Our Vision and Mission

We believe thriving children create thriving communities. To that end, we focus on a community-wide response to childhood trauma that combines excellence in treatment, state-of-the-art education, and community-oriented prevention initiatives aimed at reducing the incidence and impact of child maltreatment and promoting the safe and healthy development of children.

Prevention. Education. Treatment.
Our 3-part mandate combines the essential parts of an effective community strategy to achieve the impact we want for young people and their families. All three are necessary, and together these are formidable tools to help children thrive.

OASIS Program
For newcomer children, youth, and their families
Outreach, Assessment and Specialized Intervention Services (OASIS)

The Outreach, Assessment and Specialized Intervention Services (OASIS) Program addresses the unique mental health needs of immigrant and refugee children, youth, and their families experiencing symptoms related to trauma or significant acculturation stress.

We offer support and services for clients who have experienced:

- War trauma
- Migration stress
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Attachment and loss
- Acculturation stress
- Domestic violence
- Somatised trauma
- Trans-generational trauma
- Developmental trauma

Our unique clinical staffing model ensures the delivery of quality services by our team of experienced clinicians who specialize in trauma assessment and treatment. Clinicians also have additional skills and training in attachment, art therapy, play therapy, EMDR, and other evidence-based modalities.

Referrals

Referrals to the OASIS Program may be made through: Contact Hamilton for Children's and Developmental Services, 905-570-8888.

There are many barriers for newcomers seeking community services, particularly those related to mental health.

To help make services more accessible, referrals may also be made directly by those working with newcomer families, including: Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS), the Refugee Assistance Program (RAP) at Wesley Urban Ministries, Refuge: Hamilton Centre for Newcomer Health, and child protection agencies.

- Services are free to residents of the greater Hamilton area.
- Cultural Interpreters are provided
- Office hours: Mon. to Fri. 8:30am – 4:30pm
- Appointment times are flexible, with some evening times and off site locations

For details about programs, services, and upcoming events visit our website: www.oasisprogram.ca

Community Partners

The well-known phrase, “it takes a village...” aptly applies. Our OASIS Program works collaboratively with a number of agencies to provide a coordinated circle of care, with relevant services engaged to meet the needs of newcomer families. Some of our community partners include:

- Contact Hamilton for Children’s and Developmental Services
- Centre de Santé Communautaire Hamilton/Niagara
- Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board
- Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board
- Refuge: Hamilton Centre for Newcomer Health
- St. Joseph’s Immigrant Women’s Centre
- Wesley Urban Ministries
- YMCA of Hamilton, Burlington, Brantford

Training and Professional Development

We regularly host training and educational events featuring leaders in the field and focused on evolving trends, emergent research, and best practices in trauma, cultural competency, prevention, education, and treatment. We also offer customized training tailored to meet the unique needs of professional groups, as well as workshops to enhance knowledge about trauma, including newcomer trauma and its distinct impact on victims, families, and communities.