberta T2E 6V8
PHONE: 403.291.0705
FAX: 403.291.9728
EMAIL: info@mcsc.ca

1-800-661-6160
www.mcsc.ca

Registered Charity No. 107706392 RR0001
Federally Incorporated in 1986



MISSING
CHILDREN
SOCIETY OF CANADA

Reuniting families since 1986

FAMILY & PEER SUPPORT

Discovering strength together

