CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PAEDIATRIC HEALTH CENTRES (CAPHC)
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES CENTRES DE SANTÉ PÉDIATRIQUES (ACCSP)

June 9, 2002

Dear Friends:

We all know that poverty is a major determinant of ill-health for children and youth.

As colleagues in the hospital and health care sector, we face a new challenge and role for our health centres in recognizing the impact of poverty on the health and well-being of children, youth and families in the communities we serve. The need to look at issues beyond our institutional walls is a new but critical aspect of our shared responsibilities. The Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres (CAPHC) is taking a leadership role in bringing our collective voice to this critical issue at provincial and national levels.

The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) Advocacy Committee of the Board of Trustees has developed a unique package to help all health care professionals and organizations address this issue. This video and information kit is an effective tool for you to use within your communities and with your partners in various disciplines and sectors from health, education, and social services to research, policy and advocacy.

The information kit includes a four minute video to stimulate discussion around the link between poverty and ill-health. It is accompanied by two 30 second public service announcements which we encourage you to distribute to your local media. The kit also provides helpful statistics and resources, and, most important, ideas for action linked to new programs, research initiatives and education strategies at the regional and national levels.

This initiative has been endorsed by several prominent health professionals who, with us, urge you to be active locally in this national initiative. Join us and use the video to promote much needed discussion and initiatives on how, as child and youth specialists, we can get involved.

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