

South West Region SWR Children's Mental Health Project

Communiqué

Summer 2004

Implementing the South West Region "Ideal Model"

[YEAR Two -Core Services & Supports]:

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Project Managers, South West Region
Children's Mental Health Services Project*



We are writing to keep you "in the loop" with all that is happening in the South West Region Children's Mental Health Services Project.

In June 2002, we launched Implementation Planning for the South West Region Children's Mental Health "Ideal Model". During Year 1 of the three-year Implementation Plan, we focused on Highly Specialized Services and Supports. A public release of the Highly Specialized Services and Supports Final Report occurred in January 2004. Further information on this phase of the project is included later in this communiqué.

We are now moving forward on Year 2 of the Implementation Planning, focussing on Core Services.

This year promises to be a very active one. We are not only launching into the next major component of the "Ideal Model" i.e. Core Services and Supports but also are moving forward, with care, on

implementation of the recommendations within the Highly Specialized Services and Supports Final Report.

We have been able to continue in this comprehensive project on children's mental health services in the South West Region only due to the extraordinary support and efforts of many stakeholders throughout the region and beyond. We wish to express our appreciation to all those who have served and continue to lend their time, talent, and expertise to this project. We also want to extend our appreciation to all those who took the time to send comments and suggestions in response to our work to date.

As always we strive to keep our eyes on the our vision of an "Ideal Model"

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!

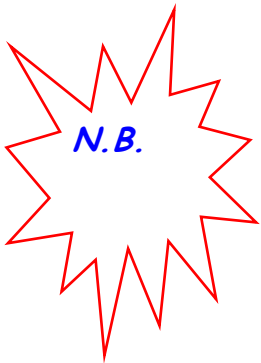
Please review the Discussion Paper on Core Services and Supports Advisory Group released August 2004. Kindly share it far and wide. Please join us at the consultation days on this important document.

SWR CMH Services Project VISION:

A high quality system of children's mental health services that is accountable to children and their families, easily accessible and integrated with other supports for children.

-May 2000

Children and YOUTH

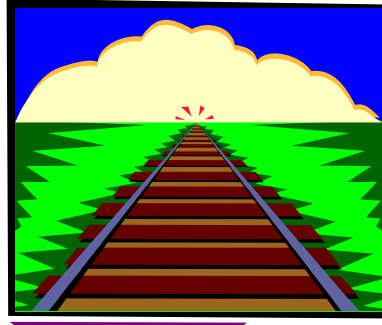


Virtually everywhere that we reference "children", one can read "children *and* youth". For purposes of this project, a "child " is defined as according to the Child and Family Services Act (CFSA), 0-18 years of age.



South West Region Children's Mental Health Project PUBLICATIONS:

1. **An Ideal Model** for Children's Mental Health Services in South West Region - Final Report [September 2001]
2. An Ideal Model for Children's Mental Health Services in South West Region Year 1 Implementation **Highly Specialized Services and Supports** [Draft Report August 2003]
3. South West Region Children's Mental Health Project **Communiqués**
 - ✓ December 2001
 - ✓ Summer 2002
 - ✓ Summer 2003
 - ✓ Fall 2003
4. An Ideal Model for Children's Mental Health Services in South West Region Year 1 Implementation **Highly Specialized Services and Supports** [Final Report November 2003]
5. An Ideal Model for Children's Mental Health Services in South West Region Year 2 Implementation **Children's Mental Health Core Services and Supports Discussion Paper August 2004:**



*Moving
Ahead...
Our Plan:*

Core Services and Supports Advisory Group

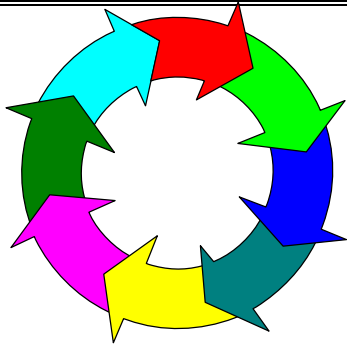
The Core Services and Supports Advisory Group was formed through an expression of interest process. The membership represents all aspects of the **continuum of services** as defined in the "Ideal Model" Report (Appendix D) and reflect the geography of the South West Region.

