



Hi!

We are planning to move into the neighbourhood and would like to introduce ourselves.

We are **Closer to Home Community Services**, an organization that has been providing services for children and families since 1995 in Calgary and surrounding communities. Our agency offers a wide range of programs and services designed to meet the unique needs of vulnerable children, youth, and families. Our vision is *every child thriving within supportive family and community relationships*; this is the **heart** of everything we do. We envision a future where every child will feel a sense of belonging to a family, whether biological or chosen, and feel valued, safe, and secure.

Our family-centered, evidence-based programs and services ensure children have stable, healthy and safe living environments in which to grow and develop. And, in some cases, when families are separated, we provide a place for children to call home while offering therapeutic support for the child, with the ultimate goal of family reunification.

### Why are we coming to Coaldale?

Closer to Home was recently offered a contract with the **South Region Children and Family Services** for a residential care facility, and we are looking to lease the home at 2008 14 Ave. We are thrilled to provide care for up to six children from the South Region in this great community of Coaldale. Our contract with South Region Children and Family Services specifies that this home will primarily care for children under the age of 12 years, and that any children over 12 years will have neurodiversity, making it more appropriate for them to live with younger children, rather than peers their own age. In order to ensure safety for the community and the children we serve, our contract stipulates that this home will **not** provide care for children with addictions, street entrenchment, gang affiliation or involvement in the justice system.

We assure you that Closer to Home takes pride and deeply values our relationships with neighbours and communities. We ensure our homes are well cared for and maintained to community standards, respect community parking norms, respond quickly and transparently to neighbour concerns, and are actively involved in the communities our homes are in. We provide high levels of supervision for the children, both in the home and in the community with a minimum staffing ratio of 3:1 (children:staff) and additional supports as needed. Our staff are selected based on their education, skill and experience, with rigorous training and on-site supervision provided throughout their tenure. We work closely with schools, community-based



programs, and health professionals to ensure that the children we serve and our team are positive and contributing community members.

### Let's connect!

We are so excited to be a part of your community and recognize that you may have questions or things that you would like to discuss with us. Please reach out to Erin O'Reilly (Director) or Kandi Santerno (Senior Manager) any time by phone or email (contact information below).

Alternatively, if you would prefer to connect in person, please contact us and we will plan a time that works for us to meet. We're looking forward to meeting you and having the opportunity to contribute positively to your community!

**Warmly,**

#### **Kandi Santerno**

**Senior Manager of In Care Services**

**C:** 403-472-2723

**E:** [ksanterno@closetohome.com](mailto:ksanterno@closetohome.com)

#### **Erin O'Reilly**

**Director of In Care Services**

**C:** 403-606-3757

**E:** [eoreilly@closetohome.com](mailto:eoreilly@closetohome.com)