

SMILE CANADA - SUPPORT SERVICES

*Supporting racialized and newcomer children
with disabilities and their families across
Canada*



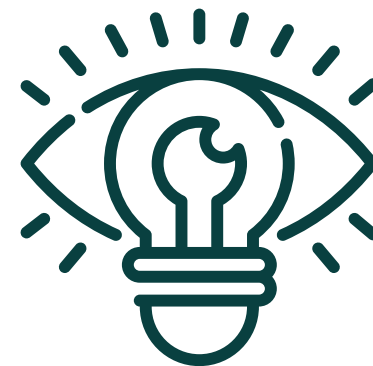
About Us

SMILE Canada - Support Services is a registered charity (846663623 RR0001) supporting over 1200 families across Ontario and Canada. Grounded in the principles of equity and advocacy, SMILE works towards eliminating barriers preventing access to services and support in various institutional systems such as education, healthcare and religious sectors.



MISSION

Supports racialized children and youth with disabilities and critical illness alongside their families, focusing on diverse Muslim communities, including refugee and new immigrant families.



VISION

Our vision is to ensure that all children and youth are smiling. Our plan of action is to do this by supporting families through various programs and services in a culturally responsive manner.

Programs

- Service Navigation
- Parent Coaching and Support Groups
- Financial Assistance
- Hospital Support Program
- Community Heroes and Open Shop
- Support for Evacuees and Newcomers
- Therapy Programs
- Children and Youth Camps/Events
- SMILE ChangeMakers
- Community Conversations
- Education and Awareness



Critical Services

Service Navigation and Casework

The first step at SMILE is to identify the critical needs of families through a comprehensive needs assessment. Families are then connected with a language-specific service navigator to provide critical casework and support.

- Speak 10 languages
- Provide ongoing wellness calls
- Help families complete applications for disability-related services
- Connect families with specialists and culturally responsive resources

Critical Services

Financial Assistance Program

Through our Financial Assistance Scholarship Program, SMILE provides therapies, adaptive equipment and respite services that are non-OHIP covered to families in financial need.

- Therapies include physiotherapy, psychotherapy, speech, language and behavioural supports
- Adaptive equipment includes life-changing wheelchairs, walkers, commodes and assistive devices

Critical Services

Hospital Support Program

SMILE's Hospital Support Program meets a need in the community that is often overlooked - helping newcomer and racialized families whose children are in long-term care.

- Provides emotional support and culturally relevant resources
- Advocacy support to ensure a child's health needs are met
- Halal food deliveries and parking allowance
- Wellness packages

Critical Services

Parent Coaching Program

Parent Coaching is a service provided by SMILE that allows families and caregivers to collaborate with a clinical parent coach to acquire the necessary skills and techniques for supporting their children at home and addressing any regression of skills.

- Matches parents with professionals in any of the following disciplines: occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language pathology, applied behavioural analysis therapy, and psychotherapy

Critical Services

Parent Support Groups

SMILE's Support Groups are a lifeline for parents navigating the complex journey of caring for critically ill and disabled children.

- Language-specific workshops with qualified healthcare professionals
- We provide safe spaces for families to interact and share resources

Current State

SMILE Canada is witnessing an unprecedented increase in demand due to:



INCREASE OF REFUGEES WITH CHILDREN

With disabilities originating from Sudan, Afghanistan, Syria, and Palestine.



INCREASED REFERRALS

From well-established organizations that do not specialize in culturally sensitive, language-specific support services.

Gaps in the Current System

Newcomer families with children facing disabilities and serious long-term illness from Sudan, Syria, and Afghanistan rely on our programs and services. Unfortunately, they lack access to early intervention support and preventative measures for long-term disability and chronic health conditions.

While settlement agencies and government supports offer temporary shelters, food, transportation, and basic health care services including check-ups and vaccines, **they do not provide disability support during this period.** Once these temporary supports end, families are left to navigate disability services and resources on their own.

This is where SMILE's comprehensive services come in, addressing the critical need for Financial Assistance Support, as well as providing language-specific service navigation, parent coaching, and more

Thank You!

For any questions or concerns, please connect with us.

#UnitedWeSmile
www.smilecan.org
info@smilecan.org
1-888-959-8344

@SMILECAN

