



# Moving on Mental Health (MOMH): A Simcoe County Overview

Moving on Mental Health (MOMH) is an important part of Ontario's Mental Health and Addictions Strategy. The plan ensures children, youth and their families are able to get mental health services in their communities that are accessible, responsive and meet their needs. Strengthening the community-based system for delivering mental health services brings people and organizations closer together locally and benefits everyone. All children and youth with mental health concerns in Ontario, and their families will know what mental health services are available in their communities and how to access the services and supports that meet their specific needs.

## MOMH

### MOMH Planning in Ontario Will:

- Create and support clear, streamlined, and well understood pathways to care between primary care, schools and community based supports and services;
- Define core mental health services that will be available in communities across Ontario, making the service system more transparent to parents and young people;
- Create a new funding model that recognizes individual community populations and need, so agencies can respond effectively to local demands;
- Establish community lead agencies across Ontario who will be responsible for providing core services and collaborating effectively with other core service providers, as well as schools, hospitals, and those organizations working in primary care and child welfare;
- Build a legislative and regulatory framework so that all community-based mental health agencies are held to the same standards of care, regardless of where they are located in the province.

## Beginning: LEAD AGENCY CORE SERVICES REPORT

**August 2015** -- New Path Youth and Family Services was selected as the Lead Agency for the Simcoe County service area. In this first year the mandate was to develop a core services report that collaboratively engaged the five core service providers in Simcoe County; *New Path Youth and Family Services, Kinark Child and Family Services, La Clé d'la Baie, Canadian Mental Health Association Simcoe County and Family Connexions*. These agencies are Transfer Payment (TP) agencies of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS). Their collective budgets total approximately \$12 million allocated to Simcoe County.

The initial report developed three priorities:

### ACCESS

Access to child and youth mental health services;

### COORDINATION OF SERVICES IN SCHOOLS

Maximize the resources available to children and youth in schools and ensure that high needs youth are receiving the right services at the right time;

### SERVICE AVAILABILITY

Service availability in that families, youth and service providers will hear new language that speaks to what services are available as opposed to how long they will wait for service.





## Present: LEAD AGENCY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH REPORT

**March 2016** -- In addition to further development of the *Core Services Report*, the second mandate for New Path Youth and Family Services as Lead Agency was to develop an initial *Community Mental Health Report*.

This report includes:

- An extensive community engagement undertaking with special emphasis on children, youth and their families;
- A comprehensive mapping of current service provisions and pathways to care across Simcoe County;
- A mapping of current child and youth mental health community planning mechanisms in Simcoe County.

**November 2016** -- The development of the *Core Services Report* is being continued by four service providers; *New Path Youth and Family Services*, *Kinark Child and Family Services*, *La Clé d'la Baie* and *Family Connexions*. In developing both the *Core Services Report* and the *Community Mental Health Report*, New Path Youth and Family Services has committed to collaboration and full transparency across sectors using a distributed leadership model. New Path Youth and Family Services has and continues to actively engage governance bodies of core service providers to ensure long term sustainability by embedding MOMH into agency board policy and strategic plans. The Simcoe County Coalition, as a partner, has been engaged under a contractual agreement to support work on the 3 service priorities.

### Coordination with Other Services

Of special note in Simcoe County, it is important to mention that New Path Youth and Family Service's MOMH strategy and implementation collaborates with and coordinates well with these other major initiatives:

1. Linking with the *Special Needs Strategy* involving the *Special Needs Coordinating Agency* to ensure consistency of clear processes and protocols for coordinated service planning, avoiding duplication;
2. *Indigenous Child & Youth Strategy* collaboration including helping to underwrite the costs of a *Community Mapping Report*;
3. Significant consultations with the *Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)* for mapping of services;
4. Continuing to work with the Francophone community to include their voice in the *Core Services and Community Mental Health Reports*.

## Future: MOVING FORWARD

New Path Youth and Family Service's MOMH responsibilities continue to be refined in this second year. Look for the next Moving on Mental Health (MOMH): A Simcoe County Overview update soon.

For more information, comments or questions on anything found in this overview, please contact: Elizabeth McKeeman, Chief Operating Officer, emckeeman@newpath.ca 705.733.2654 ext. 2302