

Habilitative Network News Spring 2001

A TWICE ANNUAL BULLETIN OF THE HABILITATIVE MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE NETWORK

Interministerial News

Ministry of Health

In a previous column we highlighted the planned implementation of 'Brian's Law' or Community Treatment Orders. The new Ontario law took effect December 1, 2000 and is directed toward people with serious mental illness who pose a danger to themselves or others and who reside in the community. In January 2001 the Minister of Health announced \$13.3 million of new funding to increase the number of case managers, increase funding for physicians providing services to the mentally ill, create a network to allow physicians to call upon the expertise of psychiatrists, expand the rights advice service and number of cases reviewed by the Consent and Capacity Board, and support the coordination of Community Treatment Orders. The regional breakdown of funding is: \$1,070,580 for each of Southwest, Central East, Central South, Central East, East and North regions and \$2,141,680 for Toronto. Physician Services received \$2,386,800, Consent and Capacity Board \$1,278,800, Rights Advice Services \$850,000, Psychiatrist/Family Physician Network – a renewable one-time grant of \$236,000.

Additionally, \$1 million was given to the Ontario Council of Alternative Businesses to create employment opportunities; \$1 million to the Ontario Mental Health Foundation to fund research to assist the development of mental health policies and programs; and \$500,000 to the Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs to develop a monitoring tool to improve the quality of mental health services in Ontario.

Ministry of Community and Social Services

In mid-May the ministry announced an Early Years Plan of \$114 million focused primarily children aged 0-6. Highlights of the new investments particularly relevant for development disabilities include: \$20 million to expand

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A Family Perspective

By Elizabeth Arnold

I am very pleased to have been sponsored by the Merck Foundation to attend the NADD 17th Annual conference in San Francisco in November 2000. I am the parent of an adolescent who is developmentally challenged and has mental health issues. I found the conference to be very interesting and educational. I was able to meet people involved in research in regards to the latest medications for specific mental illnesses and I also connected with a number of other parents that were attending the conference. I am a member of the NADD Family Issues Committee and attended their meetings at the conference. We have a lot of work to do to accomplish a change in the way that we are being seen and heard by the mental health care professionals in our areas as well as in conferences to come. There was a lot of encouragement given to the Family Issues Committee and the parents who attended the conference to participate more

fully and dedicate themselves to becoming involved in doing a presentation at the next conference, on their own or in conjunction with other families.

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The NADD Family Forum site on the internet/web was designed and started up while we were at the conference. Families can register to be part of this site and are able to "chat" with other families. There are links to other sites that might be of interest as well. This service is offered through Yahoo.com. The address for the NADD Family Forum is <http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/naddfamilyforum>. I would encourage families to take a look at this site and, hopefully, decide to sign up as members.

Within the Ontario Chapter, one of the activities of our Membership Committee is to develop ways to reach out and involve families our work. For more information contact Elizabeth Arnold, 519-832-5554 or arnldr@primeline.net



Message from the Chair

Spring is here and our Chapter is busy as usual. At our last Board meeting, the executive was elected. Once again, I am privileged to be the Chairperson. Naseema Siddiqui is the Vice Chairperson, Jim Johnston is the Treasurer, and Connie Zieren is the Secretary.

We have submitted a draft of our training curriculum to both the Ministry of Community and Social Services and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for their approval. Once this is received, we move on to publishing and distributing the book! The curriculum looks excellent – all 584 pages of it – with 99% Ontario authors.

Very special thanks go to the tireless Editorial Committee consisting of Dr. Dorothy Griffiths, Dr. Chris Stavrakaki, and Jane Summers, who have volunteered literally hundreds of hours to make the curriculum a reality.

Jo Anne Nugent, President



the current autism initiative to age 5; \$4 million for expansion of services to age 5 for children at risk or diagnosed with developmental delay; \$6.9 million for children's mental health centres early intervention and treatment for ages 0-6; \$2.5 million for pregnant women with addiction difficulties; \$600,000 for public education and awareness for Infant Screening and Communications Development program; \$1.4 million for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome education, training and awareness program; and \$30 million fiscal commitment to Early Year Centres across the province for one stop information, referral and services. Money has also been allocated to program evaluation and outcome measures.

Update from the Board of Directors

Meet A New Board Member

Elizabeth Arnold is a married mother of three children, aged 21, 19 and 16 1/2. She lives with her family in Port Elgin, Ontario. Her youngest, Rachael, is developmentally challenged and has mental health issues. She has sat on the Board of Directors of Community Living, Owen Sound & District for the past eight years, two as President. I have been Regional Area Director/West 3 on the Ontario Association for Community Living for the past three years. Elizabeth is very active on the Dual Diagnosis Planning Advisory Committee for Grey-Bruce and is a member of the Membership Committee of the Board of the Ontario Chapter of NADD.

An Introduction to the Mental Health Needs of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, Dorothy Griffiths, Chrissoula Stavarakaki and Jane Summers (Editors)

This long awaited training manual is now being prepared for distribution. There are 17 chapters that include topics such as the application of the DSM IV to persons with developmental disabilities, comprehensive screening, assessment and intervention planning, collaborative treatment approaches, psychopharmacology, team approaches, sexuality, substance related disorders and legal and ethical issues. The Board is now working on a distribution plan which will be forwarded to our members.

