

# Public Libraries Supporting Vulnerable Populations



KELLY NIELSEN

MANAGER - PUBLIC SERVICE

BRANTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY





## Brantford Public Library

Brantford is located on the shared traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

# My hope for this presentation, is that you will:

---

- Understand what public libraries do
- Recognize the connection between libraries and social services
- Learn ways partner with libraries to support vulnerable populations

# Public Libraries

- A 'third place'
- Build Communities
- Access For All
- Literacy & Lifelong Learning
- Free Programs, Services and Resources

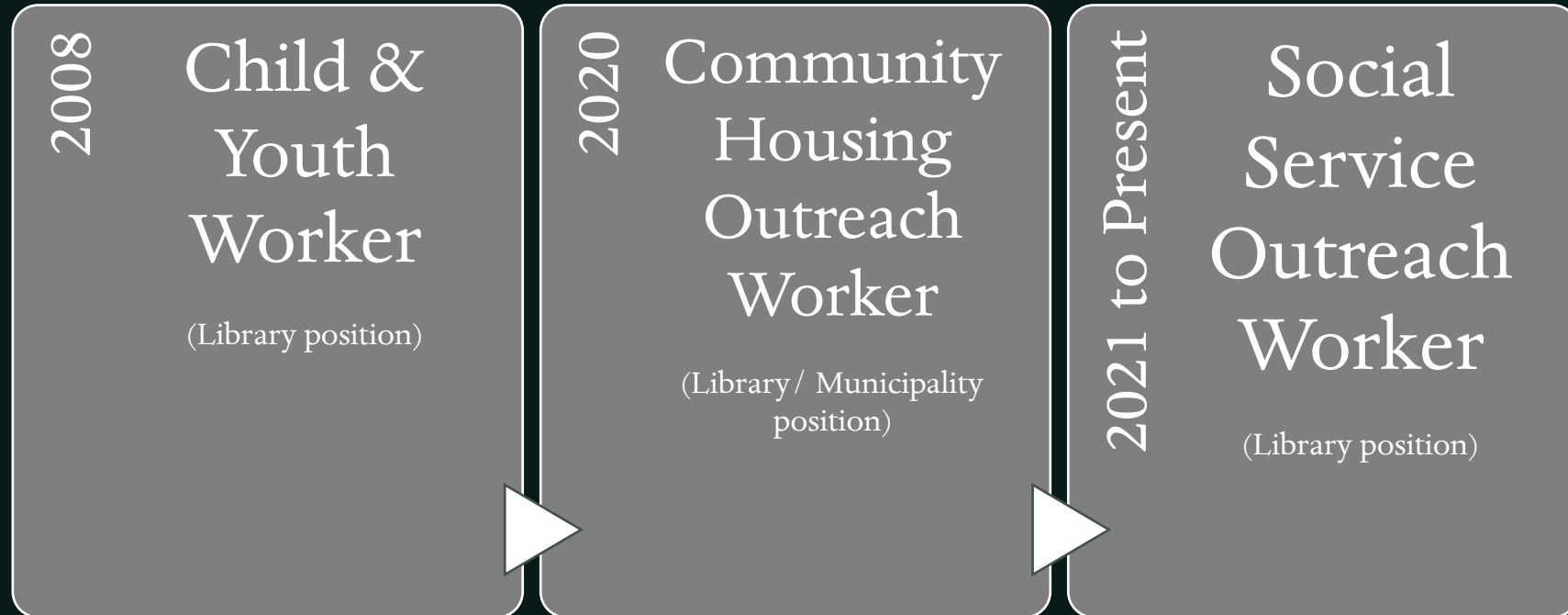


# Connection between Libraries and Social Work

---

- Similar customers/ clients
- Break down barriers
- Connect to resources and services
- Safe places
- Limits in service

# Social Work at Brantford Public Library





# Partnership Opportunities

- Municipality (housing, social services, HIFIS)
- Emergency Shelters
- Outreach Teams
- Healthcare
- Mental Health Supports
- Indigenous Services
- Identification Support
- Addictions Support and Harm Reduction
- Free Space and Resources
- Programming Opportunities



# Thank you

**Kelly Nielsen**

Manager- Public Services

Brantford Public Library

[knielsen@brantfordlibrary.ca](mailto:knielsen@brantfordlibrary.ca)