



DISSEMINATION & ENGAGEMENT - PHASE 2 UNDERWAY

The Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Initiative (CCMHI) completed Phase 1 of a highly successful 2-year Primary Health Transition Fund project. Through the creation of evidence-based research papers and a series of toolkits CCMHI developed a compelling case for improving mental health care in the primary health care setting through interdisciplinary collaboration, including collaboration among health care providers, consumers and caregivers. Through its members organizations CCMHI has also raised awareness of the benefits of collaborative mental health care and built enduring communities of interest committed to further efforts to improve mental health care.

Health Canada has recently provided funding for Phase 2 of CCMHI and now more work needs to be done to ensure that Canadian's with mental illness and their care providers have access to, and can benefit from, the knowledge generated through the CCMHI. As part of its knowledge exchange and engagement strategy, Phase 2 aims to:

- Broadly disseminate collaborative care models, research papers and toolkits developed in Phase 1 of the CCMHI project.
- Promote the national strategy on collaborative mental health care that includes treatment, prevention and health promotion.
- Build awareness and appreciation of the benefits of collaboration with policy planners.
- Promote the training protocols for future practitioners.
- Build awareness and appreciation of the benefits of collaboration and how models of care can be adapted to meet the needs of specific populations.
- Identify opportunities to execute the principles and approaches outlined in the "Charter" by partner organizations.
- Engage clinicians and planners in determining how best to implement collaborative care.
- Link CCMHI with other National mental health initiatives to build synergy.

Our continued consultation and engagement will seek to deepen the appreciation and understanding of best practices in Canada, and options for new models for collaborative mental health care in primary care settings.

The Mood Disorders Society of Canada, and its project team, has been engaged by the CCMHI, with funding from Health Canada, to broadly disseminate its research materials and toolkits to the front line where people are seeking care and to decision-makers who influence mental health policy, health care delivery and professional training. All of these materials can be found on the CCMHI website, www.ccmhi.ca. The MDSC will work

closely with the CCMHI Management and Steering Committees to develop and execute an effective workplan that will help us achieve the goals of Phase 2. . The focus of our efforts will be to share CCMHI resources, seek confirmation of their relevance and utility for promoting collaborative practice and further engage active partners who can promote change. We will need your help! If you have suggestions for who should know about CCMHI and receive CCMHI materials; if you would like to comment on their relevance or utility, or are interested in partnering with us please let us know!

Contact:

Phil Upshall, Executive Director
Mood Disorders Society of Canada
Suite 736, 3-304 Stone Road West
Guelph, On, N1G 4W4
+15198245565
Fax: 1 519 824-9569

Or Neasa Martin, CCMHI/MDSC Project Manager

Neasa Martin & Associates
15 Wayland Ave.
Toronto, ON
M4E 3C6

416 691-8346

Email: neasamartin@sympatico.ca

Or send us an email: Mood Disorders Canada [info@mooddisorderscanada.ca]