2001 Board of Directors

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Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held on April 18, 2001. The Financial Report was as follows:

Balance at December 31, 1999	\$3,522.71
Income:	
NADD Membership Rebate	2,397.86
Share of Niagara Conference	1,980.35
Ontario Government Conference Grant	5,000.00
Newsletter Subscriptions and Sale of Directories	95.00
Interest	5.24
Total Income	9,478.45
Expenses	
Newsletter	885.00
Board Expenses	2,498.58
NADD Payment of Government Grant	5,000.00
Insurance, Bank Charges, Post Office Box	1,009.86
Total Expenses	9,393.44
Balance as at December 31, 2000	3,637.72

A Partnership in Action

"Habit is either the best of servants or the worst of masters." – Nathaniel Emmons.

The creative and forward thinking York Region Dual Diagnosis Committee has created an environment in which trusting relationships and partnerships can be formed between agencies from both developmental and mental health sectors. This enables the habits of working in isolation with little or no rapport to be broken and replaced with partnerships predicated on communication, sharing, teamwork and trust. The end result is an indisputable enhancement of the quality of life of individuals with a dual diagnosis.

Two exciting illustrations of such partnerships have been developed and implemented recently with the Crisis Teams at York Central Hospital, Richmond Hill and at Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket.

York Central Hospital has long recognized and been sensitive to the complexities of individuals with a dual diagnosis. Their recent proposal to commit extensive time and financial resources to a comprehensive dual diagnosis training curriculum to further develop the expertise of their crisis workers was another example of the willingness to provide a

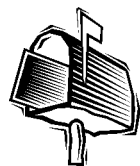
superior quality of service to individuals with a dual diagnosis.

At Southlake Regional Health Centre, the Behavioural Clinic of York Behaviour Management Services and the Adult Crisis Team at Southlake Regional Health Centre have created a partnership to provide urgent response comprehensive assessment and treatment/crisis plans to individuals with a dual diagnosis who present in crisis at the Emergency Room. This partnership also provides for mutual training in the areas of crisis management and dual diagnosis. This partnership is a unique and valuable combination of resources - the sum of which provides an unparalleled "depth of expertise" with which to serve individuals with a dual diagnosis.

These developments are a direct derivative of the York Region Dual Diagnosis Committee which is dedicated to bringing people together to create new productive 'habits' which will be the best of servants rather than the worst of masters. For more information contact Jim Hughes at 905-773-2362.

Local Committee Update

In the Southwest region during the last year the Ministry of Health and Long term Care provided \$ 503,000 of funding for the following projects for individuals with a dual diagnosis: 1) \$ 48, 000 one time funding for Regional Dual Diagnosis Committee projects which included the development of a regional web site, sponsorship of a regional dual diagnosis conference, development of a video on an introduction to dual diagnosis and purchases of educational materials from the Habilitative Mental Health Resource Network; 2) \$ 60,000 one time funding Grey Bruce Community Health Program for one time dual diagnosis projects; 3) \$130,000 for Windsor Regional Hospital to develop dual diagnosis services in the area; 4) \$100,000 for Grey Bruce Regional Health Centre for dual diagnosis services to support individuals in hospital and in community; 5) \$150,000 to the Crest Centre for the placement of 2 individuals with a dual diagnosis from the local provincial psychiatric hospital; 6) \$ 5,000 for Developmental Disabilities Program for Sessional fees; 7) \$ 10,000 to Regional Support Associates for their additional consulting fee for dual diagnosis psychiatric support .



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please tell us what do you think? About program, treatment or planning issues. Fax your comments c/o Susan Morris at 416-463-4025.



Call for Partnership Ideas

Send us a one page description of effective approaches and/or programs and it will be published in this newsletter. Include the major characteristics of the individual(s) being served, the major issues, the various roles of those involved in the partnership and why it is working. Fax your description to Susan Morris at 416-463-4025

Information Resources

Interesting WEB Sites:

http://www.who.int/mental_health/ World Health Organization website. Has articles on aging and intellectual disabilities, available in PDF format. Or contact University of Western Ontario Developmental Disabilities Program for copies.

<http://www.uic.edu/org/rrtcamr/newproducts.html>. U.S. Rehabilitation Research and Training Centre on Aging with Mental Retardation

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced> Ontario Ministry of Education website re special education information.

www.marycentre.com A new website offered by the Mary Centre, including Respite Care information.

Support Resources

A Person-Centred Approach to Handling Resistance to Daily Hygiene Services: A Video Training Program for Direct Care Staff. www.specializedcare.com Phone 603-926-0071, Fax 603-926-5905

HEALTH WATCH Chart for the Person with Down Syndrome II, by Allan Crocker M.D. National Down Syndrome Congress http://www.members.carol.net/~ndsc/hw_table.html

Taking Care of Tomorrow: Encouraging Senior Parents to Plan. A Canadian Resource! Available in video (\$10) and book (\$15) or \$20 for both – family rate. The book has more detail including information about the aging process. Family & Friends of the Mentally Handicapped, 7025 Enterprise Way, Windsor, Ontario N8T 3N6, 519-974-4221, Fax 519-974-4157

Toronto Family Network is a parent group that supports the inclusion and well being of family members with disabilities. Initiated about 2 years with a grant from the Trillium Foundation. Membership is free. For information call 416-484-1536 or fax 416-484-1589.

