

ACCESS-MH Annual Update, 2018

About Us

Atlantic Canada Children's Effective Service & Strategies in Mental Health (ACCESS-MH) is a consortium of four universities - Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. Mary's University, University of New Brunswick, and the University of Prince Edward Island. The aim of the consortium is to build a research program which will bring together a cross- sectorial and interdisciplinary team of researchers, health care providers and decision makers from across Atlantic Canada to take a diverse and innovative approach to studying how services are provided to children and youth identified with any of the following five disorders: Anxiety, Depression, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Conduct Disorder and Eating disorder. This is a 5-year project.

ACCESS-MH team members are: Dr. Rick Audas Principal Investigator, Memorial University, Dr. Kate Tilleczek, Co- Principal Investigator, University of Prince Edward Island, Dr. Scott Ronis, Co-Principal Investigator, University of New Brunswick, Dr. Michael Zhang, Co-Principal Investigator, Saint Mary's University, Dr. Jacques Richard, Co-Principal Investigator, Université de Moncton , Dr. Brandi Bell, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Prince Edward Island, and Project Manager Cathy Peyton located at Memorial University.

2018 Project Update

- In July the ACCESS-MH team partnered with the Primary Healthcare Research Unit (PHRU) at Memorial University to co-organize the Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) 2018. This year's focus was "Advancing Child and Youth Mental Health Services" and provided a welcome opportunity to bring together various stakeholders in the Atlantic region to share ideas and create meaningful conversations about mental health. In addition, several members of the ACCESS-MH team presented information about the work that has been completed as part of this project.
- As the ACCESS-MH project begins to wind down the focus of the project has shifted to disseminating and translating the work to the healthcare community and community at large. Several students are continuing their master's thesis research as part of the ACCESS-MH project and you can read any completed thesis work under "Publications" on the ACCESS-MH website.
- 2018 also saw some major changes in the ACCESS-MH project team, as Project Manager Cathy Peyton retired from Memorial University and Co-Investigator Kate Tilleczek accepted a position at York University. In addition, post-doctoral fellow Dr. Brandi Bell accepted a position with Health PEI. These three members were instrumental to the success of the ACCESS-MH project, and we wish them the very best in their future endeavours!

Publications & Presentations

Audas, R. (2018, December). Common Indicators of Primary Healthcare: A Survey of Family Physicians and Patients in NL. Joint Meeting of the Community-Based Primary Health Care (CBPHC) 12-Teams and the SPOR Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations Network (PIHCIN), Montreal, QC.

Almukhtar, Z. (2018, June). Optimal Decisions for Mental Health Services for Youth when Patients Switching to Emergency Department. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Bell, B.L. (2018, June). Youth parent and service provider perspectives on technology and mental health. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Bell, B.L. (2018, June). Journey Mapping as a Tool for Research and Engagement in Child and Youth Mental Health. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Boulay, E. (2018, June). Primary care provider referral patterns in New Brunswick: An in-depth analysis and comparison of psychiatric wait times to other medical specialties. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Conway, H. (2018, June). Evaluating health service utilization among children and youth with mental health disorders in Newfoundland and Labrador. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Gallant, S. (2018, June). Mental Health Care-Seeking Experiences of Mothers in Atlantic Canada. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Gallant, S., Tilleczek, K., & Bell, B. (2018, July). Mothers' Care-Seeking Journeys for Daughters with Depression. ISA World Congress of Sociology, Toronto, ON.

Garcés Davila, M. I., Ronis, S. T., & Peters, P. (2018, June). A cross-sectional analysis of prevalence of mental disorders and access to mental health care among youth. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Garcés Davila, M. I., & Ronis, S. T. (2018, June). Mental health care utilization among youth with mental disorders: A cross-sectional analysis of hours and types of services consulted. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Garcés Davila, M. I., Ronis, S. T., & Peters, P. (2018, May). Mental health care utilization among youth with mental disorders: Hours and types of services consulted. Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR), Montreal, QC.

Goldstein, J. (2018). The Utilization of a Province Wide EMS System by Children and Youth with Mental Health Complaints. 9th Annual Nova Scotia EMS Research Day, Halifax, NS.

Goldstein, J. (2018, May). The Utilization of a Province Wide EMS System by Children and Youth with Mental Health Complaints. Canadian EMS Research Network Symposium, Toronto, ON.

Houser, K. (2018, June). The Effectiveness of Transitions as a Self-Learning Tool Designed to Improve Mental Health Literacy of Students in Higher Education. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Jarvis, C. (2018, January). The Utilization of a Province Wide EMS System by Children and Youth with Mental Health Complaints. National Association of EMS Physicians Annual Meeting, San Diego, California.

Kabbash, L., & Ronis, S. T. (2018, October). Making a dent in commercial sexual exploitation of children: Investigating the potential effects of prostitution laws and policies across six countries. Canadian Sex Research Forum Meeting, Toronto, ON.

Malcom, K. E., & Ronis, S. T. (2018, June). A snapshot of inter-jurisdictional employment: Relevancy for youth and families. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Miller, D. (2018, June). The Impact of Demographic Clinical and Provider-Level Factors on Psychiatric Inpatient Length of Stay in New Brunswick. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Miller, D., Ronis, S. T., Slaunwhite, A., & Audas, R. (2018, March). A longitudinal analysis of administrative data on youth psychiatric readmissions: What we know, and where we need to go. Banff International Conferences on Behavioural Science, Banff, AB.

Miller, D. A. A., Ronis, S. T., & Slaunwhite, A. K. (2018, June). The Impact of demographic, clinical, and provider-level factors on psychiatric inpatient length-of-stay in New Brunswick. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Munro, M. (2018, July). The rise of anxiety: A discussion on youth mental health. Fourth ISA World Congress of Sociology, Toronto, ON.

Richard, J. (2018, June). The twice-exceptional child - diagnosis – misdiagnosis – school issues and mental health needs. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Ronis, S. T. (2018, June). Working with families of youth with emotional or behavioural difficulties. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Ronis, S. T. (2018, March). International perspective on juvenile sex trafficking, criminalization and decriminalization efforts. Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Conference, Seattle, WA.

Ronis, S. T., & Miller, D. (2018, March). Review of integrated youth mental health service delivery systems across Canada. Banff International Conferences on Behavioural Science, Banff, AB.

Ronis, S. T., Byers, E. S., Nichols, S., & Brotto, L. (2018, April). Sexual and gender identity on the autism spectrum. Society for Sex Therapy and Research Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Slaunwhite, A. K., Ronis, S. T., Peters, P. A., & Miller, D. A. A. (2018). Seasonal variations in psychiatric admissions to hospital. *Canadian Psychology*. doi:10.1037/cap0000156

Tilleczek, K. (2018, June). Embarrassment of riches: youth mental health and poverty. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Wagstaff, K. (2018, June). A Survey Study on a Mental Health Literacy Intervention for University Students. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Walls, R. (2018, June). Stigma as a Barrier: A Qualitative Assessment of Stigmatized Attitudes Towards Mental Health Services in Post-Secondary Education. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Zhang, M. (2018, June). Supporting Student Success by Improving Mental Health Literacy: Transitions @ SMU. Primary Healthcare Partnership Forum (Prifor) Conference, St. John's, NL.

Contact Information

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