

Ontario's Three Year Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy

Presentation to: PAAC on SEAC

Presenter: SEPPB

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Ontario's Three Year Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy

Purpose of this presentation:

- To provide an overview on Ontario's Three Year Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy.

Ontario's Three Year Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy

- The 2011-12 Ontario budget announcement included funding for a comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy, with the first three years focused on children and youth.
- The over-arching principles of the Comprehensive Mental Health and Addictions Strategy for all Ontarians are to:
 1. Improve mental health and well-being for all Ontarians;
 2. Create healthy, resilient, inclusive communities;
 3. Identify mental health and addiction problems early and intervene; and
 4. Provide timely, high quality, integrated, person-directed health and other human services.
- The first three years will focus on children and youth with an investment that by 2013-14 will grow to \$93 million per year.

Ontario's Three Year Child and Youth Mental Health Strategy

- For the first three years, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS), and our partner ministries, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities (TCU) and the Ministry of Education (EDU) will be working together with their sectors and communities to support children and youth who have mental health challenges to reach their potential and thrive.
- These Child and Youth Mental Health investments are part of the government's commitment to:
 - The Poverty Reduction Strategy;
 - Improving Student Achievement;
 - Wait Times and Family Health Care; and
 - Stimulating and Growing the Economy – getting all Ontarians to their best.

A Shared Responsibility

- In 2006, MCYS released *A Shared Responsibility, Ontario's Framework for Child and Youth Mental Health* (Policy Framework). Its four goals are:
 1. A child and youth mental health sector that is coordinated, collaborative and integrated at all community and government levels, creating a culture of shared responsibility;
 2. Children, youth and their families/caregivers have access to a flexible continuum of timely and appropriate services and supports within their own cultural, environmental and community context;
 3. Optimal mental health and well-being of children and youth is promoted through an enhanced understanding of, and ability to respond to, child and youth mental health needs through the provision of effective services and supports; and
 4. A child and youth mental health sector that is accountable and well-managed.
- Following release of the Policy Framework, MCYS and funded child and youth mental health (CYMH) services completed a 'mapping' exercise that took a "point in time" snapshot of CYMH services in Ontario for the 2007-08 fiscal year.
- Mapping showed that there is still much more to do to build a system in which services are more responsive, integrated, accountable and focused on what Ontarians need when they need it.

Our priorities for the next three years

Fast Access to High Quality Services

- Build capacity in the community-based sector
- Reduce wait times
- Meet community needs
- Link education, child and youth mental health, youth justice, health care, and the community

\$ 30.85 M

Identify and Intervene Early

- Provide tools and support to those in contact with children and youth so they can identify mental health issues sooner
- Provide resources for effective responses to mental health issues
- Build mental health literacy and local leadership

\$ 26.23 M

Close Critical Service Gaps

- Increase availability of culturally appropriate services and serve more children and youth
 - in Aboriginal, remote and underserved communities
 - With complex mental health needs
 - At the key transition point from secondary to post-secondary education

\$ 35.48 M

Support System Change

- Support development of an effective and accountable service system for all Ontarians
- Build on efforts that promote evidence-informed practice, collaboration, and efficiencies
- Develop standards and tools to better measure outcomes for children and youth

OVERVIEW OF THE THREE YEAR STRATEGY

Starting with Child and Youth Mental Health

Our Vision:

An Ontario in which children and youth mental health is recognized as a key determinant of overall health and well-being, and where children and youth reach their full potential.

THEMES	<p>Provide fast access to high quality service</p> <p>Kids and families will know where to go to get what they need and services will be available to respond in a timely way.</p>	<p>Identify and intervene in kids' mental health needs early</p> <p>Professionals in community-based child and youth mental health agencies and teachers will learn how to identify and respond to the mental health needs of kids.</p>	<p>Close critical service gaps for vulnerable kids, kids in key transitions, and those in remote communities</p> <p>Kids will receive the type of specialized service they need and it will be culturally appropriate</p>			
INDICATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced child and youth suicides/suicide attempts• Educational progress (EQAO)• Fewer school suspensions and/or expulsions• Higher graduation rates• More professionals trained to identify kids' mental health needs• Higher parent satisfaction in services received• Decrease in severity of mental health issues through treatment• Decrease in inpatient admission rates for child and youth mental health• Fewer hospital (ER) admissions and readmissions for child and youth mental health• Reduced Wait Times					
INITIATIVES	<div>Improve public access to service information</div> <div>Funding to increase supply of child and youth mental health professionals</div> <div>Reduce wait times for service, revise service contracting, standards, and reporting</div>	<div>Pilot Family Support Navigator model Y1 pilot</div> <div>Increase Youth Mental Health Court Workers</div> <div>Outcomes, indicators and development of scorecard</div>	<div>Implement <i>Working Together for Kids' Mental Health</i></div> <div>Amend education curriculum to cover mental health promotion and address stigma</div> <div>Implement school mental health ASSIST program and mental health literacy provincially</div> <div>Implement Mental Health Leaders in selected School Boards</div>	<div>Implement standardized tools for outcomes and needs assessment</div> <div>Develop K-12 resource guide for educators</div> <div>Provide designated mental health workers in schools</div> <div>Provide nurses in schools to support mental health services</div>	<div>Enhance and expand Telepsychiatry model and services</div> <div>Hire new Aboriginal workers Implement Aboriginal Mental Health Worker Training Program</div> <div>Expand inpatient/outpatient services for child and youth eating disorders</div> <div>Create 16-18 service collaboratives</div>	<div>Provide support at key transition points</div> <div>Improve service coordination for high needs kids, youth and families</div> <div>Hire Nurse Practitioners for eating disorders program</div> <div>Strategy Evaluation</div>

