

THE MONTHLY POINT

Pivot Point Newsletter



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COVID-19 Update

Services to individuals with diverse abilities are an essential service in the province of British Columbia. As such, Pivot Point has measures in place to provide in-person supports to those who wish to start or continue in-person services. Pivot Point has also made every effort to protect all of our clients and our staff. View our [Safety Plan here](#).

September: Fetal Alcohol Awareness Month

According to [CanFASD](#), it's believed that about 4% of the Canadian population is affected with FASD, (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder).

This lifelong disability provides several challenges in their daily lives. Many may require support with physical and emotional health, memory, communication, attention, motor skills to name a few, so that they may reach their full potential.

“When unsupported, people with FASD may be more likely to experience high rates of mental health and substance use difficulties.”



Research indicates that with appropriate and early supports provided, improved health and overall well being can be realized.

Pivot Point has a team of specialized trained professionals that work together to address individual needs. [Early Intervention Services](#) and [School Age Services](#) are just two of the many services we provide to help achieve success for individuals with FASD and/or other diverse abilities.

For older children our [Complex Care Services](#) were designed around the single goal of providing intensive, highly responsive, clinically relevant services to the families that need it the most SO THAT they can reach a level of stability and relative wellness that lowers their level of need.

Our goal is to always be innovative and responsive to each families' unique needs by offering therapeutic services tailored to the needs of each child rather than “pre-packaged” or “one-size-fits-all” programs.

If you have additional questions, check out our [FAQ Page](#), or just [Contact us Here](#).

Newsletter Content Submissions

If you would like to participate in writing content, sending in photographs and/or sharing ideas for the staff newsletter, please contact Rochelle at: marketing@pivotpoint.ca

Newsletter Feedback

Rochelle would like to hear from you! Please provide her with your feedback or let her know of specific topics that you would like to see in upcoming newsletters. Please click [HERE](#) to be directed to our feedback and suggestion form. Thank you for your input!

STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Christina Medeiros, DBH, CFLE., BCBA
Clinical Supervisor & Behaviour Consultant
Prince George



Christina is a Certified Family Life Educator with specialization in parent training. She was born and raised in Southern California; both her bachelors and masters in early childhood were completed at California State University Long Beach.

Working with individuals and families navigating the world of special needs has been Christina's professional passion for 18 years. She recently obtained her Doctorate of Behavioral Health/Integrated Health (DBH) from Arizona State University and has been a BCBA for over 10 years.

Christina has worked in a variety of settings, from home to a children's hospital, and has been honored to have worked with families of many different backgrounds. She has received extensive training in multicultural treatment models and strives to always meet families where they are in life. We are very proud to have Christina as part of our professional team!

NEWS AND EVENTS

Upcoming Group Activities Online!

Pivot Point offers 3 different styles of Group Services designed to offer a way for children, youth and adults to connect, grow and network! AFB Funding can be applied towards all of Pivot Point's groups.

The following activities are open for registration, but spaces are limited!

[H.A.N.G. Minecraft](#) - Starts September 10, 2021

[Taming the Worry Dragons](#) - Starts October 6, 2021

[Rockstar Parent Workgroup](#) - Starts September 28, 2021



CLINICAL CORNER

Katrina Crosby - Regional Manager Assistant
Program Assistant Chilliwack, Agassiz &
Hope. An excerpt from her blog [HERE](#).

Where Diverse Learners Shine

There are so many reasons why I personally have become passionate about [Pivot Point's Learning Centres](#). First off, our centres have low student/staff ratios, and that alone makes a huge difference for many students. Our focus is not only on academics, but on other skills as well.

When we do work on academics, they are tailored to the individual student by their Distributed Learning Teacher, who writes each Individual Education Plan in tandem with the family and our Instructors. Our Learning Centres are also supported by in-house Behaviour Consultants and Counsellors, to ensure not only the formal education needs are being met, but also life skills, positive behaviour skills, social skills, and that mental health supports are considered for each child.

I can not express in words how amazing it is to watch a child, that with lots of patience and practice, comes to discover the ability to practice their own calming techniques, to help work through a series of big steps broken down into tiny steps, so that they are able to accomplish a task that they thought was completely outside of their reach! The pride that comes from being able to do things for themselves is huge!

Inspiring a Love of Learning

Learning how to change from a Fixed Mindset (I can't so, why should I even try?) to a [Growth Mindset](#) (mistakes are how I know that I am learning) is an absolutely freeing skill that we all can make use of! Student led learning, rather than textbook based is a great way for us to individualize teaching and learning. When a child has a specific interest, then we can use that to gain skills. For example, say oceans, then we can learn about oceans and sea life using Science, Technology, Math, Art, History, Geography, do experiments, learn about environmental concerns, and just explore their interests and imagination using facts and themed resources. When we [teach learning skills](#), then children can become lifelong learners and can self-advocate.

The more tools we give children to learn, express themselves, and build confidence the fewer reasons there are for students to use [negative behaviours](#) to communicate, anxiety instead of coping mechanisms, and solitary tendencies instead of building healthy relationships. The more skills we gain the more reasons we have to learn about ourselves, try new things and explore the world around us.

Need Assistance about our services?

Need Assistance about our services, [Request a Meeting](#), and one of our Regional Managers in your area will connect with you for a free consultation.