Here & There

\$2.2 Million for Alzheimer Disease. In March 2001 the government announced this funding to "help ensure that staff who work with clients have access to the best specialized resources". About \$1.7 million will to the Alzheimer Society of Ontario to fund projects that support the implementation of the Alzheimer Strategy, including staff training in long-term care facilities, Community Care Access Centres and community support service agencies. Local Dementia Networks, community led partnerships among health care providers, planners and advocates to help improve access to services will also be funded. \$500,000 will go to the Ontario College of Family Physicians to support training on early detection and diagnosis.

MCSS Policy Statement on Children with Special Needs was announced in January 2001 as a response to concerns raised regarding the involvement of child welfare agencies to facilitate parents accessing services. "This government will never force any parent to relinquish custody of a child in order to access special needs supports," said Baird. "Our child protection system should only be used where there are child protection concerns.... In communities across the province, there are community access centres specifically available to such families who can access services that best meet the needs of the child. Indeed, when a parent approaches a Children's Aid Society

and no protection concerns exist, the family must be referred to more appropriate community service providers...The policy statement issued today is consistent with the approach begun more than two decades ago to keep families together by providing support services and care close to home in the community."

Madeans Magazine, in a recent article "Planning for Life After Death" noted that most children with disabilities live at home, but asked 'what happens when they outlive their parents?' The article estimated that there are 660,000 Canadians who have disabilities that necessitate lifelong care, and another one million with disabilities who require periodic support. It also highlighted Vancouver's Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN) and their role in supporting individuals after parents are gone. For more information see www.madeans.ca, use search word 'disabilities'. Links to related websites including PLAN.

Compensation Woes also affect the community mental health and addiction field. (In an earlier newsletter the issues within the developmental sector were highlighted). The Ontario Federation of Community Mental Health and Addiction Programs has a Workforce & Compensation Committee. In a recent report they noted that the "lack of additional provincial funding for pay equity has resulted in many of our member

agencies falling behind on their pay equity obligations. The acute care e.g. hospital sector, continues to offer higher compensation than the community sector." In a meeting with the Ministry of Health in September 2000 the ministry committed to a joint task group to 'provide the appropriate data' to support the funding request for the next budget submission. The Federation is also participating in a campaign to education MPPs by the Ontario Health

Providers' Alliance Pay Equity Group. A one-time 2% payment was made by the MOH to community agencies during the 2000/01 fiscal year, however this has not yet been approved as an annual adjustment.

Toronto Report Card on Homelessness (2001) found that homelessness continues to rise particularly among families, even though Toronto's economy has grown and unemployment has dropped; the fastest growing groups

of emergency shelter users are now two-parent families and couples; people are staying in emergency shelters for longer periods of time causing a 'bottleneck' and people to use shelters as housing; the demand for emergency food relief programs in the GTA increased by 12% and almost half of all users were children; in 2000 the province funded 762 new supportive housing units for emergency shelter users and homeless people with serious mental illness and another 300 are to be funded in 2001.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Dual Diagnosis Workshops in Halton and Peel – FREE for staff, families, and consumers from Peel or Halton Regions. September 26th, Full Day: An Introduction to Dual Diagnosis October 24th, Morning: Behaviour Management and Dual Diagnosis November 21st, Morning: Local Resources and Parent Panel. For more information, please contact Jo Anne Nugent at 905-891-1790.

NADD Annual Conference and Exhibit Show – Emerging Practices in Dual Diagnosis & All That Jazz October 24-27, 2001. Radisson Hotel, New Orleans. For information: <http://www.thenadd.org>, 132 Fair Street, Kingston, New York 12401. 845-331-4336, Fax 845-331-4569, e-mail theNADD@aol.com

Regional Support Associates. 2001 Workshops: For information www.regionalsupport.on.ca
Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Distance Education College Courses. Affiliated with the IAPSRS Ontario Chapter, 6 courses focus on integration PSR into group and organizational work, case management, the psychiatric rehabilitation process and 'hot topics'. \$291 per course includes readings and internet connection. www.mohawkc.on.ca/cecat, click on Health Sciences and select Psychosocial Rehabilitation or contact harriet Woodside at woodsih@mail.mohawkc.on.ca

Do you want to join NADD?

Call or write NADD at 132 Fair St, Kingston, New York 12401-4802. Telephone 914-331-4336, Fax 914-331-4569. E-mail: nadd@ulster.net. Web site: <http://www.thenadd.org>

Inquire about family, student, individual and organizational memberships. Cost is paid in US dollars with 20% returned to support Ontario Chapter activities. With NADD membership you receive this bulletin free of charge.

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