



Ontario Association of
CHILD AND YOUTH CARE
Association Ontarienne des Techniques
D'ÉDUCATION SPÉCIALISÉE

📞 416-621-4340

✉️ office@oacyc.org

🌐 oacyc.org

July 8, 2026

A shared message on the passing of our friend and mentor, Frank Delano from:

Bolts4Kids in Ottawa, The Ontario Care Collective, The Child and Youth Care Certification Board, and the Ontario Association of Child and Youth Care

It is with profound sadness that we share the news that Frank Delano, LMSW, passed away on July 3, 2026. Frank was one of the most prolific and beloved figures in the field of child and youth care, and his passing will be felt across our sector and far beyond.

Frank's contributions to our field are felt across borders, communities, and individuals; he was seen as a mentor to so many across the field of CYC. He was a visionary trainer, a generous mentor, and the architect of the "Money in the Bank" concept, a framework that has shaped how we think about relational practice and professional growth. Across multiple decades, he offered his expertise generously through training on supervision, organizational leadership, and the human dimensions of our work. His presentations at conferences around the world and his adjunct teaching at Fordham University established him as a leading voice in professional development in child and youth care.

Perhaps most importantly, Frank understood that true legacy is carried forward through people. He mentored countless practitioners, supervisors, and leaders, teaching them not only his craft but instilling in them the passion and commitment that defined his own practice. Frank's mentees have become trainers, leaders, and change makers in their own right, extending his influence across North America and internationally. He gave his mentees unconditional support, believing in their potential and standing with them as they developed their own voices and contributions to the field. Through this generative work, Frank ensured that his life's passion would not rest with him alone, but would live on in the next generation of practitioners and leaders he helped to cultivate.

Those of us who had the privilege of knowing Frank know that his accolades, significant as they are, only begin to capture who he was. Frank was deeply kind, genuinely non-judgmental, and held an unflagging curiosity about our practice, our people and our field. Frank always brought peacefulness to the engagement, a quality of presence that made those around him feel supported and seen.

His passing arrives at a moment when our sector faces significant challenges, and it calls us to reflect on what Frank's life exemplified. He taught us that transformative change requires more than individual effort or urgency. The "Money in the Bank" framework that Frank shared so widely reminds us that meaningful change, the kind that sustains and endures, requires that we are supported, resourced, and surrounded by people who are aligned with our vision of the greater good. This does not mean we must all agree on everything, but rather that we choose community with intention, standing together around shared commitment to the young people we serve.

Frank's passing also reminds us of something more immediate: the time to do what matters is now. If there are things we want to accomplish, we must act. We must do so through our relationships, with the support and alignment that allows us to move forward TOGETHER intention and care. We must, as Frank showed us, invest in the people who will carry this work forward when we cannot.

Frank, thank you for decades of leadership, for the frameworks you gave us, for the people you mentored and believed in, and for the person you were. Your legacy lives in the practitioners you trained, the leaders you mentored, the mentees who carry your passion into their own practice, and the countless young people who were supported because the systems around them were shaped by your thinking and your values.

TO OUR COMMUNITIES: let us honour Frank through the urgency he embodied and the collaborative, resourced, relational, and generative approach he taught. That is how we continue his work.

Signed on behalf of:

Bolts4Kids in Ottawa

The Ontario Care Collective

The Child and Youth Care Certification Board

Ontario Association of Child and Youth Care

Child and Youth Care Workers Association of Manitoba