Centre for Innovation in Campus Mental Health: Campus Community Partnership Framework and Application Overview

The Centre for Innovation on Campus Mental Health (CICMH) is a partnership project involving Colleges Ontario, the Council of Ontario Universities, the Ontario Undergraduate Student Alliance, the College Student Alliance, and the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division.

Our mission is to help Ontario's post-secondary institutions enhance their capacity to support student mental health and wellbeing. A strategic priority for CICMH is to strengthen partnerships and enable knowledge sharing to address student mental wellness. In fiscal 2025/26, CICMH will continue to work towards strengthening community agencies' relationships and collaborations with campuses across Ontario. We will also be looking to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion in student mental health by supporting the provision of programs and services that meet the needs of equity-deserving student groups.

The CICMH Community Campus Partnership Framework is a key part of our work in enhancing collaboration and partnerships between community and public post-secondary campuses.

The Need	• The demand for post-secondary student mental health services and supports is increasing. • Campuses and community mental health organizations are struggling to meet this growing demand. • The linkages between campus and community agencies are generally not well developed across the province. • Individual campuses and community agencies have unique skills, resources, and/or approaches that would benefit other partners.
Objective	Developing and strengthening partnerships between non-profit community mental health agencies and public post-secondary institutions. Key outcomes include: • Increased number of students served • Decreased in wait lists • Improved referrals to community agencies • Increased service options on and off campus • Improved transitions for students needing support
Opportunity	• Campuses can leverage support and expertise of community agencies to augment and/or complement campus programs, services, and supports.

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Types of Support from CICMH	• Identifying potential community or campus partnerships. • Facilitating introductions with community and campus contacts. • Support project application process. • Resources to help develop programs or services (materials, tool kits, handbooks, research, etc.). • Resources to support developing and strengthening more effective partnerships. • Facilitating communication and knowledge sharing with other agencies with experience in proposed project area.
Who can Apply	• Joint application prepared by community agency (can be multiple agencies) and one public post-secondary institutional partner. The community mental health agency(ies) **must be lead applicant.** • Community mental health agency(ies) serving Ontario residents and any Ontario public post-secondary institution • All applications must have sign off by senior leadership responsible for campus wellness and the community agency(ies) • Agencies can submit more than one application for projects with other academic public post-secondary institution
Type of Projects	Replicating, adapting, or scaling a proven model or program currently offered **in your community** • Replicating, adapting, or scaling **new program/service** with **existing** campus partner • Replicating, adapting, or scaling **new program/service** with **new** campus partner Demonstrating an untested model or program in your community • Developing **new program/service** with **existing** campus partner • Developing **new program/service** with **new** campus partner
Application Deadline	• **June 1st, 2025**
How to Apply	Please go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WPWF3NG to complete the brief online application
Lens	Special consideration will be given to projects that focus on the following themes: • Mental health supports for Indigenous Students • Application of an anti-oppressive lens/ anti-Oppressive Practice to student mental health • Application of a health equity lens/practices to student mental health • Whole-campus approaches to mental health crisis response • Implementation of a campus/community program or service related to the National Standard for Mental Health and Well-Being for Post-Secondary Students
Examples of Partnership	Low Resource Intensity • Training for students as part of academic program

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Programs and Activities	• Training and/or supports for student leadership • Promotion and awareness of community programs and services • Training for campus staff and administration to support student mental wellness <u>Medium Resource Intensity</u> • Peer support training or development of programs (e.g., MH 1st Aid) for campus students (council, residence dons, etc.) • Established campus/agency referral process • Integrated planning sessions to address student mental health needs • Consultation around specific issues, e.g., suicides, eating disorders <u>High Resource Intensity</u> • On-campus clinics during peak stress times (e.g., orientation and exams) or year round • Integrated service supports (e.g., embedded staff on campus) • Crisis support advice • Mobile clinics • Clinics/Counselling off-campus
Frequency	**3 spots** are available in the Campus Community Partnership Project. Agencies can submit **one (1) application** during the 2025/26 fiscal year with the maximum allotment per campus. **Funds of up to $10,000** are available to support each project.
Selection and Approval Process	• Prior to submitting, applicants must contact Selena, the CICMH Community Partnership Lead, to discuss the project (snorman@campusmentalhealth.ca) • Projects requesting $1000 and more will be required to include a project plan, description of partner roles and budget • Selected projects are committed to regular virtual check-ins with CICMH's Campus Community leads for discussions surrounding project updates and completion of check-in surveys and a reporting form • **These applications will be reviewed and approved by CICMH and a sub-committee of the Executive Committee members (2-4 weeks turnaround)**. Applications will be reviewed **semi-blind** (identifying details will be removed) to ensure neutrality.
Project Assessment Criteria	• Balance across Ontario geography. • Balance across post-secondary institutions. • Balance across community agencies. • New partnerships will be rated higher • Student engagement. • Type of projects - replicating, adapting, or scaling a proven model or program or proposing an untested model. • Level of proposed project intensity. • Funds requested.

Reporting and Requirements	• Two progress reports and one final report on successful projects **must be submitted via Survey Monkey** (link will be provided by Community Partnership Lead) **by May 2026.** • Applicants will be **notified of selection by July 2025** • **Programs must begin by October 2025** • Progress reports **must be completed by March 2026** • **The final reporting form must be completed by May 2026** • **10% of the funds will be held back** until progress reporting is completed.

For more information or to discuss a proposed project, please contact Selena at snorman@campusmentalhealth.ca