

Health P.E.I., Putting out the Welcome Mat:

**Improving services for people experiencing
concurrent disorders and complex conditions**

BobbiJo Flynn, presentation to Canadian Collaborative
Mental Health Conference, June 2014



Presenter Disclosure

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No relationship with commercial interests



Objectives for this session

- 1) Introduce a model for system improvement specific to an integrated mental health and addiction service, for the population of need experiencing, or at risk of, experiencing a concurrent disorder.
- 2) Share knowledge and experience resulting from the implementation of the Comprehensive, Continuous, Integrated System of Care process to identify the system improvement for people experiencing concurrent disorders.
- 3) Outline key initiatives planned for and/ or implemented to strengthen collaboration between mental health and addiction service providers.



The P.E.I. Context

- Health PEI was created in 2009 as a strategy to create a sustainable health system through the Health Services Act by separating the Department of H&W (policy) from operations
- The new operational structure governed by a Board of Directors and an Executive Leadership Team
- In 2011, hospital based mental health were merged with community mental health and addictions, creating an integrated continuum of mental health and addictions under one program structure
- Mental Health and Addictions remains the only program area in HPEI with a full continuum of services extending from primary to tertiary care
- In late 2013, MH&A were moved from shared division with Primary Care to a shared division with Acute Care



Who are we?

- MH&A Services: publically funded
 - Represent 1/8 of the HPEI workforce
 - Three recovery homes
 - Services delivered in 22 sites
 - 7 inpatient mental health units
 - 1 inpatient withdrawal management
- Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary care across the Island to all ages



How this came about

- The Mental Health Services Strategy, an internal quality improvement strategy, for Mental Health Services, identified the need to increase capability and capacity for people experiencing concurrent disorders
- Soon after, the ‘Strengthening Addiction Services’ (Drug Treatment Funding Program’) project, also identified this as a priority
- Seeking a method to organize and support improved integrated planning, development of a shared program philosophy, and recognition of the needs of the population served



Population of Need

A small sample of co-occurrence:

- Lifetime prevalence of schizophrenia in the general population is 1% and lifetime prevalence of substance abuse disorders among people with schizophrenia is 47% (2)
- Rates of trauma history are high (25-60%) among people seeking substance abuse treatment (2)
- Risk of schizophrenia is six times higher in users of cannabis, than in non users (1)
- For those with adolescent or childhood ODD, they are twice as likely to develop Substance Use Disorders (SUD) (3)

1.Substance Abuse in Canada: Concurrent Disorders; CCSA (2009)

2.Concurrent Disorders Policy Framework; Concurrent Disorders Ontario Network (2005)

3.Making the Case for Investing in Mental Health in Canada; Mental Health Commission of Canada(2012)

- *“I didn’t get help for a long time because with psychiatry they said I had to stop taking drugs before getting any help and substance abuse programs said I had to deal with the mental illness. After an attempted suicide, I was referred to psychiatry for concomitant problems. I started looking for help in 1993 and I only found it in 2005”*

Turning the Key webinar participant, MHCC



Developmental Phase

- Talked with other jurisdictions about their experienced
- Explored a range of methods to achieve our goal
- Most offered little practical/ instrumental support to address change needed across the system
- Several starts and stops
- Trust, Readiness and Acceptance was a challenge at the onset, and continued, from some: fear of unknown, expected changes to be imposed, invalidating current capability and capacity



Comprehensive Continuous Integrated System of Care: What is it?

- It is a process used to achieve the goal of the supporting the development of a system of care that is welcoming, recovery-oriented, integrated, trauma-informed, and culturally competent in order to most effectively meet the needs of individuals and families with multiple co-occurring conditions of all types
- The CCISC model assists to organize services for people and families with co-occurring psychiatric and substance disorders by improving treatment capacity for these individuals within systems
- Improvements are team or site specific and reflect the teams own readiness to change and priorities
- The CCISC uses self survey tools in conversational style, to reflect on areas of strength and improvement
- Results are used to develop work plans, work plans communicated widely, hopefully creating a network where mutual support and shared learning can occur



CCISC Four Basic Characteristics

- **System level change:** designed to be used across level of systems
- **Efficient use of existing resources:** emphasizes strategies to improve services within current service resources
- **Incorporation of best practices:** recognized as a best practice, but also supports incorporation of evidenced and consensus based clinical practices for specific conditions and models
- **Integrated treatment philosophy:** successful treatment interventions are derived from available research and incorporated into an integrated treatment philosophy (and plan) that uses common language that makes sense for both MH&A



