



Ontario Federation of Community
Mental Health and Addiction Programs
Sharing Resources, Exploring Common Issues



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Ontario
Mental health for all

Association canadienne
pour la santé mentale
Ontario
La santé mentale pour tous

Addictions and Mental Health Ontario

Communiqué

CMHA Ontario, Addictions and Mental Health Ontario collaborate On quality improvement initiative to support mental health and addictions sector

Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013 – Quality improvement is an important feature of the mental health and addictions system. That is why the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Ontario and Addictions and Mental Health Ontario (AMHO) are working collaboratively and leading an initiative to support community-based mental health and addictions organizations to enhance quality improvement.

CMHA Ontario and AMHO are developing a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) template which includes a menu of quality improvement indicators for use by Ontario's mental health and addictions sector. This QIP template is being developed in alignment with the attributes of a high-performing health system framework employed by Health Quality Ontario, and is an important step toward preparing for the legislated requirements under the *Excellent Care for All Act* (2010).

This QIP template is the result of the expansion of quality improvement work conducted in recent years by the CMHA Ontario Executive Directors Network and the many initiatives taken by mental health and addiction services to demonstrate their quality.

"One of the strengths of the mental health and addictions sector is our ability to collaborate, create and share tools that increase our collective capacity," said Camille Quenneville, CEO of CMHA Ontario. "Through this work, we are taking the necessary and proactive steps to ensure mental health and addictions organizations can adapt as seamlessly as possible to the provincial government's quality improvement approach."

"By working in partnership to help community-based organizations across the full spectrum of addiction and mental health services and supports, the sector can adapt to future wide-ranging legislative requirements," said David Kelly, CEO of AMHO. "Helping the sector in this way means mental health and addictions organizations can focus on what they do best, providing support to individuals and their families in communities across Ontario."

For more information on the quality improvement initiative, please contact:

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About CMHA Ontario:

Founded in 1952, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Ontario, is a non-profit, charitable organization committed to making mental health possible for all. CMHA Ontario works closely with its 31 local branches in communities across the province to ensure the quality delivery of services to consumers and families of individuals with mental illness, dual diagnosis and concurrent disorders. CMHA Ontario contributes knowledge, resources and skills to provincial policy development and implementation. We promote mental health in collaboration with others. We further equitable access to mental health services and champion the reduction of mental health disparities.

About AMHO:

In support of building a more comprehensive and responsive system for the treatment of addictions and mental health in Ontario, Addictions Ontario and the Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs have come together to build a new association, Addictions and Mental Health Ontario (AMHO). Our goal is to ensure that all Ontarians can access the services and supports they need to address substance misuse and mental health issues, fostering dignity and accountability to those it serves. We proudly support and encourage over 280 mental health and addiction service and support agencies across Ontario in giving hope and transforming lives with those living with mental health and addiction issues. The services offered by these agencies play a vital role in the health of all Ontarians.