

PEI PROJECT/PROGRAM CATEGORIES

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT SERVICES

Projects/programs that actively identify members of the PEI priority populations who are at risk of emotional, behavioral or mental health conditions and provide easy and immediate access, information and referral assistance to culturally competent early intervention services as needed.

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Programs and services occurring prior to a diagnosis for a mental illness which are designed to reduce risk factors or stressors, build protective factors and skills, and increase support. Prevention projects/programs promote positive cognitive, social and emotional development and encourages a state of well-being that allows the individual to function well in the face of changing and sometimes challenging circumstances.

Prevention projects/programs may be classified according to their target groups:

Universal: target the general public or a whole population group that has not been identified on the basis of individual risk

Selective: target individuals or a subgroup whose risk of developing mental illness is significantly higher than average.

EARLY INTERVENTION

Projects/programs directed toward individuals and families for whom a short-duration (usually less than one year), relatively low-intensity intervention is appropriate to measurably improve a mental health problem or concern very early in its manifestation, thereby avoiding the need for more extensive mental health treatment or services; or to prevent a mental health problem from getting worse.

SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT SERVICES

Projects/programs that incorporate the use of voluntary mental health screening and assessment tools, brief structured interviews, and other activities designed to identify individuals who may be at risk of developing emotional, behavioral or mental health conditions.

CRISIS AND REFERRAL SERVICES

Crisis response projects/programs encompass a wide range of culturally competent, population-specific strategies aimed at reducing suicidal behavior and its impact on family, friends, and communities. This spectrum includes warmlines/hotlines; integrated mobile crisis response teams; promotion and prevention strategies that offer community education campaigns, foster resiliency, increase appropriate help-seeking behaviors and enhance protective factors in individuals and communities; build the capacity of providers and systems to offer appropriate services including interventions to address mental health problems early and to reduce suicidal behaviors; and follow-up care

services for those who have survived a suicide attempt and for family members and others who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

TRAINING SERVICES

Training projects/programs targeting staff and volunteers working in schools and universities, primary care setting and emergency medical services, refugee and recent immigrant programs, law enforcement, teen programs, violence prevention programs, sexual assault crisis centers, homeless programs, disaster assistance/response programs, grief support programs, to better understand, identify and address potential mental health needs of PEI priority populations and access/utilize local community mental health resources. Training projects/programs may also target the general community and/or specific at-risk populations in an effort to increase the understanding and awareness of factors that contribute to the development of mental health problems, reduce the potential for stigma and discrimination against individuals with mental illness, and increase access to and awareness of local mental health resources.

SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES

Projects/programs that provide outreach and education to children, youth, families, and school staff to increase awareness of mental health issues and reduce stigma and discrimination; build resiliency and increase protective factors in children and youth; foster a positive school climate; prevent suicide; expand early intervention services; develop school-wide approaches to prevent bullying and violence; provide professional development/training on mental health for those working with children and youth in schools; and support policies and practices that demonstrate that students' social/emotional health and competencies are a primary part of the school's mission

PARENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Projects/programs would specifically target mothers and fathers, as well as grandparents and others who have responsibility for caring for at-risk children and youth. These projects/programs would foster effective parenting skills and family communication, healthy identities and extended family values, child growth and development, and self-esteem. Parenting support, education and skills training to parents or other adults who suffer from a mental illness and who are raising children should also be considered. Services may also include assisting parents in reducing the incidence of child abuse, substance abuse, juvenile delinquency, gang violence, learning disorders, behavior problems, and emotional disturbances.