

## Alberta Integrated Youth Service Initiative (AB-IYSI) Project Director Job Posting

Calls for system transformation have been issued loudly and repeatedly by youth, families, service providers, and policy makers across service sectors. Currently however, disparate jurisdictions are tackling transformation independently, often investing limited resources to gather and assess knowledge already reviewed by others and implementing initiatives that duplicate instead of leverage existing work.

The Alberta Integrated Youth Services Initiative (AB-IYSI) is a provincial collaboration to improve coordination and access to integrated mental health, addictions and social services for young people ages 11-24. This provincial initiative will help to further demonstrate the community and system transformation that can be made possible through multi-stakeholder collaboration, and ensure that youth in the province receive evidence-based, trauma-informed care, in the right place by the right provider.

The initial collaboration includes four organizations, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Alberta Division, the Mental Health Foundation, PolicyWise for Children & Families (PolicyWise), and the Graham Boeckh Foundation. These four organizations are committed to working collaboratively to ensure a fully coordinated provincial approach to Integrated Youth Services is organized and implemented.

Reporting to the Governing Council, the Project Director is responsible for providing overall strategic direction, leadership and vision for the AB-IYSI – a collaborative, province-wide initiative with the vision to increase access and integration of health and social services for youth aged 11-24. The Project Director develops strong relationships with all partners and stakeholders and works closely with them to guide strategy, achieve an effective alignment of shared activities, jointly measure outcomes, build broad public support, advice policy and mobilize future funding alongside partners to sustain programming at desired levels.



## Project Director - Key Responsibilities

### Strategic Planning and Implementation

- In collaboration with PolicyWise, support finalization of a multi-year implementation plan for the AB-IYSI
- Oversee implementation of the multi-year plan, priorities and milestones for the demonstration initiative for approval by the Governance Council (based on available funding and including options on potential future scenarios)
- Negotiate and confirm an appropriate integration of the existing hubs with the provincial program to ensure consistent branding, program model, funding model and evaluation process
- Lead the process to select additional demonstration sites based on an approach approved by the Governance Council
- Develop and manage budget
- Oversee contracts and service agreements specific to operations
- Implement the guides, manuals, templates, protocols, and other tools developed by PolicyWise to support a consistent development of hubs across the province, including the importance of youth engagement throughout the hub development process.
- Collaborate with PolicyWise to continue evidence-informed improvements of the guides, manuals, templates, protocols and other tools
- Work to ensure that hub demonstration sites are aligned as much as possible with provincial transformation of the mental health and addictions system
- Work closely with new sites on a variety of implementation issues including but not limited to:
  - Support collaborative practices across the network of organizations;
  - Support and guide integration of service across the members of the hub;
  - Support youth engagement principles and practices;
  - Address local service delivery gaps;
  - Advise on local referral protocols to ensure seamless client transfers;
  - Ensure data collection for evaluation is appropriately underway as site comes on-line
- Update Governance Council on project progress and key lessons learned to ensure strategic alignment of goals

### Thought Leadership

- Collaborate with PolicyWise to further develop the hubs demonstration site concept for approval by the Governance Council, including the program and funding model, considerations regarding the operational size and scope of hubs, the minimum set of essential services and care pathways common to each hub, and the evaluation plan that will be common to all demonstration sites
- Work with ministry partners to advise how the hub concept can be best aligned and integrated into the provincial transformation of the mental health and addictions system and continue to advocate to government to support the AB-IYSI across multiple ministries.

- Maintain an expert level of knowledge of integrated services and hub initiatives in other jurisdictions and the related literature including scientific studies and reports, and contribute to this literature as appropriate to support the implementation and evaluation of the provincial initiative
- Provide presentations as required to foster broader comprehension of the model with relevant audiences across the province

### **Community and Partnership Development**

- Engage and work with mental health experts, existing provincial mental health organizations and other community stakeholders
- Establish, oversee and engage advisory groups
- Work closely with the fundraising partner, the Mental Health Foundation, to ensure appropriate project funding needs are identified and appropriately articulated

### **Staffing**

- Oversee provincial coordinating team staff, including setting work priorities with staff
- Hire additional staff as needed and within budget constraints

### **Communications**

- Develop and oversee communications strategy
- Ensure that internal and external stakeholders are communicated with consistently and on a regular basis
- Oversee development of communications material for a variety of audiences and uses

### **Program Evaluation**

- Collaborate with PolicyWise to ensure planning and implementation of the AB-IYSI is informed by evidence generated through research and evaluation

### **Qualifications**

The Project Director will be thoroughly committed to the initiative and serve as a champion for this integrative, youth-centred approach that supports youth and their families. The Project Director will have proven service delivery, evaluation, implementation leadership, coaching, and relationship management experience.

Specific requirements include:

- Experience working in mental health, addictions and/or social service delivery
- Experience working collaboratively with government, philanthropy, community stakeholders, youth and families
- Understanding of how to support government partners in the context of the accountability and decision-making structures in which they function
- Political acuity to understand the heightened accountability and responsiveness required of a position responsible for marshalling public resources

- Track record of effectively leading and regionally scaling a performance- and outcomes-based initiative including specific examples of having developed and operationalized strategies that have led an initiative to the next stage of growth
- Strong written and verbal communication skills; a persuasive and passionate communicator with excellent interpersonal and multidisciplinary project skills
- Action-oriented, entrepreneurial, and innovative approach to business planning
- Ability to work effectively in collaboration with diverse groups of people
- Advanced degree as required to be the thought leader of a provincial youth mental health and addictions initiative
- Unwavering commitment to quality programs and data-driven program evaluation
- Excellence in organizational management with the ability to coach staff, manage, and develop high-performance teams, set and achieve strategic objectives, and manage a budget
- Past success working with a Board of Directors with the ability to cultivate existing board member relationships
- Passion, idealism, integrity, positive attitude, mission-driven, and self-directed

### Notes

18-month term position with the opportunity of extension and/or becoming permanent. Secondments will be considered. Position will remain open until filled. Applications will be accepted until April 15, 2019.

### How to Apply

Please submit application to [mark@mentalhealthfoundation.ca](mailto:mark@mentalhealthfoundation.ca) with attention to “AB-IYSI Governing Council”. Please ensure your cover letter and resume are submitted as one file.