

Child and Youth Crisis Response Steering Committee

Terms of Reference

Vision

Access to a timely, flexible 24/7 crisis response system that strives to resolve immediate crisis in the least intrusive manner by drawing upon a range of possible responses (e.g., telephone, mobile response, emergency services, follow-up/linkage) for all children, youth and families in Simcoe County.

Mandate

The Child and Youth Crisis Response Steering Committee provides a structure for cross-sectoral, collaborative planning to ensure the delivery of integrated crisis response services for all children, youth, families, and caregivers in Simcoe County. Specifically the Steering Committee provides:

- Advice on the overall direction, role, function and performance monitoring for the crisis response service system within Simcoe County's broader continuum of care for children and youth.
- Further development and oversight of crisis service system partnerships (eg. oversees continued implementation of the Protocol for Youth at High Risk for Suicide – a community collaboration).
- Communication with stakeholders regarding the role and function of the crisis service system within Simcoe County's broader child and youth service system.
- Consultation on education of cross sector organization staff.
- A forum for clear and prompt feedback on the crisis response services and collective problem solving to resolve system issues.
- Reporting to stakeholders regarding the performance of the crisis service system against established goals and objectives.

Guiding Principles

- Promote timely, flexible and accessible service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Support provision of services in the least intrusive manner.
- Services to be developed within a network of related services comprised of viable partnerships with the goal of a fully integrated crisis system.
- Promote systemic approaches for the assessment and treatment of children and youth within the context of their culture, family and other significant social systems.
- Promote training in crisis theory, safety planning, use of risk assessment tools and evidence informed intervention strategies.
- Operate with the understanding that crisis workers function in the context of a cross sectoral and inter-disciplinary team.

Accountability

The Steering Committee is accountable to the Integrated Planning Table of the Child Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Steering Committee is built around the principle of shared ownership of the crisis response service system. The primary responsibility of members is to share in a collaborative process to develop, ensure delivery of, and monitor a seamless, integrated crisis response service for children, youth and families in Simcoe County, and to act as a link between the Crisis System and their respective organizations.

The Steering Committee is co-chaired by two members, one of whom will be a representative of the Kinark Child and Family Services Youth Mobile Crisis Response Service.

The co-chairs are responsible for:

- Facilitating the work of the Steering Committee by setting the meetings, agendas, and completing and circulating minutes

Frequency of Meetings

The Steering Committee meets monthly, at times excluding July and August.

Steering Committee Membership

Barrie City Police
CMHA Barrie-Simcoe Branch
Kinark Child and Family Services
La Cle
Ministry of Children and Youth Services
New Path Youth and Family Services
Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre
Simcoe County District School Board
Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board
Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions
Catulpa Community Support Services
MacKenzie Health Centre for Behavior Health Sciences
Parent/Family member

Seeking Membership:

LHIN Community and Home Care Mental Health nurses
Indigenous representative
Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital

Review of Terms of Reference:

The Steering Committee Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually.

