



Tracy Akitt, CCLS

Tracy Akitt is a certified child life specialist working at McMaster Children's Hospital (MCH) in Hamilton, ON. MCH is located on the traditional territory shared between the Haudenosaunee confederacy and the Anishinabe nations, and within the lands protected by the "Dish with One Spoon" wampum agreement. Tracy has had a career in child life that has spanned over 25 years, working in Canada and the US, in both hospital and community settings. Tracy has been the clinical leader of child life at MCH for over 14 years, and very proud to support a team of just over 50 professionals. Over the years Tracy has co-authored chapters related to pediatric pain, worked with Public Health during COVID to design clinical support for children and adults who faced challenges with receiving the covid vaccine, and prides herself on being a champion of 'active coping' for patients. She is a past president of the Canadian Association of Child Life Leaders, and has served on the board of directors for the Association of Child Life Professionals. In the last month, Tracy has become the Manager of Patient and Family partnerships at MCH which will expand her work in empowering patients and families. Her passions include spending time with her family, hobbies and being outdoors.