

**A M H B**

ALBERTA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

... Advancing Mental Health

Mental Health Research Program Progress Update

April 2006

Priority Setting Roundtable February 23, 2006

The identification of mental health research priorities for Alberta is a crucial part of moving quickly forward with the implementation of an ambitious mental health research program in our province. The Priority Setting Roundtable was recently held to identify two to four priority themes that will inform the detailed planning for implementation of the Mental Health Research Program for Alberta. The roundtable included participants from a variety of stakeholders including: provincial government ministries and agencies; non-profit organizations; academic institutions; researchers; the AMHB; and regional health authorities.

A report highlighting the results of these discussions is available on the AMHB web site. Review the discussion paper and complete the online feedback form at www.telehealthscheduling.ca/surveyor/survey.asp?s=01093056116148234

The deadline for feedback submissions is April 7, 2006.

Feedback on the mental health research priorities suggested in the discussion paper will be summarized for consideration by the Mental Health Research Partnership Committee in developing their recommendations to the AMHB, the Government of Alberta and other potential funders of mental health research. A draft report on the priority setting process and resulting priorities will be completed by the end of April 2006. Thank you for your input.

If you have questions, please contact Jody Sutherland at 403-297-2354 or email jody.sutherland@amhb.ab.ca

Mental Health Research Showcase 2006

The inaugural Mental Health Research Showcase was such a great success that the AMHB is planning a second Showcase for 2006.

The conference will be held at the Rimrock Hotel in Banff from October 29th to November 1st. We will continue to keep you informed with regular progress updates.

AMHB Summer Employment Research Program (ASERP)

The AMHB is working with the Regional Health Authorities and the mental health community to build, enhance, and maintain capacity for research, evaluation and quality improvement activities in service settings. To that end, the AMHB Summer Employment Research Program (ASERP) pilot program has been initiated and the inaugural program will run during the summer of 2006. The program will run for 10 to 16 weeks and support a maximum of 20 students (maximum of two students per health region and two additional students for non-profit organizations). Through subsidized wages, the program facilitates the hiring of undergraduate and graduate students studying in mental health and related fields by health regions and non-profit organizations.

While the program will provide the opportunity for employers to develop new projects, funding will also be provided to current projects that need additional support. This program will primarily support research/activities in the areas of health services, and population health (including mental health population surveillance). A variety of activities that may be supported include (but are not limited to): activities that encourage knowledge transfer/exchange; literature reviews; environmental scans; needs assessments; quality improvement; and data analysis.

For more information visit the AMHB web site at www.amhb.ab.ca/What_We_Do/research/ASERP/default.asp or contact Otilia Berze at 403-297-4600 or email otilia.berze@amhb.ab.ca

For More Information

For information about mental health research program activities contact:

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