



Spring/Summer 2012

A Twice Annual Bulletin of
the Habilitative Mental
Health Resource Network

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Website:

<http://www.thenadd.org>

Inquire about family,
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Cost is paid in U.S. dollars
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NEWS

Habilitative Mental Health Resource Network

Advertise your employment opportunities FREE of charge on the website. Submit a copy ready word document with expiry date to: contactus@dualdiagnosisontario.org

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

In 2011 two outstanding Ontario citizens and contributors to the field were appointed Members of the Order of Canada. Marg Spoelstra, Executive Director of Autism Ontario, received this high honor in recognition of her dedication, advocacy and tireless commitment to helping people with autism. Dorothy Griffith, founder of NADD Ontario, former President of the NADD (international) and Professor on the Faculty of Social Sciences, Child and Youth Studies of Brock University, received this honor for her advocacy on behalf of people with developmental disabilities and mental health needs. Please join us in sending them a heartfelt thank you for their contributions to the enhancement of the lives of Canadian citizens and their families.

We are delighted to be able to have Dorothy Griffiths speak to us at our upcoming AGM on May 25, 2012. She will be talking about **25 Years of Dual Diagnosis in Ontario – What Next?** For the 2nd year in a row attendance at the AGM will also be available virtually through selected Specialized Network sites. We look forward to 'seeing' many of you there.

Read below for information on the Dual Diagnosis Guideline Review – electronic questionnaires have been sent out broadly to developmental, mental health and Specialized Network providers – take 20 minutes to have your say!

We wish you all a happy and warm summer!
Susan Morris, President

INTERMINISTERIAL NEWS

An update of what is happening

Policy Guideline

The joint Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Ministry of Community and Social Services evaluation of the Joint Policy Guideline is now underway. HSC Vision Group has been hired to undertake an effectiveness evaluation of the Guideline and to develop a promising practices toolkit. Essentially it is a *system level review* of how the Guideline has been implemented and the impact it has had on the field in relation to cross sector collaboration. The process runs from April to October beginning with an electronic survey of mental health, developmental services and Community Network of Specialized Care stakeholders as well as key informant interviews through site visits resulting in a report regarding the effectiveness of the Guideline. A review of provincial, national and international literature will help inform the toolkit for cross sector collaboration by end of October.

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A provincial advisory committee with representation from across the sectors, government and NADD Ontario has been struck that will meet a few times to provide input to the process. As members of this group we have been encouraged to seek comments from our communities in order to make sure that what is occurring on the ground is captured.

NADD Ontario is very pleased with the direction of this review because of the focus on the system aspects. The Guideline was originally developed with this in mind – to provide direction and context to support and complement the individual and program level work that individuals, families and service providers have engaged in for so long. From our perspective the desired outcome of this evaluation would be to bring about systematic cross sector procedures and practices, available in all Ontario regions, so that individuals with a dual diagnosis do not become lost in the system. For more information or to share your ideas please contact the NADD Ontario representatives to this process: Jim Johnston (thejohnstons1@sympatico.ca) and Susan Morris (Susan.Morris@camh.net).

Open Minds, Healthy Minds

In the last NADD Bulletin we outlined Ontario's new Mental Health and Addiction Strategy. The priority focus for the first three years is children and youth. System change will be led locally through 14 Service Collaboratives. The first Collaboratives have begun to meet in Penetang, Ottawa, London and Thunder Bay. The remaining will roll out through 2014/15.

The Collaboratives will be working to achieve the following outcomes that include early identification and equitable access to appropriate services and supports; shorter wait times for community and hospital services, fewer emergency department visits, fewer patients identified as requiring alternate level of care and better quality of life for people with mental health and/or addictions issues and their families. Participation on the Collaboratives is to be drawn from stakeholders from across children and youth, health, education and justice sectors.

Unlike previous system change and policy initiatives, the focus of this mental health and addiction transformation is on system problems, rather than specific population concerns. This means that discussions within the Collaboratives will focus on the parts of the system that do not work: how to fix them. Dual Diagnosis has previously been referred to as the best example of the worst that can go wrong. Ontario also provides excellent examples of promising practices to address system failures – many of which are found within the dual diagnosis field. The Collaboratives will want to hear about these examples such as the Primary Care Guidelines and Clinical Tools, crisis plans and tools to facilitate transitions between sectors and service resolution processes. Collaboratives are in a position to fund and evaluate pilot projects that address system gaps.

NADD Ontario's Government Relations group is continuing to monitor developments and link to appropriate provincial leaders to ensure the system gaps and successes are brought to the table. We will provide updates through the bulletin or one topic specific e-mails to NADD Ontario members as necessary. Please let us know if you are involved in a Collaborative or want more information by contacting Susan.Morris@camh.net.

A Collaborative is coming to a location near you, soon! The developmental disability and dual diagnosis voice belongs at the table – find out how you can join.

