

PRIHS: Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System

FUNDING AWARD



Implementing Innovative Models of Acute Pediatric Mental Health and Addiction Care

PROJECT FAST FACTS

LEAD: Dr. Amanda Newton

INSTITUTION: University of Alberta

PRIHS AWARD: \$850K



25%

There has been an increase in mental health and substance use emergency department visits by Alberta's children and youth over the last 10 years.

GOAL:

With families at the centre, this project will implement and evaluate a novel, integrated model of acute mental health and addiction care.



During the last 10 years in Alberta, mental health and substance use emergency department visits by children and youth have increased by 25 per cent. Almost half of these visits are the first time youth have had contact with mental health services. There is a need for urgent help and often an inability to access care elsewhere.

The recent Addiction & Mental Health and Emergency Strategic Clinical Networks initiative, Helping Kids and Youth in Times of Emotional Crisis, has generated recommendations:

1. Emergency department based youth mental health and substance use care requires a redesign;
2. Separate locations for acute mental health and addiction care should be created; and
3. Support during emergency department visits is needed.

Parents have also reinforced that they have the knowledge to contribute to managing their child's crisis and want to be involved in creating solutions for improving care.

With families at the centre, this project will implement and evaluate a novel, integrated model of acute mental health and addiction care that connects children and families with resources.

This project is aligned with Strategic Clinical Network (SCN) priorities, and promotes the delivery of efficient and effective care, matched to patient and family needs, thereby maximizing the benefits to Albertans.



ABOUT PRIHS



WHAT IS PRIHS?

The Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Health System (PRIHS) is a partnership between Alberta Innovates and Alberta Health Services focused on supporting health research and innovation projects that will adopt and implement evidence to maintain or improve quality of patient care and services while substantially reducing costs in the healthcare system.

This partnered funding opportunity targets the implementation of high quality, evidence informed solutions to "Enhancing Care in the Community" to address performance gaps ("Focus Areas") in the healthcare system that prevent optimal patient care, resource use, delivery and access to affordable and sustainable health services.



VALUE & TERM

Combined pool of funds available: \$7 million. Individual award's period of support: up to three years.



FOCUS AREAS

- Solutions that help Albertans optimally manage their health conditions, maintain their independence and live well in their communities.
- Solutions that help Albertans avoid unnecessary Acute Care visits and admissions.

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