The mandate of this group is to, through a defined process, develop a report that will provide a strategic plan for the future development of core services and supports (including residential services) in the South West Region based on the South West Region "Ideal" Model.

A discussion paper called "An Ideal Model for Children's Mental Health Services in South West Region Year 2 Implementation **Children's Mental Health Core Services and Supports Discussion Paper August 2004** has been released and distributed to children's mental health services stakeholders in the South West Region and beyond. In the fall, the MCSS MCYS South West Region will convene a series of focus and discussion groups to ensure all stakeholders have an opportunity to understand the work of the group and provide their comments on the conclusions of the group.

The project managers will reconvene the Core Services and Supports Advisory Group in the Fall of 2004 to review the feedback received through the consultation process and to finalize their report.

The final report, like the Highly Specialized Services and Supports Final Report, will then be vetted through the Steering Committee and forwarded to the Regional Director for approval.



Continuum of Services

One of the first tasks of the Core Services and Supports Advisory Group was the development of more refined working definitions for each of the services in the continuum of services. These services are:

- ASSESSMENT
- PREVENTION
- EARLY INTERVENTION
- RESPITE
- EMERGENCY/CRISIS SERVICE
- LOCAL ACUTE CARE HOSPITALIZATION
- CRISIS RESIDENTIAL
- OUTPATIENT TREATMENT
- HOME-BASED TREATMENT
- SCHOOL-BASED TREATMENT
- DAY TREATMENT
- THERAPEUTIC PARENT CARE
- RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT SERVICES
- SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING
- CONTINUING CARE

With the Advisory Group meeting every two weeks for all day meetings, these discussions and deliberations continued until the end of January 2004. Then the advisory group began to struggle with refining the definition for CORE SERVICES. Next, it moved forward on the development of a draft community continuum reflective of the "Ideal" model. This work will include, a strategic plan to move the system forward on that model.

In the document [An Ideal Model for Children's Mental Health Services in the South West Region - Final Report](#) (September 2001) Core and Residential Services and Supports (now referred to as Core Services and Supports) were described as follows:

"(Core Services are those that) include a wide range of community and home-based supports and services, that provide a broad range of services that are located in each community, close to consumers and responsive to the community's needs. This should include a continuum of services and supports that range from prevention and early intervention to treatment and practical supports along with formal assessments. (Page 8 - Ideal Model Report [September 2001])

The Core Services and Supports Advisory Group has worked on refining this definition:

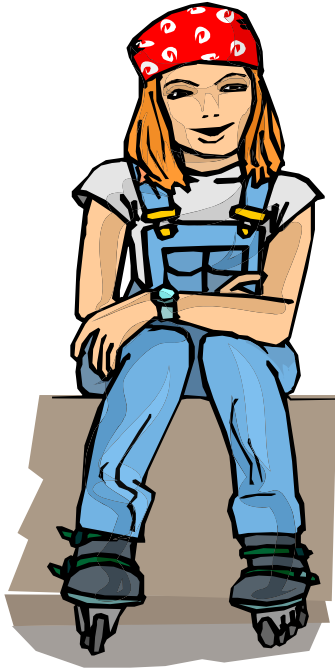
Definition:
Children's Mental Health
Core Services and Supports

Children's Mental Health Core Services and Supports are those provided to children, youth and their families with children's mental health service needs. These services are First-line and may be Intensive*. The needs responded to may be complex, and may be met locally, in collaboration with Children's Mental Health Highly Specialized Services and Supports.*

*Children's Mental Health Core Services and Supports are those that include a range of **essential** community and home-based supports and services, that **must be** located in each community, close to consumers and responsive to the community's needs. This shall include a balanced continuum of services and supports, extending from prevention and early intervention to treatment and practical supports along with formal assessments.*

