Help us build a world free of sexual violence toward children and teens



INTER-UNIVERSITY CHAIR PROGRAM





THE MARIE-VINCENT FOUNDATION IS THE ONLY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTRE IN CANADA.

## WHAT IS THE CHAIR?

The Chaire interuniversitaire Marie-Vincent sur les agressions sexuelles, an inter-university chair on child sexual assault, brings together researchers and their students. It develops cutting-edge expertise in Québec in the area of sexual assault prevention, testing and intervention for children and teens.

Since it opened in 2005, the Chair has contributed to the development, evaluation and improvement of the services provided at Marie-Vincent, basing its work on best practices and data.

The work is carried out by the two co-chairholders, Dr. Martine Hébert (UQÀM) and Dr. Mirelle Cyr (Université de Montréal), as well as an associate researcher, Dr. Isabelle V. Daignault (Université de Montréal).

# WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS OF THE CHAIR?

## FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR THE COMMUNITY

Thanks to the Chair's work, the Marie-Vincent Foundation is able to provide specialized, cuttingedge services to young victims and their families. The Chair documents the work done with children and adolescents. As such, it has been able to show that the treatment provided at Marie-Vincent helps children to experience:

- √ Fewer symptoms of posttraumatic stress;
- √ Fewer symptoms of depression;
- √ Less sense of guilt;
- √ Better self-esteem;

The Chair is a true incubator that fosters innovation, both in terms of expertise and projects conducted by the Foundation.

The Chair can disseminate its research results to professionals and the community. can certainly to better understand and prevent sexual violence, helping to build a protective community for our children.





### The Chair:

- Contributes to the evolution of practices in the area of sexual violence and to the development of cutting-edge knowledge all over the province, the country and even beyond our borders;
- •Helps to identify promising approaches that aim to prevent sexual violence;
- •Trains the next generation of clinicians and scientists (students, researchers and high-level caseworkers);
- •Creates new training classes and programs in Québec universities in the area of sexual violence.

## IN COLLABORATION WITH ITS PARTNERS, THE CHAIR IS MAKING REAL PRACTICAL CHANGES:

Thanks to training on non-suggestive interviewing, the police officers that meet with the children and adolescents who are potential victims of sexual violence have succeeded in obtaining more detailed and complete information, which facilitates their credibility assessment and their investigations.

Caseworkers in youth centres are better equipped to assess the clientele's needs, support them, and intervene with children who are victims of sexual violence as well as those that demonstrate sexual behaviour problems. As such, they can help children find their way back to optimal health in terms of their developmental progress.

Professionals from within the legal system report that the children who have received services from Marie-Vincent are often better prepared and equipped to take the witness stand in court.



## **OUR FINANCIAL NEEDS**

→ \$160,000 per year

### **RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION**



## ADDITIONNAL FUNDING FOR NEW PROJECTS

Evaluate the treatments provided to children who have sexual behaviour problems

→ \$ 60 000

Better understand the impact of sexual violence on sibling groups

→ \$ 20 000

Better understand the trajectory of services provided to child victims of sexual violence and their families

→ \$ 10 000

Evaluate the police interview techniques used with adolescent victims of sexual assault and sexual exploitation

→ \$ 30 000

"When I came to Marie-Vincent, my heart was shut inside a shell. I was sad and angry. Now, my heart is open. My heart is happy."

Chloé, 7 ans