



CMHO Summit On Children's Mental Health

Change In The BC Child and Youth Mental Health Service System

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Ministry of
Children and Family Development

Presentation

- Context for Change
- Child and Youth Mental Health Plan for BC
- Implementation
- Challenges
- Lessons Learned



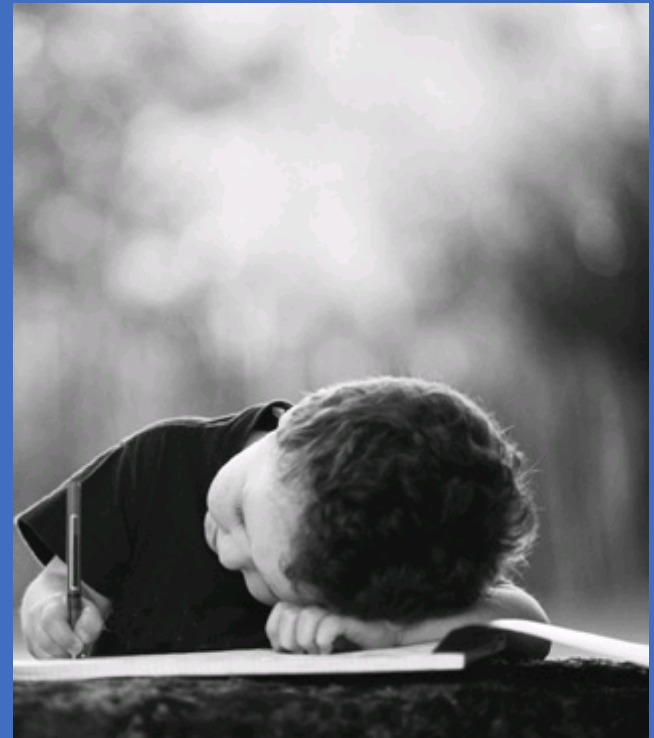


“You can’t leap across a
canyon in two small jumps”

Evil Knievel (Robert Craig Knievel)

Context

- Formation of MCFD
 - separation from adult MH services
 - competing priorities
- Regional Governance
 - Health Authorities
 - MCFD



Context cont.

- Move to a balanced budget
 - protection of CYMH budget
 - erosion in programs and services that support children and families
- Core Review
- Strategic Shifts
 - evidence-based approaches

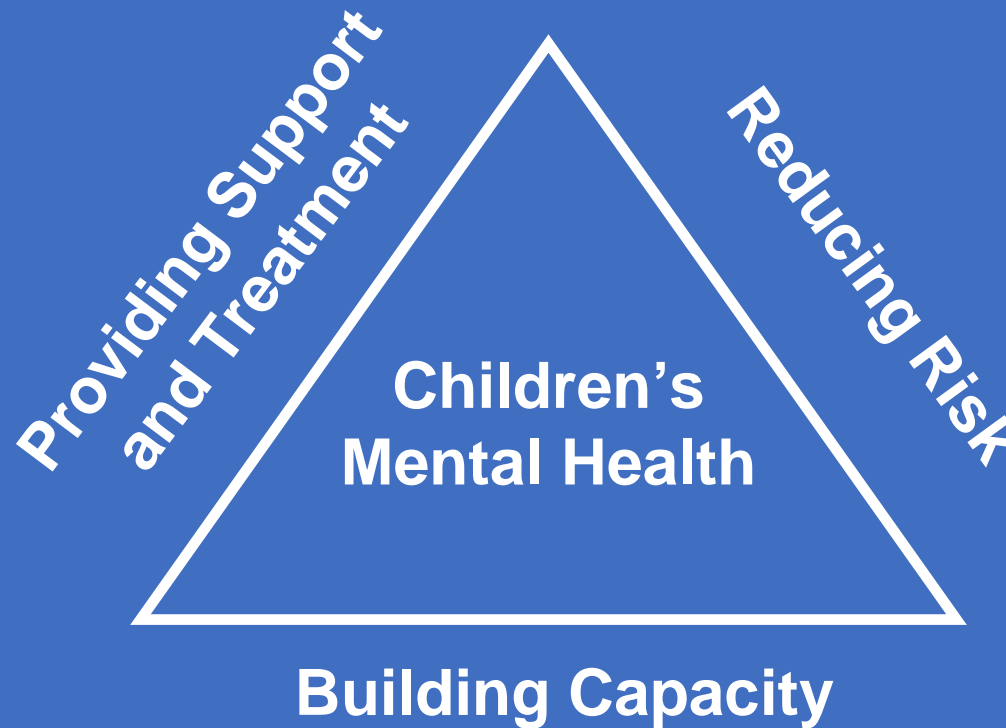


Child and Youth Mental Health Plan

- CYMH Plan endorsed by Cabinet February 17, 2003
- Extensive consultation process
- Reviews of treatment, prevention and service system research
- Relevant reports
- www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/mental_health/index.htm



