

Our File/N/Réf. RC
Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 5 June 1998

<u>Information Previously Distributed</u> To Be Listed on Community Services Agenda 25 Jun 98

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator, Community Services Committee

FROM/EXP. Medical Officer of Health

SUBJECT/OBJET **HEALTHY BABIES, HEALTHY CHILDREN - FAMILY
VISITOR PROGRAM - UPDATE JUNE, 1998**

BACKGROUND

This report provides a further update on funding for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program. Detailed background about this program was provided to Committee in the Medical Officer of Health Report May 19, 1998.

One time funding for Healthy Babies, Healthy Children of \$40,000 has recently been advanced by Health Canada through its Community Action Program for Children (CAP-C), for the 1998-1999 fiscal year. This funding is part of the Brighter Futures program based in the Young Single Parents Network and St. Mary's Home. Health Canada staff, in collaboration with local MCSS staff, have chosen to use this additional funding to increase the number of families served by Healthy Babies, Healthy Children in Ottawa-Carleton during the 1998-1999 fiscal year. The funding will be utilized to augment the hours of service presently provided by family visitors.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding is provided 100% by the federal government. There are no financial implications for the RMOC.

CONCLUSION

This area is one of strong interest and priority for both the federal and provincial governments. The program has a strong scientific basis, targets a very vulnerable population, and has great potential for health benefit. Further increases in funding are likely over the next few years.

approved by

Robert Cushman, MD MBA FRCPC