



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Ontario
Mental health for all

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

Statement/Media Availability

Dedicated funding for mental health and addictions Can begin to remedy historical funding deficits

(TORONTO, March 10, 2017) – Please see below for a statement from the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division in reaction to the Health Accord agreement announced today by the federal and Ontario governments.

The quotes are attributable to Camille Quenneville, CEO of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division. Quenneville is available to speak to media.

“Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario is pleased the provincial and federal governments have maintained a strong focus on mental health care and addictions in the Health Accord negotiations. We believe these additional funds will begin to remedy the historical funding deficits that have impacted those individuals and their families struggling with mental health and addictions challenges.”

“The burden of mental illness and addictions is one and a half times that of cancer and seven times that of all infectious diseases. Helping Ontarians maintain their mental wellness, cope with daily mental health challenges or diagnosed illnesses can drive cost savings for the entire health system.”

“We’re also pleased with the continued commitment of the provincial government to help individuals with mental health and addictions issues, as evidenced most recently by an additional \$140 million investment in psychotherapy, supportive housing and the development of youth mental health hubs.”

About Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario

The Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) works toward a single mission: to make mental health possible for all. The vision of CMHA Ontario is a society that believes mental health is the key to well-being. CMHA Ontario works closely with 30 local branches in communities across the province to ensure the quality delivery of services to approximately 100,000 individuals each year in the areas of mental health, addictions, dual diagnosis and concurrent disorders. Through policy analysis and implementation, agenda setting, research, evaluation and knowledge exchange, we work to improve the lives of people with mental health and addictions conditions and their families.

-30-

For more information or to set up an interview, please contact:

Joe Kim
Communications Director
Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario
T: 416-977-5580, ext. 4141
E: jkim@ontario.cmha.ca