

Vision Statement:

“We envisage an Ontario in which child and youth mental health is recognized as a key determinant of overall health and well-being, and where children and youth grow to reach their full potential.”

-Ontario’s Policy Framework for Child and Youth Mental Health

Goal:

“Together, we will transform the experience of children and youth with mental health problems and their families, so that they will know what high quality mental health services are available in our community; and how to access mental health services and support that meet their needs.”

-Moving on Mental Health

WELCOME TO OUR SECOND NEWSLETTER

We are pleased to issue our second newsletter to share our progress in **Moving on Mental Health** in SDG since our first one released in June 2015. All of our newsletters in English and French are posted on the Cornwall Community Hospital website under *Children’s Mental Health Services*. You will be able to click on the link there to bring you to the newsletters as well as link directly to the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) website for provincial updates:

<https://www.cornwallhospital.ca/en/ChildrenMentalHealth>

<https://www.cornwallhospital.ca/fr/santementaleenfants>

If you have not read our June 2015 newsletter, you may want to take a look at it, in particular the attachment, which has a summary table outlining our priority areas for SDG. Our newsletters will be providing updates related specifically to these priority areas.

A SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION

On June 15, 2015, the Cornwall Community Hospital (CCH) as lead agency hosted a community consultation session planned jointly with Équipe psycho-sociale. Thirty-seven participants representing all key sectors from across SDG – Child & Youth Services, Health, Education and Justice – as well as regional partners, family groups and MCYS representatives attended the session. Using a bilingual format, participants received information on the Moving on Mental Health initiative to transform the child and youth mental health system. A number of client stories were shared (with permission and with no identifiers) at the start of the session to bring in the voice of children, youth and their families. Participants worked in English and French breakout groups to address two key areas:

1. Validate the identified priority areas related to crisis services and to specialized assessment & intensive treatment services. Provide input for each priority area into what other activities might be undertaken, who needs to be involved and how their organizations might like to participate.
2. Review the proposed planning structures and the draft Terms of Reference for an Advisory Committee that would help coordinate services. Identify what other linkages we need to make as well as how their organization would like to participate.



The first meeting of the **SDG CHILD & YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE** will be held in early November 2015.

All of the information from the breakout groups and from the participant feedback forms has been compiled into a Working Reference Document, which the leadership team is using to refine and inform next steps.

We would like to thank all of those who attended for their active participation and for sharing their knowledge, experience and advice as well as their energy and enthusiasm to work together as a community.

SDG CHILD & YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A **SDG CHILD & YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE** with representatives from all key sectors as well as parent and youth representatives is being set up. This Advisory Committee will assist and advise the Lead Agency as it carries out its responsibilities to transform the experience of children and youth with mental health problems and their families.

PLANNING FOR FRANCOPHONE CHILD & YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

In our area, we have a long history of actively working together in collaboration across partner agencies to promote and support the provision of French Language Services in the community.

As Lead Agency, the CCH has regular scheduled meetings with L'Équipe psycho-sociale to work on the provision of core services and processes for the French-speaking community. As well, a **French Language Services (FLS) Committee** is being established that will bring together key francophone stakeholders for the purpose of supporting French language services planning. It will provide reports to the **SDG Child & Youth Mental Health Advisory Committee**. There will be cross representation on both Committees to ensure an integrated planning approach that responds to the needs of the communities we serve.

WORKING WITH AKWESASNE AND THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY

CCH is also working closely with partners in Akwesasne to better understand the needs and to look at defining pathways to culturally appropriate services for aboriginal children and youth and their families. Meetings with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne Departments of Health and Community & Social Services have taken place and further meetings with individual programs as well as with the school board and with police services are being planned. Two representatives from Akwesasne will be participating on the Advisory Committee.

YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

With the support of the Ontario Centre of Excellence for Child and Youth Mental Health a variety of mechanisms are underway to engage families and youth. Clinical staff at



In the Fall of 2016, the CCH Children’s Mental Health Services will be moving to a new building on McConnell Avenue that will unite all the hospital’s community addiction and mental health services under one roof. Get more information at www.cornwallhospital.ca and take a quick poll to help choose a name for the new building.

**CORNWALL
COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL**

**Community Addiction
& Mental Health
Programs**

**Child and Youth
Counselling Services**
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Single Point Access
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www.cornwallhospital.ca

CCH and Équipe psycho-sociale have received family engagement training. A number of family focus groups have been held in both English and French and interested family members have been recruited to participate in a first meeting to develop a joint work plan.

Meetings have been held with existing youth groups and leaders including the CAS Youth Connect Group, the LGBTQ Group at Seaway Valley Community Health Centre and YouthNet. We are exploring a number of ways to connect with youth via existing forums and at upcoming events.

CRISIS SERVICES

Progress is underway to meet gaps in crisis services. A clinical pilot project is being planned between CHEO and CCH that will use technology to improve care of children and youth with psychiatric emergencies. Education and consultation support will be provided to Emergency Department (ED) physicians as part of the “Virtual Psychiatric ED Assessments” Clinical Pilot Project that will employ a variety of assessment tools available in both English and French.

With respect to integrated care planning for youth in crisis with complex needs that would benefit from a multi-agency coordinated approach, CCH is working with the SDG Coordinated Care Planning Committee. This group is examining models, including the potential of a hub model. The goal is to put in place immediate, coordinated and integrated responses, through mobilization of resources to address situations facing individuals and families with elevated risk factors.

**SPECIALIZED ASSESSMENT & INTENSIVE TREATMENT SERVICES -
LINKAGES WITH ADDICTION SERVICES**

One area we have a real early success story to report on relates to linkages we have made with addictions and mental health services in the schools. We have created a Youth & Addictions / Mental Health Team with staff from CCH Children’s Mental Health Programs, Équipe psycho-sociale and Addictions Services to collaborate on providing in-school services to English and French High Schools and are exploring Walk-In Brief services.

For more information, contact the Lead Agency:

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