

A Pathway to Hope: Children, Youth and Adults

Federation of Community and Social Services
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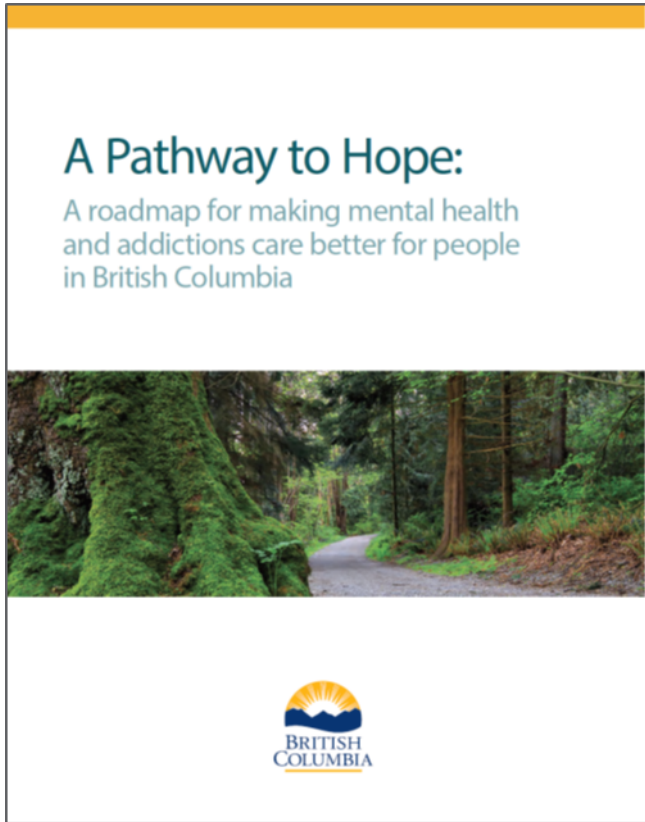


Today

1. A Pathway to Hope – BC’s Roadmap
2. Areas of Focus – Improved Wellness for Children, Youth and Young Adults
3. Integrated Child and Youth Teams – service delivery model for BC
4. New Brunswick’s experience – a decade of learning
5. Discussion



A Pathway to Hope



- Long term vision and call to action for all of society
- Focus areas with targeted actions over three years
- Building on existing initiatives and implementing new, innovative approaches

Areas of Focus

- Supporting Indigenous-led solution
- Substance use: Better care, saving lives
- Improved access, better quality
- Improved wellness for children, youth and young adults
 - Increased focus on promotion and prevention
 - Perinatal services
 - Child development services
 - Social and emotional development tools
 - Mental Health in Schools Plan
 - Stronger integration
 - Foundry expansion
 - Step Up/Down Supports
 - Integrated Child and Youth Teams



Integrated Child and Youth Teams

- Team members are outbound and meet children and youth where it is safe and comfortable for them; connected to schools and primary care
- Core team members include CYMH workers, youth substance use workers, school counsellors, peer support workers, Indigenous support workers
- Establish a common plan with core team members, driven by the young person in collaboration with families
- Each team has an ICY Team Lead position
- Adjust service intensity to meet needs
- Transition children and youth to higher intensity, specialized, and adult services and supports



Context and Challenges

Children and youth with complex needs

1	Lack of service coordination, integrated intervention planning, matching of service intensity to level of need, and case follow-up processes
2	Participation in multiple intake, assessment and case management plan processes
3	Difficulties in navigating multiple service systems
4	Provision of services outside the family, school and community contexts
5	Impact of families' previous negative experiences with formalized services
6	As many as five departmental files for an individual youth
7	Lack of transportation to access needed services
8	Implementation of more intensive and intrusive intervention responses
9	Heightened stress on families

Context and Challenges

Children and youth with complex needs

10	Government departments and other service providers working in silos without a systemic collaborative approach
11	Escalation of emotional/behavioural features as needs of children and youth remained unmet
12	Lengthy wait lists and wait times for essential services
13	Lost educational time to attend appointments
14	Conflicting and competing mandates among service agencies
15	Lack of voice of children, youth and families
16	Transition planning or step-down approaches often left unaddressed

Vision

Through the collective impact of service partners working together in an integrated manner, children and youth with mental health and substance use challenges and their families/caregivers have timely, equitable access to a seamless system of culturally safe and effective interventions that are based on the strengths, needs and risks of children and youth.

Mission

Address service delivery gaps in the provision of child and youth mental health and substance use services through a multidisciplinary, collaborative team-based approach with meaningful youth, family and community engagement

Enhance capacity to respond in a timely, effective and integrated manner to the strengths, risks and needs of children, youth and their families

Leverage the mandate, services and capacities of service partners to optimize care for children and youth

Promote and align evidence-informed practices for addressing child and youth mental health and substance use challenges in school, community and other contexts

Guiding Principles

Strengthening universal and comprehensive positive mental health practices and providing responsive, integrative assessment and intervention services for children and youth

Appropriate service delivery intensity level must be matched to the level of child and family needs at all system levels

Targeted risk/need approaches complemented and balanced by practices that draw on the strengths and capacities of children, youth, their families and the wider community

Committed to the engagement and empowerment of children, youth and their families (in some instances, outreach and advocacy are required to ensure their full participation and collaboration)



Evidence of Transformation

Youth- and Family-centered Focus

- Parents interviewed within the demonstration sites reported feeling supported and being part of intervention activities with their children.
- Based on daily operational reporting, over 80% of CY Team activities involved client-related sessions and collaborative service provision activities with youth and/or their families.
- Overall, regional operational outcomes suggested enhanced service efficiencies related to inter-professional team collaboration and client-centered methods.



Evidence of Transformation

The Provision of Timely and Coordinated Services

- Youth were being **seen at a much earlier point** than prior to integration as a result of services being mobilized at the elementary and middle school levels.
- **Time periods for accessing services were shorter** given the outbound nature and location of CY Team services in school and community settings.
- Linkages between CY Teams and school-based Student Service Teams provided the potential for timely clinical consultation and the increased use of targeted and preventative interventions, **averting the escalation of emotional or behavioural problems.**
- During regional interviews, multiple stakeholders reported that the integration of services had effectively **reduced duplication and redundancies** among departments, and contributed to greater coherence in services delivered to youth and families.



Evidence of Transformation

Enhanced Regional Service Collaboration and Integration

- There has been evidence of **greater cohesion, flexibility and determination to work together** in a unified effort to reach, engage and provide support to youth and families experiencing mental health concerns.
- Strong **professional satisfaction and enhanced confidence to promote transformative change** in youth mental health have been reported by integrated regional and CY teams.
- Enhanced knowledge and **understanding of professional roles and areas of expertise** among departmental stakeholders and CY Teams has also been documented.
- Enhanced **communication among departmental stakeholders and CY Team members** has contributed to the development of shared understandings and expanded perspectives related to youth and family needs and implications for service provision.



Discussion