Find your local CAMH Provincial Services office by connecting to: http://www.camh.net/About_CAMH/Ontario_Regional_Services/index.html. Then click on the appropriate geographic region (Southwest, Eastern, West Central, GTA West, Central Ontario or Northern Ontario) to find the office phone number and staff contact to learn about your local collaborative.

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HERE AND THERE

Updated DSW Program Standard Includes Dual Diagnosis!

The Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities has been involved in the process of updating the 2000 Developmental Services Worker Program Standard. This document lists the Learning Outcomes which must be met by all graduates of Developmental Services Worker Programs across Ontario. Thus, it shapes the curriculum being taught. The Program Standard updating process has included input from Community Colleges, private Colleges, agencies, and representatives from both the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. After extensive consultation, the final draft has been prepared and will be going forth for approval.

The exciting news for those of us who are involved with NADD is the fact that dual diagnosis has been added to the new DSW Program Standard. The 2000 Program Standards made no reference at all to dual diagnosis. Now, there are 4 specific dual diagnosis topics that will be taught to DSW students across Ontario. As a result, DSW graduates will have a foundation of dual diagnosis knowledge and skills when they become employed. This certainly will have a positive impact on their ability to effectively support people with a dual diagnosis.

This is an exciting change and reflects the growing awareness of and interest in dual diagnosis in Ontario. For more information, contact Jo Anne Nugent at jnugent@nugenttraining.com

Voluntary autism registries are popping up across the country according to the Globe and Mail (January 10, 2012). The Ottawa Police Services launched a pilot project in 2010 in partnership with the local chapter of Autism Ontario and it has now become permanent. The registry was established to inform police that a child or adult may not be able to speak to them or follow commands. In one situation police knew how to de-escalate a crisis because his family had submitted information about him and his love of hockey. Ottawa is considering expansion of the registry to include people with other non-verbal conditions. There is another similar registry with the Windsor Police and Autism Services Inc.

The Supreme Court of Canada made a landmark ruling that allows individuals with a mental health disability the right to testify in court. The *Canada Evidence Act* allows those charged with a criminal offence the right to challenge the competency of the accuser. The judge presiding over the case would then have to examine the individual to determine whether he or she understood the obligation to tell the truth, and individuals who failed this test would be denied the right to testify. The ruling written by Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin states, "Those with mental disabilities are easy prey for sexual abusers." To prevent them from testifying because they cannot explain the nature of the obligation to tell the truth "is to exclude reliable and relevant evidence and make it impossible to bring to justice those charged with crimes against the mentally disabled." (*Toronto Star*, February 14, 2012) To access the ruling, visit scc.lexum.org/en/2012/2012scc5/2012scc5.html

The Drummond Commission Report (Public Services for Ontarians: A Path to Sustainability and Excellence) provided advice to the Liberal Government on public sector cuts with the goal of increasing efficiencies to achieve a balanced budget by 2017/18. Spending growth in most public sector areas is to be reduced, except in mental health care where there was recognition of chronic underfunding. The report allowed for an increased budget of 2.5 per cent, and faster growth in Mental Health than in other sectors. In addition, the report calls for collaboration and amalgamations in many areas. Reference to developmental disabilities is found in Chapter 8. "...Shifting funding from transfer payment service agencies to service recipients over time could encourage changes in the developmental services sector by promoting a more competitive and market-driven approach to the provision of services and supports, based on individual need and demand. They recommend that the reformed developmental system should transform to

- Fully implemented single point of contact to access services
- Funding allocated based on assessed needs, using individual-based funding allocation model (community services)
- Clear eligibility criteria used consistently province wide
- Person-centred, individualized approach to planning and making life transitions with minimal service disruption; quality assurance measures support consistent service standards.

NADD Ontario has learned that this recommendation, as with many others, was provided to the Commission by the respective government ministries. This is not a new policy, but it does cause concern for a segment of the developmental disability population who we know are disadvantaged by market driven approaches. The full report can be found at <http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/reformcommission/index.html>

Check out our website for what's new, great links and resources

www.nadd.ontario.org

www.dualdiagnosisontario.net

UPDATE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Annual General Meeting will occur on May 25th - with the primary location at Surrey Place Centre in Toronto. Virtual sites are available as listed below. To register another videoconference location contact ispicer@clhmidland.on.ca. NADD Members register your location for voting roll call by e-mailing conanta@providencecare.ca

- Association pour l'integration sociale d'Ottawa, 235 Rue Donald, Ottawa
- Bethesda, 3950 Fly Road, Vineland
- Hands TheFamilyNetwork.ca, 222 Main Street East, North Bay
- Ongwanada, 191 Portsmouth Avenue, Kingston
- Regional Support Associates, 633 Colborne Street, 2nd Floor, London
- Surrey Place Centre, 245 Sheppard Avenue West, North York
- Tri-County Community Support Services, 349 A George St. North, Suite 303, Peterborough

2011 Financial Report

The NADD Ontario financial position continues to follow the trend of expenditures being slightly higher than revenue. In 2011 expenses were \$3999.94 more than revenue, but \$6925.79 less than 2010. The difference between 2010 and 2011 is directly attributable to the reprinting of the Dual Diagnosis book. Cash balance on hand as of December 31, 2011 was \$46,612.26, compared to \$52,785.67 in 2010.