Furthermore, "community", for the purpose of these deliberations, has been defined as the upper tier municipality and/or county. For purposes of the Ideal Model continuum of services, it is recognized that consideration must be afforded to the sustainability of programs in rural, remote and less populated areas. Therefore, we must consider demographics, geography and prevalence as we determine community. There is not necessarily a sustainable critical mass of children/youth in some counties to responsibly provide a full range of services. This may mean a collaborative

partnership among some neighbouring communities to effect a sustainable continuum. In these cases, the community is redefined to be those neighbouring counties.



Highly Specialized Services and Supports Advisory Group (HSSS)

The HSSS Advisory Group was formed in June 2002 to provide recommendations to the South West Region Children's Mental Health Steering Committee regarding the future delivery of Highly Specialized Services and Supports in the South West Region, consistent with the concepts and principles of the "Ideal" Model.

The Highly Specialized Services and Supports Advisory Group met June 2002 through October 2003. All meetings were held in London at the MCFCS South West Region office.

The Advisory Group members upheld their commitment to bring their perspective, expertise, and experience to discussions as opposed to lobbying for a particular agency or geography.

The Advisory Group released a Draft Final Report on Highly Specialized Services and Supports for consultation in August 2003. Responses to this consultation were considered by the group and a Final Report

was forwarded to the South West Region Children's Mental Health Steering Committee on October 31, 2003. The Regional Director released the Final Report in January 2004.

This report includes the comprehensive work of the Advisory Group and that of the three Working Groups providing information to the Highly Specialized Services and Supports Advisory Group.

Within the report is a:

WORKING DEFINITION: ***Highly Specialized Services and Supports***

Highly Specialized Services and Supports are those provided to children/youth and their families with the highest needs. These needs are complex and determined to be refractory to first line (primary) and intensive (secondary) care.

Criteria for access:

1. The local Children's Mental Health Service sector supports the need to access Highly Specialized Services and Supports through a defined protocol

AND EITHER

2. Need for higher levels of intervention and/or safety due to high risk of harm to self or others

OR

3. Diagnosis or suspicion of a serious emotional disturbance and/or complex mental illness

Highly Specialized Services and Supports provide a breadth and depth of multidisciplinary expertise and may include:

- Assessment, diagnosis, consultation and/or treatment
- Research
- Education and training

The report includes several recommendations on how to improve the continuum of service and access to Highly Specialized Services and Supports. These recommendations are being considered in a systematic way, to effect careful, planned and meaningful change for children, youth and families. We are launching specific information sessions, focus groups and consultations to ensure that we move forward the right way.

Needless to say any and all implementation will be done within the context of the "Ideal Model" as a whole. It is likely that certain conclusions early in our implementation journey might have to be re-visited in light of new information and knowledge gained throughout the process. Careful planning is taking this into consideration.

We are currently moving forward with various groups to assist us in the implementation of specific recommendations. These include:

- The South West Region HSSS Education and Training Network
- The South West Region Technology Task Group
- South West Region Focus Group on Applied Research in Children's Mental Health.

More information about these groups will be made available in our next communiqué.

We are also holding discussion and information sessions on the Access Path to Highly Specialized Services across the entire area affected by those changes. This includes not just the South West Region, but also seven other counties beyond this Region.

Some of the recommendations are being monitored through regular review with the Highly Specialized agencies, based on the work-plans that the Project co-leads have reviewed and approved. Others will require more consultation such as those that apply to direct delivery of existing services. These issues will be managed in a thoughtful way with more intensive consultation, engaging the families that may be impacted by any change. Given the intensity of this work, it is being deferred until some of the other pieces are worked completed.

Effecting these changes is a massive undertaking that needs to be carefully and thoughtfully managed. We made the decision to begin to explore options for remote service delivery for Highly Specialized Services on a pilot project

basis, to learn and build on successful models. So far, we have launched a pilot project, negotiated with CPRI and the service providers in Windsor-Essex. This was done because Windsor-Essex is at a significant distance from the service provider and it has the largest population base beyond the City of London.

