

## **QHC's Parent, Child and Youth Clinic transferring services to Children's Mental Health Services**

Belleville, ON – December 22, 2016: Effective today - all referrals for children's mental health services in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties can be made to one agency.

The **Children's Mental Health Services (CMHS)** was identified as the lead agency for all children's mental health services in the area by the Ministry of Children and Youth Service in December 2015. The **Parent, Child and Youth Clinic** located at Quinte Health Care (QHC) Belleville General Hospital is transferring services to the **CMHS** as part of a collaborative integration. Having services streamlined in one agency will help make it easier for families -and all those who work with families - to know where to go to get help for children and youth in need of mental health support.

QHC and CMHS are working together to ensure a smooth transition for those families directly affected by this transfer of services. Clients currently receiving care at the Parent, Child and Youth Clinic will be introduced to the CMHS staff in the coming weeks to minimize any impact due to this transition. Families will be contacted directly by mid- January and informed of how the transition will work.

QHC is asking referring agencies, schools and physicians to discard their PCYC referral forms and ensure they are referring directly to the CMHS- either through their website at <http://cmhs-hpe.on.ca/> or by calling 1-844-GO2-CMHS (462-2647).

Transition options for the six PCYC staff involved were to move with the services to the new agency or to exercise their rights outlined under their respective collective agreement.

### **Quotes:**

"The ministry is pleased to support the transfer of services from the Parent, Child & Youth Clinic to Children's Mental Health Service in the Belleville area. This transfer supports the key goals of the Moving on Mental Health action plan to ensure mental health services are available and accessible to children, youth and families in their communities."- David Remington, Director, East Region, Ministry of Children and Youth Services

"The relocation of services from the Parent, Child and Youth Clinic to Children's Mental Health Services is intended to improve children, youth and their families' access to high quality mental health services, strengthen worker capacity, create a responsive and integrated system and build awareness and capacity about mental health issues within our community." --- Susan Sweetman- Executive Director, Children's Mental Health Services

"We are so thankful to our tremendous staff at the Parent, Child and Youth Clinic for the exceptional care they have provided to children and families over the years. They continue to show their remarkable dedication to the families they serve by ensuring they make a smooth transition to CMHS. --- Linda Price - Director of Mental Health Services, QHC

For agency background, please visit: <http://cmhs-hpe.on.ca> or [www.qhc.on.ca](http://www.qhc.on.ca). Media inquiries to:

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