

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Children's Mental Health Services describes our purpose and what we hope to achieve as an organization.

Children's Mental Health Services in partnership with families and communities promotes the healthy emotional well-being of children and youth through a range of services and supports.

## VISION

The hopes and aspirations of Children's Mental Health Services are based on our vision for the future.

Our vision is a community that inspires the healthy social and emotional well-being of its citizens by supporting children, youth and families in their efforts to recognize their strengths, enhance capabilities, achieve goals and participate in community life.

## VALUES

The vision and mission of Children's Mental Health Services are shaped by a set of fundamental values. These beliefs guide directions, decisions and performance.

We value...

- Youth/family-based strategies
- Uniqueness and diversity
- Partnership and collaboration
- Excellence and innovation
- Continuous learning and quality improvement
- Accountability and integrity

# Children's Mental Health Services

Serving Children and Families  
in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties

## Belleville

Administration Offices  
3 Applewood Drivet, 3rd Floor  
Belleville, Ontario  
K8P 4E3

**613-966-3100**

Fax: 613-966-2744

## Trenton

84 Division Street  
K8V 4W5

**613-392-4331**

Fax: 613-392-2283

## Picton

124 Main Street  
P.O. Box 2329  
K0K 2T0

**613-476-8252**

Fax: 613-476-2287

## Madoc

108 Russell Street  
K0K 2K0

**613-473-1685**

Fax: 613-473-9950

## Bancroft

8 Hastings Street  
P.O. Box 88  
K0L 1C0

**613-332-3807**

Fax: 613-332-9976



**Email: [cmhsblvl@cmhs-hpe.on.ca](mailto:cmhsblvl@cmhs-hpe.on.ca)**

**Website: [www.cmhs-hpe.on.ca](http://www.cmhs-hpe.on.ca)**



**Children's Mental Health Services**

*Serving Children and Families  
in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties*



## YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH COURT WORKER PROGRAM

*An Accredited  
Children's Mental Health Centre*

## YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH COURT WORKER

The Youth Mental Health Court Worker provides support to youth involved in the Youth Justice System (age 12 to 17 years at the time of charge) who struggle with their mental health. The worker will provide the youth with support during the court process and will assist the youth in connecting to local services that may be helpful to them.

If the charge before the court is for a lesser offence, the youth will be assisted in applying to the Crown Attorney's Office to be diverted away from the court process. A diversion plan will be created and if the youth complies with the plan, the charge may be withdrawn.

If the youth does not apply to be diverted or the diversion application is denied, the court worker will continue to provide support to the youth during the court involvement, helping to connect them to appropriate programs and support.

### Is there a cost to this program?

There is no cost for this program. The program is funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services-Youth Justice Services and offered through Children's Mental Health Services, Hasting and Prince Edward Counties.

### What is the Service Area?

Youth Courts in Belleville, Bancroft and Picton are supported by this program.

## GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

- To identify the mental health needs of the youth involved in the Criminal Justice System.
- To support the diversion of youth away from the Criminal Justice System to community based mental health resources and services.
- To facilitate referrals and improve access to community based mental health resources, to minimize involvement in the Criminal Justice System.
- To provide information and support to family members and care givers of youth with mental health issues.
- To provide consultation to the Youth Justice Court, Crown Attorney, Defense/ Duty Counsel and community agencies.

## REFERRAL SOURCES

Referrals can be made at any stage of the court process by a youth, family member, care giver, Youth Justice Court, Crown Attorney, Defense/ Duty Counsel, or community agency.

## REFERRAL PROCESS

To make a referral please contact the Youth Mental Health Court Worker at:

613 - 966-3100 EXT:280 or in person at Century Place - Youth Court 4th Floor  
Tuesday - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

## FACTS ABOUT YOUTH AND JUSTICE

- It is estimated that one in five youth has a diagnosable mental illness.
- Females are more likely than males to have an anxiety and mood disorder.
- Youth in the justice system experience substantially higher rates of mental illness than youth in the general population.
- Anxiety and mood disorders often co-occur with disruptive behaviour disorders and substance use disorders.
- Youth and the justice system often present with other risk factors including trauma, abuse, teen pregnancy, precocious exit from home and early school leaving.

Source Skowrya & Coccozza (2006)...  
*Blueprint for Change: A Comprehensive Model for the Identification and Treatment of Youth with Mental Health Needs in Contact with the Juvenile Justice System.*  
National Centre for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice.



*Children's Mental Health Services is a Non-Profit Charitable Organization Governed by a Volunteer Community Board of Directors.*