

CAFS 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW



Chase & Area
Family Services

ABOUT US

Chase and Area Family Services (CAFS) is a small, community-based registered charity dedicated to supporting children, youth, and families in Chase and the surrounding communities.



Partnerships That Strengthened Our Community

In 2025, we continued to partner with:

- Interior Community Services
- Kamloops YMCA
- United Way
- Chase & District Chamber of Commerce
- Working Group on Indigenous Food Sovereignty (WGIFS)
- Adams Lake Indian Band
- Chase Literacy Program
- Chase Festival Society
- Village of Chase
- Beem Credit Union
- Chase Communities in Bloom
- Haldane StrongStart
- Chase Environmental Action Society
- Chase Curling Club
- Chase Library
- Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre (KSACC)
- Chase Legion
- Classes at Haldane Elementary School and Chase Secondary School & PACS

These relationships allowed us to offer accessible programming, build cultural connection, and expand family supports across the region.



2025 HIGHLIGHTS

Community Care

- Caring Cabinet, Backpack Program and Birthday Program supported families each week with household essentials.
- Riverstone Family Resource Centre on Shuswap Ave. connects individuals and families to programs, services, resources and supplies that are needed in order to maintain quality of life.

Children, Youth & Family Programs

- EverWild Explorers forest school continued offering nature education, land connection, imaginative play, and skill development for children ages 5–13.
- Chase Community Jiu-Jitsu launched in September and grew significantly, building children’s confidence, discipline, strength, and peer connection. A successful community fundraiser brought in enough funding to pay for the required safety mats.
- The Chase Cheer Program also launched in September and created movement-based, team-focused opportunities for children and youth.
- After school programs this year included Zoology Club, Art Explorers, Foresters, Youth Jam Group, Introduction to Music, School of Rock, and Creative Connections (art therapy)
- Summer brought five enrichment-themed week long day camps across arts, nature, music, and movement, ensuring local children had access to high-quality learning opportunities with minimal barriers.
- CAFS Family Playgroup and Mother Goose Programs are a part of our early years initiative- aiming to bring more opportunities and services to families with children aged 0-6.

2025 HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

Púsme Forest, Wel Me7 Yews Garden & Pollinator Gardens

- Continued stewardship work, signage development, family gardening support, and climate-resilient foodland learning.
- Installation of new native plant garden at the Chase Curling Club in partnership with other community groups including Chase Communities in Bloom and the Village of Chase

Wild Salmon Caravan 2025

CAFS partnered with the Working Group on Indigenous Food Sovereignty to deliver the Wild Salmon Caravan on the theme of “Global Solidarity for Food Justice”, bringing people together through art, culture, and ceremony.

Truth and Reconciliation

CAFS Collaborated with ALIB Child and Family Prevention services and ALIB to create the first Community Truth and Reconciliation Event in Chase. The event was commemorated with a new art installation designed by Sekwaʷ and funded by Beem Credit Union- it’s meaning in the Secwepemctsin eastern dialect translates roughly to ‘Until the end of time’.



LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

Looking Ahead to 2026

- Preparing to move into a larger space to meet growing demand.
- Continued development toward creating more child care spaces in Chase, including providing a fully funded ECE program to 14 Chase and area residents.
- Expansion of cooking programs, community kitchen, and food justice supports.
- Ongoing nature education programs and garden stewardship.
- Continued youth programs including Jiu-Jitsu, Cheer, and forest school activities.
- After school enrichment opportunities for children and youth
- Strengthening our charitable operations and compliance as a newly registered charity.
- Building new partnerships and developing sustainable funding pathways.



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS, DONORS, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Chase and Area Family Services is deeply grateful for the generous support of our funders, sponsors, donors, and community partners. As a registered charitable organization, our programs, services, and community initiatives are made possible through your trust and investment in our work.

Your contributions help us:

- support families and children through programs and services,
- strengthen food security in our community,
- create accessible opportunities for children and youth,
- expand nature and environmental learning,
- build cultural connections,
- and provide safe, welcoming spaces where everyone belongs.

To every organization, foundation, business, and individual who has shared resources, time, funding, or partnership with us this year, thank you. Your support directly impacts the wellbeing of families in Chase and helps us continue building a resilient, caring, and connected community.

We look forward to growing this work together.

With gratitude,

J. Ashton Sweetnam

Ashton Sweetnam

Executive Director, Chase and Area Family Services



Forever Giving. Forever Grateful.

