



## Testimonial: Carol

Fall 2019

**OUR SHARED  
VISION**

**Safe and  
thriving  
children and  
youth**

**Empowered  
families**

**Stronger  
communities**

We have all heard grandparents talk about how much they enjoy time with their grandchildren, and how they need a nap once they're gone. How do you muster up the energy to care for your grandchildren full-time when many people your age are talking about retirement and the quiet life?

Carol is in her 50s, and questioned if she would have the energy to keep up with her infant grandson after her daughter passed away. For Carol, there was no question about whether she would take on the responsibility of parenting Damian. She wanted him to grow up in his birth family (which is very large) and to remain central to their lives.

Of course, Carol has found the personal resources needed to be a great parent to Damian. She gets immense satisfaction from her relationship with him, and from knowing that she has done what she knows is best for him. She wouldn't hesitate to advise anyone in a similar situation to make the same decision. Her recommendations?

- Create a support structure within your network of friends and family.
- Utilize all the resources that are available to you.
- Don't hesitate to ask for help.

Carol has found that the Kinship Support staff at CCAS have been very supportive. It is one of our strategic priorities to seek kinship care for children in need. Studies show that children who are cared for by kin – defined as people who are known to the child, not just family members – are more likely to thrive.



We're so delighted that Carol and Damian are together, and grateful to Carol for providing a loving home for a child in need.

Catholic  
Children's Aid Society  
of Hamilton



Société d'aide à l'enfance  
catholique  
de Hamilton