



Strategic Plan Development Project

**CHEO & The Royal: *Mental Health Strategic Plan Development Project*
Fall 2014**

There has been a dramatic and sustained increase in demand for child and youth mental health services over the last four years, in all areas – emergency, inpatient, outpatient and community services. This increase in demand has challenged the capacity of CHEO and The Royal to provide high quality, evidenced based, efficient mental health care in a timely way.

What we once thought of as a surge is now our new normal. How do we adapt to these new challenges?

CHEO and The Royal have a partnership agreement to provide specialized mental health services for children and youth in our region – this combined program is called Child and Youth Specialized Psychiatric and Mental Health Services (CY-SPMHS). It has now been almost 15 years since the last strategic plan was developed to guide these services.

As a next step, both organizations are working together to develop a new plan to guide us over the next five years. Key areas to be examined as part of this review will include:

- What in the environment has changed since our last plan?
- What impact have these changes had on CHEO Mental Health and The Royal's Youth Program?
- What gaps or problems exist and why?
- What innovative and evidence-based strategies can guide us looking forward?
- How do we best address these gaps or problems, and what specific changes are needed?

To assist in answering these questions, we will be consulting our teams at CHEO and The Royal, as well as youth, families, community partners and stakeholders across the region to get feedback on what our future services should look like.

Focus Group & Roundtable Sessions

We will be setting up focus groups and roundtable discussions to get ideas and input. These sessions will be scheduled throughout November, December and early January. Other opportunities to provide feedback will also be offered, including surveys. To guide our group discussions with you, we will review the following questions:

1. *What does CHEO Mental Health / The Royal Youth Program do best?*
2. *Where are current and future opportunities for improvement?*
3. *What would you like to see in CHEO/The Royal Strategic Plan that would improve mental health services for children, youth & families?*

We look forward to receiving your help to create a new plan that will improve the mental health of our children, youth and families. We hope you'll join this conversation.

If you have any questions about the project, please contact our project manager, Shannon Watson, at swatson@cheo.on.ca or 613-737-7600 x.2388.

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