New Vision and Framework



Implementation

- 2 phases over 5 year period
- Phase 1 - existing services as effective and efficient as possible
- Phase 2 - reducing the gap between need and capacity



Leveraging Change

- Setting and Staying the Course
- Public Engagement
- Inter-jurisdictional Collaboration
- Demonstration Projects
- Training



Setting and Staying the Course

- Development of a formal plan endorsed by Cabinet
- Research-policy foundation
- Expert tables
- Project management approach
- Region specific plans



Public Engagement

- Partnership with Knowledge Network
- 3 one hour documentaries on children's mental health
 - Beyond the Blues: Child and Youth Depression
 - Fighting Their Fears: Child and Youth Anxiety
 - A Map of Mind Fields: Managing Adolescent Psychosis
- Web tool - <http://www.knowledgenetwork.ca/>



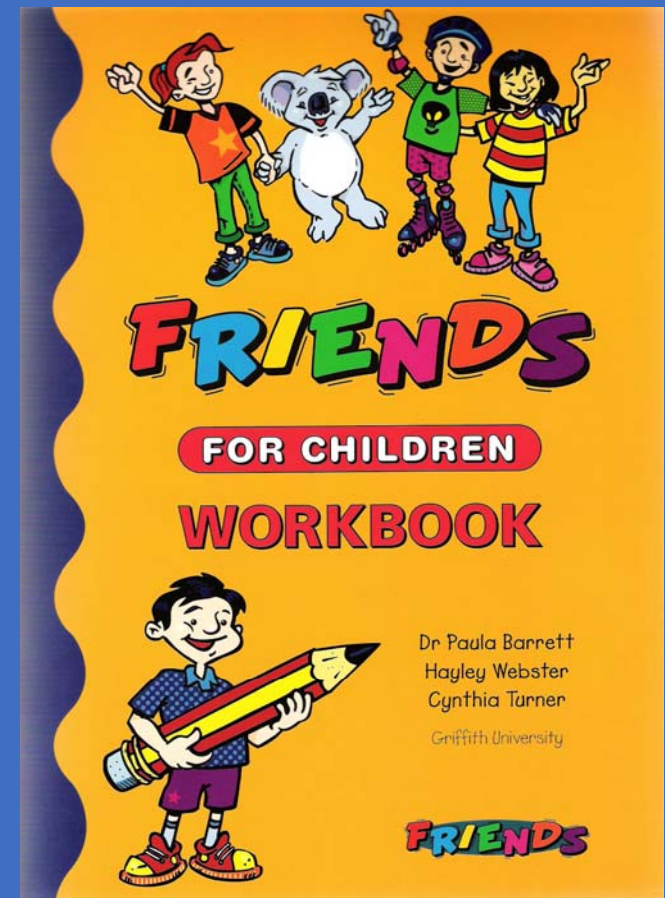
Inter-jurisdictional Collaboration

Child and Youth Mental Health Network

- Planning and problem solving
- Broad membership
 - Medical Health Officer
 - Child and Youth Officer
 - Family and Advocates
 - Research
 - Operational Management

Inter-jurisdictional Collaboration

- Partnership between MoE, MCFD and SDs
- Evidence-based prevention and risk reduction program
- Developed in Australia
- Targeted to Grade 4 & 5
- Available for all school districts
- MCFD provides training and materials
- SD provides release time for teachers and venue



Demonstration Projects

- Demonstration Projects
 - innovative projects to increase our knowledge of what works in children's mental health service delivery



Training

- CBT Certification Program
- Early Psychosis
- Inter Personal Therapy
- Working with young children



Areas for future focus

- Engagement of the Aboriginal community
- Broader approach to family involvement
- Ethno-cultural focus
- Family Physicians



Challenges

- Tight timelines
- Managing expectations
- Differences in definitions
- change overload
- competing agendas
- cross-jurisdictional nature of children's mental health services
- complexity of implementing a comprehensive Plan



Recommendations

- Political/public support
- Establish research-policy partnerships
- Formal plan
- Central and regional leadership
- Multi-faceted approach
- Be open to opportunities





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