

Introducing... Mental Health Leaders

What is Ontario Mental Health and Addictions Strategy?

Open Minds, Healthy Minds is a ten-year Strategy designed to enhance the mental health and well-being of citizens of Ontario. It includes contributions from ten government Ministries and offers a systematic and comprehensive approach to service delivery along the continuum of mental health promotion, prevention, and intervention / ongoing care. The first three years of the Strategy are devoted to children and youth mental health and addictions under the leadership of the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

What are the Ministry of Education Commitments to the Strategy?

Amend the education curriculum

Develop a K-12 Resource Guide/Website

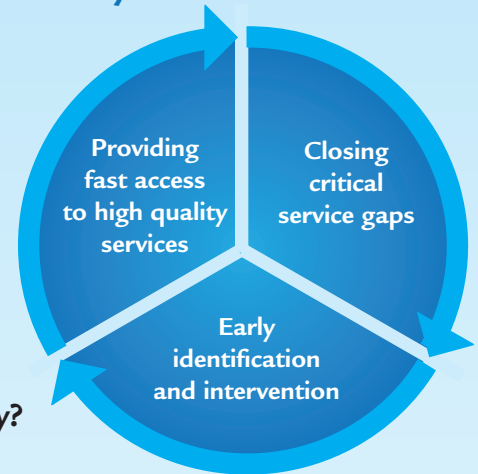
Provide support for professional learning in mental health and addictions for all Ontario educators

Fund and support Mental Health Leaders in publicly funded school boards

Support *Working Together for Kids' Mental Health*

Implement School Mental Health ASSIST

3 Key Priorities...



What is the Role of the Mental Health Leader?

Mental Health Leaders are full-time senior mental health professionals with dedicated responsibility for :

- conducting/updating board and school level resource mapping to determine areas of strength and need
- providing leadership for the board mental health team
- working with senior administration to develop and implement the board mental health & addictions strategy
- coordinating systematic mental health literacy initiatives in the board
- selecting and supporting evidence-based approaches to mental health promotion and prevention
- collaborating with board and community professionals to promote clear and integrated access to services

How are the Mental Health Leaders positioned in School Boards?

In most boards, Mental Health Leaders report to, or work closely with, Supervisory Officers with responsibility for student mental health and well-being. They also work alongside senior psychologists and social workers as part of a board mental health leadership team. Mental Health Leaders are a key point of contact for new professionals hired to support boards as part of the Ontario Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.



For more information, contact:

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