Revenue in 2011 totaled \$10,386.38 which is \$1729.15 more than 2010. This is due in part to receipt of membership revenue from The National Association for Dual Diagnosis (NADD) for 2010, but received in 2011. At this time primary sources of funds continue to be the sale of the Dual Diagnosis Book and the membership rebate from NADD.

Significant expenses for 2011 include:

Joint Project with the National Coalition on Dual Diagnosis \$5783.99

There was no significant year over year changes in other income or expense lines.

Copies of transaction registers and bank statements are sent to NADD for review by their auditors.

To be presented at the 2012 Annual General Meeting, May 25, 2012 by:

Karen Hirstwood
Treasurer, NADD Ontario

By-law changes

The regular review of bylaws and policies of an organization ensures that the governance structure and procedures are up to date. One of the more significant by-law changes to be brought forward to the AGM is the reduction of the number of board members from 15 to 12. The goal of this change is to facilitate more efficient operation, and to shift of the locus of volunteer time and input into the strategic task groups – where the real work is now occurring. Attending the AGM will provide you with more information on the achievements by these groups this year and future work.

2011 Ontario Chapter Recognition Award Recipients

We are delighted this year to recognize four leaders from the health field for their outstanding contribution to individuals living with a dual diagnosis:

Debbie Champ, Nurse Practitioner is a Community Mental Health Nurse on the Dual Diagnosis Consultation Outreach Team of the Royal Ottawa Hospital who has led the Dual Diagnosis Community of Practice Videoconference for many years.

Marilyn Crabtree, Family Physician works in the Ottawa area providing services to individuals with a developmental disabilities or a dual diagnosis and makes every effort to reach out to clients.

Joel Kula, Dentist practices in Allison and makes house calls when individuals have been unable to travel to his office.

Jay Rao, Psychiatrist works in Southwestern Ontario and assists the South Network of Specialized Care to promote research to increase the knowledge and skills of community-based partner groups in the region.

For more information about each of these remarkable individuals, visit the NADD Ontario website at <http://www.naddontario.net>

SUPPORT RESOURCES

<http://www.surreyplace.on.ca/Clinical-Programs/Medical-services/Pages/PrimaryCare.aspx>

Link to the updated Primary Care of Adults with Developmental Disabilities: Canadian Consensus Guidelines (2011), and to the Tools for the Primary Care of People with Developmental Disabilities. In addition to numerous general health tools, the Behavioural and Mental Health Toolbox links to tools that primary care providers can use for risk assessment, ABC charting, crisis prevention and management and auditing psychotropic medication issues therapy.

<http://www.rarediseases.org/> the website for the National Organization for Rare Disorders. If you register (no charge) you will be able to view and print off a comprehensive report on up to 2 disorders each day.

http://www.camh.net/Research/Areas_of_research/Clinical_Research/dual_diagnosis_program.html Website of the CAMH Dual Diagnosis Research Program. At the bottom of the page is a link to a PDF summary of research on dual diagnosis and emergency department use. It includes links to other relevant studies and to guidelines to manage or prevent hospitalization.

Asperger Syndrome in Adulthood: A Comprehensive Guide for Clinicians by Stoddart, K., Burke, L. & King, R. This new book includes chapters on assessment, mental health symptoms, neurodevelopmental, genetic, medical and psychosocial issues, and interventions.

EVENTS

Health and Wellbeing in Children, Youth, and Adults with Developmental Disabilities: *Challenging Behaviour – The Tip of the Iceberg*

November 15 -17 Vancouver, For information: <http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/HealthAndWellbeing/default.asp>

International Certificate Programme in Dual Diagnosis Summer Institute 2012. Brock University. For information: dualdiagnosis@brocku.ca
Registration: www.brocku.ca/dualdiagnosis

NADD IDD/MI Quality Care Accreditation & Certifications NADD has introduced an accreditation program for programs, clinicians and direct support professionals, providing. Successful completion of the accreditation process reflects that a program demonstrates the provision of state of the art services for individuals with IDD/MI. By accrediting your program and having staff certified by NADD, you are demonstrating devotion to continual improvement of care for individuals with a dual diagnosis. This not only provides an assurance of competency to people receiving services, professional colleagues and employers, but can potentially be a recruitment tool for attracting professionals well-versed within the field of dual diagnosis. For more information: <http://acp.thenadd.org>

Health and Well Being in Developmental Disabilities Toronto, November 2013

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