TRAM Strengthening Workshop

26th – 28th June 2013





The Integrated Wellness Platform for Youth Mental Health The Pan-Canadian IWP Network

What are the objectives of the proposed network?

- To alleviate suffering related to mental illness and to build protective factors that contribute to positive youth development and wellbeing
- To enhance system service delivery capacity to respond in a timely, effective and integrated manner to treatment needs of youth in their natural settings
- To increase the identification of mental health needs at earlier stages to support timely access to intervention
- To increase treatment capacity to adjust service intensity according to youth and family needs (step-up, step-down) without referral to other services or placement on wait lists
- To promote universal positive mental health approaches that foster positive mental health in school and community contexts, and that bolster treatment effectiveness for youth

What are the biggest challenges your proposed network has to overcome?

- Reconceptualization of system-centric treatment services to a youth and family centered system approach
- Development and scaling up of a unified national approach to mental health care and service delivery for youth that reduces risk related to mental health concerns and promotes positive youth development

Which organisations are involved with the network?

- The Canadian Health and Education Research Network (CHERN)
- A network of academics, health researchers and evaluators representing all Canadian regions, with over 10 years of academic collaboration in youth health *The Pan-Canadian Joint Consortium for School Health (JCSH)*
- A consortium of senior government representatives from ministries of health and education from all territories and provinces with a focus on school and community youth health
- The Canadian Training Institute (CTI)
- A national nonprofit training group with expertise in youth mental health approaches, inclusive of partners from universities, colleges and First Nations communities from across Canada
- Family Service Canada Network (FSC)
- A national nonprofit network of over 200 family service agencies, with governing Boards comprised of community representatives and family members
- The Centre for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CCAP), The Netherlands An internationally recognized youth and family mental health research and clinical centre with expertise in the use of Flexible Assertive Community Treatment Team models focusing on strengths and positive youth development

How will the network achieve a transformation in adolescent mental health in 5 years?

Implementation and Evaluation of the Integrated Wellness Platform for Youth Mental Health in three national pilot sites through:

- Collective commitment to a unified treatment philosophy that reinforces youthcentered and strength-based treatment approaches (youth engagement, family strengths, natural settings)
- Integration of departmental and community mental health service system practices (single point of intake, common information management, pooled resources)
- Delivery of school and community-based inter-professional FACT team services to support step-up and step-down treatment approaches (right service, right time, right intensity)
- Embedding of comprehensive positive mental health practices in school and community settings (positive youth environments, bolstered treatment strategies)
- Execution of a developmental evaluation initiative to provide lessons learned from three national IWP sites that contribute to a transformative Canadian mental health service framework



Dr. Bill Morrison Co-Executive Director, Health and Education Research Group University of New Brunswick



Dr. Rashid Ahmed Senior Epidemiologist, Department of Community Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba



Dr. Patricia Peterson Co-Executive Director, Health and Education Research Group University of New Brunswick



Brigitte Maicher Canadian Evaluation Society



Michelle Bourgoin Youth Health and Wellness Consultant

What other things would you like people to know about the proposed network?

- Over 10 years of collaboration among members of each of the IWP networks
- Linkages with all provincial and territorial health and education ministries
- National expertise in both mental health and positive mental health system practice
- What skills, resources, connections or other inputs from potential partners are you looking to find at the workshop to strengthen your proposal?
- Regional stakeholders with common service philosophies and practices
- Potential sites for implementation of the IWP
- Collaborators who can contribute to evidence-informed practices within the IWP framework