

To Whom It May Concern,

I have worked at Merrymount Family Support and Crisis Centre since 1999. I have spent my years here working in many different departments and roles. In all of these positions I have witnessed the excellent work that Merrymount does and the incredible unique services that we offer. I have watched countless families flourish while receiving support from Merrymount, often in conjunction with other community supports.

I have had the privilege of collaborating with multiple agencies to provide flexible and responsive care for families and children when they are most in need. Merrymount has a long tradition of supporting London's families with a mandate to help families in crisis and stressful situations in a way that no other place can.

I have watched Merrymount respond to the changing needs of the community, with outreach programs and groups as well as in the way that we deliver our Crisis Residential/Respite Program and Family Support and Crisis Program. We have molded our services to accommodate an increase in kinship families needing care to maintain the family unit, addiction concerns, mental health issues of both children and caregivers and the changing needs of our new comer populations that are coming from high conflict areas.

At this time I am the Manger of the Intake Department. We work to meet all families in need by identifying their strengths and supporting them towards their identified goals and family stability. Every day we meet with children and parents who may be experiencing the most stressful time in their lives and we are proud to be assisting these families on their journey.

London is a caring community and Merrymount is one of those special places that we call our own. We believe the various Merrymount services being offered have a distinct and positive impact on families and our community at large, and we hope you do too.

I encourage you to support Merrymount's funding request and ensure the sustainability of the life-changing services Merrymount provides to the London community.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kim Lamport