

September 25, 2019

## **Group Launches Province-Wide Campaign Against Transition Child Benefit Cut**

Community groups across the province have come together to launch a campaign to persuade the Ontario Government to reverse its planned November 1<sup>st</sup> cut to the Transition Child Benefit (TCB). The group, called the Campaign Against the Cuts to Social Assistance, is reacting to this surprising cut to a basic needs program for vulnerable children.

“The TCB provides basic necessities like food and clothing for children living in very vulnerable circumstances,” said Leila Sarangi, National Coordinator, Campaign 2000. “Communities are concerned about the impact that cuts will have on children, and we have real doubts about the capacity of the service sector to respond to such a deeply damaging decision.”

The cut, which would take away \$230 per month per child, would wipe out 30% of the income of a mother of two, a devastating financial hit. Community groups anticipate massive demand at food banks, shelters and other services as the 32,000 children now relying on the benefit, as well as their families, are cut off.

The costs to municipalities will significantly outweigh provincial savings. The City of Toronto’s Executive Committee has voted to continue to provide the program from municipal funds – rather than cope with the skyrocketing costs the cut would impose on already over-crowded shelters and other municipal services. The City of Hamilton voted to explore a similar move, and motions are expected in Ottawa and Windsor shortly.

### **Community groups are mounting initiatives in all corners of Ontario to press the Province to reverse the cut.**

Town Hall meetings are scheduled in Ottawa and Toronto later this week. An email campaign was launched online today at [www.stopcuts.ca/email-the-minister](http://www.stopcuts.ca/email-the-minister), and resident and community groups are beginning to reach out to their local MPPs to outline the devastating impact the cut to the TCB will have on the children in their communities.

Initiatives will continue as pressure mounts for the Minister to reverse the cut.

- 30 -

For more information:  
go to [www.stopcuts.ca](http://www.stopcuts.ca) or call Sean Meagher at 416 820 7889 or email [info@stopcuts.ca](mailto:info@stopcuts.ca)