We are currently discussing a plan with the stakeholders in Bruce-Grey to implement a pilot project there, in partnership with CPRI, that will reflect the needs of a remote, rural and geographically dispersed population.

In addition, CPRI is exploring more effective ways of delivering service to children in their programs. They recently launched the Bi-Polar Clinic as a pilot project to provide a more effective and efficient approach for these children. Evaluations of these pilots will occur within the next year.

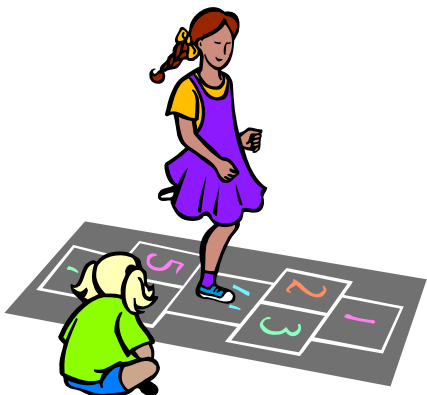
As a Region, we are working with the Chief of Psychiatry at the University of Western Ontario, and the health sector to look at the issue of recruitment and retention of child psychiatrists across the Region. It is hoped that through a collaborative partnership we will meet success in this area.



***Great minds, much passion,
working to make it better!***

**Core and Residential Services Advisory
Group Membership:**

Mr. Ken Akers, Huron House Boy's Home
Mr. Peter Araham, Peer Power Centre
Ms. Betty Bedard-Bidwell, Betamarsh Inc.
Mr. Bryan Chambers, SWR Children's Mental Health
Project Manager/Co-lead (**Co-Chair**)
Mr. Mark Donlon, Glengarda Child and Family
Services
Ms. Pat Edwards, Woodstock General Hospital
Ms. Sandra Fieber, Craigwood Youth Services
Mr. Alan Goyette, Windsor Regional Children's
Centre
Ms. Brenda Hall, Western Area Youth Services
Ms. Linda Hebel, District Health Council Liaison
Ms. Janet Kelly, Children's Achievement Centre
Ms. Helen Lowe, SWR Children's Mental Health
Project Manager/Co-Lead (**Co-Chair**)
Ms. Pat Peloso, Maryvale Adolescent Services
Ms. Monique Pressé, London Health Sciences Centre
Dr. Wayne Richardson, Bruce-Grey Children's
Services
Dr. Mark Skovron, Child and Family Counselling
Centre, Elgin County
Ms. Melodie Smith, Community Living, Chatham-Kent
Ms. Terri Sparling, Huron Perth Centre for Children
and Youth
Mr. David Wright, St. Clair Child and Youth
Services



Ad hoc expertise including MOH-LTC and MOE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To keep all concerned parties informed, we have committed to specific events. More information on these sessions and meetings will be made available closer to the date they occur. Please be sure to mark these dates in your calendar.

CORE SERVICE AND SUPPORTS

Community Information and Feedback
Sessions on the Discussion Paper:

Windsor: September 21, 2004

Owen Sound September 28, 2004

London: September 30, 2004

**HIGHLY SPECIALIZED SERVICES AND
SUPPORTS**

Access to Highly Specialized Services and
Supports:

London: October 19, 2004

**STANDARDIZED INTAKE AND
ASSESSMENT**

BCFPI and CAFAS in London

October 27, 2004

**SOUTH WEST REGION 0 TO 6
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH
SYMPOSIUM,**

Was presented by Children First in Essex
County at CPRI, June 4, 2004 -stay tuned
for the next symposium Spring 2005

Contact Us -

We will continue to update you on this
important initiative as it progresses and
invite you to contact us with your questions
and comments. We can be reached at

1-800-265-4197 ext. 3174

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