



We began as a group of concerned parents and community partners who banded together to advocate for and organize better services for children with FASD. The Circle is constantly looking for innovative ways to make a difference and provide support and encouragement for those affected. This has led us to join forces with Beacon Community Services to further this important work.

We Believe In:

- The inherent dignity of every person living with FASD.
- The right to full and effective participation and inclusion in society.
- Providing the supports needed by people with FASD to maximize their opportunities.
- Community development based on respect for differences and acceptance of persons with FASD.

Ways You Can Help

- *Contact us* if you or anyone you know may be dealing with the effects of FASD.
- *Learn more* about FASD.
- *Share the message* that alcohol is never safe during pregnancy.
- *Volunteer* with us.

Beacon Community Services
FASD Community Circle

1450 Elford Street
Victoria, BC
(250) 595-6626
www.beaconcs.ca

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Community Circle



Supporting People
Living with FASD

- Women's Assessment and Diagnostic Clinic
- Education Workshops
- Parent Support Groups
- Keyworker Program

It's estimated that every week one baby on is born on Vancouver Island that will have life long affects from Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) .



Services to Support Families Living with FASD

SUPPORT, MENTORING, DIAGNOSIS & ASSESSMENT

We work to prevent FASD through community education and to support individuals and families living with FASD through parenting groups, intermediary and advocacy services. We also offer a Women's Assessment and Diagnostic Clinic staffed by physicians and psychologists for mothers and pregnant women who may be living with FASD.



THE IMPORTANCE OF DIAGNOSIS

Because most people with FASD have no visible signs of alcohol exposure, their problems may be wrongly labelled as a 'bad attitude' or blamed on poor parenting or other causes. Early identification of the disability allows for successful interventions and the best chance for a child and family to receive the help and understanding they need to reach their full potential.

APPROPRIATE SERVICES

We offer professional development workshops and consultations to assist professionals in providing appropriate referrals and services to persons living with FASD.

BETTER COMMUNICATION

Diagnosis helps guide the conversation among people living with FASD and their families, caregivers, educators and clinicians.

SELF AWARENESS

Better understanding of this largely invisible disability leads to better outcomes for individuals, their families and communities.

SELF ADVOCACY

Gaining insight and education about their condition helps people with FASD empower themselves to better advocate for their own needs and wishes.

KEYWORKER PROGRAM

Our program was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the Provincial Keyworker Program. Keyworkers provide one-to-one FASD-specific assistance to children/youth and families in the home and community and help families gain understanding about other services available.

FASD FAST FACTS:

- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder results in a range of neurological effects, behavioural and cognitive differences.
- The effects are usually invisible and always lifelong.
- Affected children/youth may also be very loving, creative, loyal and determined to succeed.
- There is no safe time or amount of alcohol to drink during pregnancy.
- Of all substance abuse, including heroin and cocaine, alcohol produces by far the most serious neurobehavioural effects in the fetus.