CCISC: 12 Steps for Agencies/ Programs developing co-occurring capability

- 1. Formal Announcement and Commitment**
- 2. Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Team**
- 3. Change Agents**
- 4. Goal of Co-Occurring Competency for All Staff**
- 5. Program Self-Assessment**
- 6. Program CQI Action Plan**
- 7. Welcoming and Access**
- 8. Screening**
- 9. Identification and Counting**
- 10. Empathic, Hopeful, Integrated, Strength-Based Assessment**
- 11. Stage-Matched Interventions**
- 12. Integrated Stage-Matched Recovery Planning and Programming**



Early Phase

- Small group developed and promoted the concept, began to conceptualize our own vision
- Worked with Zia Partners to help guide our planning and implementation: advice, mentoring
- Started with leadership/ management group
- Used the framework (12 steps) as a roadmap
- Brought together supervisors and self nominated change agents
- Delivered a kick-off event: September 2013



MH&A, Health PEI, Guiding Principles

- Concurrent Disorders are considered to be an expectation for both MH&A Services
- Services and supports will emphasize evidenced based, promising, and emerging practices
- Services will be recovery oriented
- Service will support self management and encourage people to become active and accountable participants in their health
- Services will involve family and support persons, where appropriate and as defined by the individual
- The system will respect and value the contributions of both Mental Health and Addiction Services



The Plan: create community through conversation

- Created a broad network of change agents across the system and sites
- Empower partnerships
- Provided orientation to change agents and managers, and key stakeholders on the model and supporting change
- Included partners in orientation to new model and rationale for this approach
- Provided support to teams to use the self survey approach to support constructive conversation and supporting change at teams level of readiness- continuing to do so
- Disseminated results of survey through a provincial webinar
- Provide 'technical support' visits to some teams (further support planned) to develop concrete action plans
- Re-organize QIT membership and terms of reference to provide a steering body and work on system level objectives



Early Results

- Increased 'welcoming' activities – physical space, availability of resource information, knowledge translation in program design, increased integrated case planning
- Better understanding of policy and standards changes desired by staff to support improved collaboration and in some cases, integration
- More focus on screening tools and comprehensive assessment
- More focus on matching client readiness with treatment planning, where multiple issues exist
- Orientation to the model and its rationale to 37 change agents plus supervisors and managers agents (about 55)
- Improved team improvement planning



Changes Planned: System Level

- Implement Gain SS province-wide
- Shared access to community electronic record platform between MH & A
- Implement on-site MH & A case conferencing
- Make group work more co-occurring focused
- Implement staff cross-training with the “other sector”
- Seek out common staff training opportunities (i.e. MI)
- Develop Integrated Discharge Plan
- Provide education to staff regarding consent to release/obtain client info policy/forms



Changes Planned or Occurring: Sites

- CMH Outreach Services in Eastern PEI are piloting a blended team given high prevalence of concurrent disorders
- Transition Unit at Addictions (post withdrawal management extended support) planned using concurrent focus
- Increased welcoming activities such as: revamping waiting rooms, more materials available
- Focus on changing language to be more person-centered
- Integration of substance abuse assessment and care planning in inpatient MH West, staged matched
- Shared learning 'rounds' between Methadone program and MH Services
- Scheduled case conferences (versus case based)- visiting clinician consult model CMH&A central
- Creation of a standard form for adult and youth services in addictions that uses the integrated treatment and recovery planning



Lessons Learned - Key Insights

- ‘Change Agents’- While people are the leaders of change, often they do not want to see themselves as leaders and some don’t want to take ownership of that change
- Myth busting- When change is feared, messages can become distorted- myth busting must be an ongoing practice
- “Round of Applause” at any stage - teams are at different stages- all stages need to be supported and validated (we knew this but always helpful to stay mindful of this!)
- “Progress Not Perfection”- incremental, do not over-design, be willing to learn and adjust ongoing
- Tap into the knowledge and ideas that exist, support teams to thrive in ways important to them, within a framework
- The importance of creating forums for conversation to build community and collaboration
- Logistical supports are key



Reference:

- Cline, Christine A., Minkoff, Kenneth, 'Developing Welcoming Systems for Individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders: the role of the Comprehensive, Continuous Integrated System of Care'; Journal of Dual Diagnosis, vol 1(1) 2004.
- <http://www.ziapartners.com/>



Thank you for your interest

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