COMMUNITY PARTNER DESCRIPTION*:
The Agency is governed by a volunteer policy Board of Directors and is managed by an Executive Director and Leadership Team. Our Mission at Family Services of Eastern Nova Scotia is to promote and strengthen families and individuals in the building of a just and supportive society. Our Vision is to be a leader in strengthening families and communities by being innovative, dynamic and fully involved in the communities we serve.
We achieve our mission and vision by providing counseling to individuals, couples, families and groups; providing educational programs that respond to community needs; maintaining a well trained and professional staff; adhering to best practices in all aspects of our operation; being fiscally responsible; and social advocacy.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Trauma Informed Parenting Supports is a 26-week program collaboratively designed by Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia, Kids First Family Place Resource Centre, and the Nova Scotia Health Authority Mental Health and Addictions. The program is designed for participants who have difficult family histories and childhood experiences that could be impacting their parenting and other life decisions. Participants may be involved with Child Protection or at risk of becoming involved. The program offers a client-centered strength-based approach to help participants explore their life experiences and help them make the necessary connections they will need to positively affect their parenting ability and daily living situations. After delivering the program several times, program facilitators and administrators aim to evaluate the program to determine if it's meeting its objectives.

PROJECTED BENEFITS:

The tangible benefits and outcomes to our organization as a result of this project are the following:

1. Enter a collaborative research partnership with Saint Mary's University that we may be able to use again for another project;
2. Be able to provide research-based outcome findings to this program so that "what we think is working can be tested";
3. Be able to use the research findings to edit and or enhance the program to better meet the needs of the participants;
4. Be able to use the research findings to create a more robust program framework so that we can expand the TIPS program to other locations in the province using our collaborative Not for Profit Network

* [These are excerpts from the Community Partner's original proposal]