AUG 18 2008
His Worship Fred Eisenberger
Mayor
City of Hamilton
230–77 James Street North
Hamilton, Ontario
L8R 2K3

Fred

Dear Mayor Eisenberger:

Thank you for your letter regarding funding for Child and Adolescent Services.

Our government is committed to the mental health and well-being of children and youth and that’s why we’ve made significant investments to the sector since 2004. My ministry is working to create a system that delivers what children need, when they need it, as close to home as possible.

In 2004–05, Child and Adolescent Services received $1,335,269 in funding from my ministry. Since then there have been a number of significant investments which include:

- In 2004, an additional $40,069 in annualized funding was provided as part of the Children and Youth Mental Health Fund initiative to enhance services.
- In 2005–06, an additional $92,150 in Children Mental Health funding was provided.
- In 2007–08, additional annualized funding of $73,542 was provided as part of the government’s five per cent increase to base annual funding to child and youth mental health agencies. This funding was aimed at reducing wait times and to help address cost pressure.

As a result of these increases over the past four years, Child and Adolescent Services has received almost 16 per cent more in annualized funding, bringing their current funding to $1,544,390. This increase speaks to the importance of children’s mental health services in communities across Ontario, and our recognition of the high quality service and innovative programming that Child and Adolescent Services provides.

We’re committed to continue working in collaboration with our community and government partners to look for ways to enhance the provision of children and youth mental health services. Once again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Deb Matthews
Minister