

FROM DATA TO ACTION: ADVANCING WELL-BEING INDICATORS FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES IN CANADA

National CHILD Town Hall Report
November 20, 2025



WHAT IS THE CHILD FRAMEWORK?

A comprehensive tool to measure and improve wellbeing of children with disabilities across Canada



Aligned with UN Convention on the Rights of the Child



Covers health, family, education, community, and wellbeing



Grounded in lived experience and rights-based approaches

7 KEY THEMES FROM OUR DISCUSSION



1 Meaningful Child & Family Engagement

Families and youth must be central partners in shaping the framework.

2 Data Gaps & System Fragmentation

Need for inclusive, longitudinal data systems and Indigenous-led governance.

3 Holistic Family Wellbeing

Children's wellbeing is inseparable from family health and stability.

4 Operationalization & Practical Use

Translating framework into user-friendly implementation tools.

5 Intersectionality, Equity & Rights

Addressing systemic barriers and ensuring cultural safety.

6 Life Course & Transitions

Supporting continuity across developmental stages and lifespan.

7 Advocacy & Policy Alignment

Unifying disability policy across jurisdictions for accountability.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION



- Strengthen disability-inclusive national data systems.
- Embed family and caregiver wellbeing indicators.
- Address accessibility and language rights gaps.
- Advance coordinated, cross-sector national approach.
- Apply indicators to planning, funding, and evaluation.
- Strengthen partnerships with youth, families, and communities.

NEXT STEPS: MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

- Development of detailed reports and policy briefs.
- Creation of implementation toolkit with plain-language resources, indication of data gaps and indicators checklist.
- Further refinement of CHILD Framework based on findings.
- Regional engagement sessions across communities.
- Continued collaboration with all stakeholders.



Read the full Town Hall Report [here](#)