Provide Fast Access to High Quality Service

Description:

- Put in place supports to help families find information and access services more easily while at the same time, providing more high quality services and reducing wait times.

Activities:

MCYS (Lead Ministry):

- Improve public access to information by implementing a web portal, directory, and telephone support service to help kids and families find the right kind of service
- Provide direct support to families to navigate the system, starting with pilots in four selected communities
- Provide resources to hire more workers in community-based child and youth mental health agencies through a targeted funding increase so that services will be available to respond more rapidly to the needs of more kids – the increase will be targeted to those agencies that present the best opportunities for increasing quality services
- Provide resources to hire more youth mental health court workers to divert youth from the justice system to appropriate community-based services
- Develop and implement an integrated wait-time strategy to make sure kids are waiting for the right type of service; enhance quality by training workers on the use of best practices, including use of short-term brief therapies
- Build foundations for long-term transformation of the service system through incenting agency consolidation and efficiencies, introduction of standards, performance measures and enhanced accountability

MOHLTC (Lead Ministry):

- Develop a suite of outcomes and indicators that can be reported upon (e.g., a scorecard) and explore the alignment of outcomes and indicators across child and youth mental health, education, and health sectors.

Identify and Intervene in Kids' Mental Health Issues Early

Description:

- Provide key professionals in community-based mental health agencies, health providers, and schools with tools to identify children and youth with mental health issues earlier, help them find the right services and work together more effectively.

Activities:

MCYS (Lead Ministry):

- Implement *Working Together for Kids' Mental Health* provincially, so that key adults in schools and in agencies will use effective tools for early identification and work collaboratively to meet the needs of kids and families
- Implement standardized tools to support intake and triage functions in community-based agencies as well as track and monitor outcomes
- Allocate resources for hiring designated mental health workers to provide services to students attending schools to address mental health needs, including needs at transition points such as elementary to secondary and to prevent youth suicide

EDU (Lead Ministry):

- Amend the education curriculum to promote healthy development and mental health
- Develop a K-12 Resource Guide/Website which will provide teachers with information on the early signs of mental health issues, and preventative actions they can take
- Implement a school mental health ASSIST program to help schools establish appropriate school-based delivery of mental health programs and services
- Hire Mental Health Leaders in 15 diverse school boards, and provide support for mental health literacy training for all educators in the province

MOHLTC (Lead Ministry):

- Place 144 nurses with mental health expertise through Community Care Access Centres to provide direct services in schools to children and youth with mental health issues

Close Critical Service Gaps

Description:

- Close critical service gaps for vulnerable kids and those in remote communities and increase the availability of culturally appropriate and specialized services and develop specialized training for Aboriginal mental health workers to address issues such as child and youth suicide and to support families.

Activities:

MCYS (Lead Ministry):

- Enhance and expand child and youth Telepsychiatry services to more rural, remote areas and under-served communities through expansion of technology, linkages with telemedicine, and increasing the number of service access sites
- Providing workers to streamline and coordinate the service experience and assist with navigation across services/systems for children and youth with complex mental health needs
- Provide resources to hire new Aboriginal mental health and addiction workers in high risk Aboriginal communities and develop/implement an Aboriginal Mental Health Worker Training Program to increase the supply

TCU (Lead Ministry):

- Provide services to youth at the significant transition point from secondary to post-secondary school education settings

MOHLTC (Lead Ministry):

- Create 16 Service Collaboratives to support coordinated services for children, youth and adults, including a focus on transitions from in-patient to out-patient settings; between health and justice systems and from child-serving to adult services
- Expand inpatient/outpatient services for eating disorders to meet the needs of more children and youth with complex needs, including hiring of 14 Nurse Practitioners with specialized expertise

Next Steps

- New supports and services will be on the ground starting the summer of 2011. Not all the initiatives will be implemented at the same time, and details of how investments will impact specific communities will be provided as soon as they are confirmed.
- The first initiatives to be launched will be the targeted increase/new mental health workers, mental health workers for students and expansion of the Youth Mental Health Court Worker program.
- As the Strategy unfolds, a range of organizations will be involved and impacted, and more information will be available to you in the coming months, especially in regards to individual agencies and communities.
- We will continue to work with you and with our partners across sectors to implement the initiatives within the Strategy.