



INFO BULLETIN

Sept. 1, 2021

Local organizations partner to raise awareness about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

VICTORIA, BC –Three local community organizations are coming together to host a fun family event to help bring awareness of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). Held at Hampton Park from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Saturday, Sept 11, the event will follow on the heels of International FASD Awareness Day earlier in the week and feature door prizes, face painting, a variety of fun activities – and an ice cream truck from 1:00 - 2:00 pm.

Hosted by the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Beacon Community Services, and the Island Metis family & community services society, the event also offers helpful information about FASD and resources available to assist those who are impacted by it.

FASD is an umbrella term that describes a range of mild to severe physical, mental, behavioural and/or learning disabilities that can result from in utero exposure to alcohol. Such exposure often occurs in the early stages of pregnancy, before parents realize they are pregnant.

Working with other local agencies and supports, Beacon Community Services key workers are pleased to:

- help families affected by FASD to access community resources;
- assist with the process of being assessed and diagnosed with FASD;
- create personalized strategies that help people with FASD be successful at home, at school, and in the community; and
- assist with planning for the future and helping youth with FASD transition into adulthood.

Beacon Community Services is a community-based charity dedicated to helping people and improving lives in the Greater Victoria and Gulf Islands areas. With approximately 600 volunteers and 250 staff, the charity delivers a vast array of services and programs in the fields of Child, Youth and Family Services; Counselling and Mental Health Services; Subsidized Housing; Seniors Services, Supports and Recreation; Assisted Living and Licensed Dementia Care; Volunteer Services; and Employment Services, training and supports.

Sales proceeds from the charity's seven thrift shops also help fund its local community programs.

For more information on Beacon Community Services, please visit: www.beaconcs.ca

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