

In February 2016, family consultations were conducted by New Path Youth and Family Services of Simcoe County for the purpose of gathering family input and expertise to inform the Community Mental Health and Core Services Delivery Plan for the service area. A total of 24 families were consulted through community consultations.

**Families identified the following priorities they feel should be considered in Community Mental Health Planning:**

- ✓ Reduction of wait lists/increased service blocks where required
- ✓ Increased awareness of community mental health services available
- ✓ Improved crisis services
- ✓ Decrease the need for families to access private services (placing a financial burden on families)
- ✓ Improved access to and services for children/youth with complex diagnoses or complex needs
- ✓ Services provided locally (many families commented on having to travel long distances to receive support/service)

**Families indicated they would like to receive services the following ways:**

- ✓ In the family home
- ✓ In the community – where there is parking available and easily accessible
- ✓ At schools

**Families indicated they would like to be engaged in the following ways:**

- ✓ Online surveys
- ✓ Development of and participation in Advisory Groups
- ✓ Face to face meetings/consultations
- ✓ Telephone calls
- ✓ Online opportunities

*““Stop making services accessible only to the "Rich" and the "Poor".*

*Family Participant in Consultation*

**Reduction in wait lists was the most important priority for families.**

*For a copy of the full report summarizing family consultations please contact:*

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