

2007 Community Forum on Homelessness

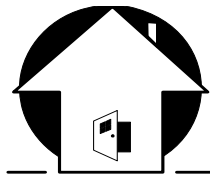
Linking National Research with Ottawa Action and Policy

In Honour of

NATIONAL HOUSING DAY

November 22, 2007

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA, TABARET HALL CHAPEL, 75 LAURIER STREET E., OTTAWA



Presented by

The Alliance to End Homelessness in Ottawa

www.endhomelessnessottawa.ca

- OUR VISION** **An inclusive community that takes responsibility for ensuring every resident has an appropriate home.**
- OUR MISSION** **The Alliance to End Homelessness is a coalition of community stakeholders in Ottawa committed to working collaboratively to end homelessness by gaining and promoting a better understanding of homelessness and advocating for strategies to end it.**
- OUR PRIORITIES** **Public Education ~ Research ~ Advocacy**

Alliance to End Homelessness in Ottawa (ATEH)

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS

Action-Logement (Action-Housing)	Oasis
Anglican Diocese of Ottawa	Odawa Native Friendship Centre
Anglican Diocese of Ottawa, Community Ministries Board	Ontario Association of Social Workers, Eastern Branch
Anglican Social Services - Centre 454	Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) - Carleton University
Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa	Operation Go Home
Bronson Centre	Options Bytown Non-Profit Housing Corporation Organization Name
Bruce House	Ottawa Action on Poverty-Action Pauvreté Ottawa (OAP-APO)
Canadian Mental Health Association – Ottawa Branch	Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization (OCISO)
Carlington Community and Health Services	Ottawa East Churches for Affordable Housing
Catholic Immigration Centre	Ottawa Inner City Health
Causeway	Ottawa Innerscity Ministries
Centre 507 Drop-In	Ottawa Salus Corporation
Centre Espoir Sophie	Pinecrest-Queensway Health & Community Service Centre
Centre for Research on Educational & Community Services, University of Ottawa	Pinganodin Lodge Inc
Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation (CCOC)	Psychiatric Survivors of Ottawa (PSO)
Centretown Community Health Centre	Red Cross
Christmas Exchange of Ottawa	Royal Ottawa Hospital
City of Ottawa, Housing Branch	Salvation Army Booth Centre
Cooperative Housing Association of Eastern Ontario (CHASEO / AHCEO)	Sandy Hill Community Health Centre
Cornerstone Women's Shelter	Shepherds of Good Hope
Daybreak Non-Profit Shelter	Social Planning Council of Ottawa
Debra Dynes Family House	Somali Center for Youth, Women and Community Development
Elizabeth Fry Society	Somerset West Community Health Centre
Emily Murphy Non-Profit Housing Corporation	South-East Ottawa Centre for a Healthy Community
Family Services Ottawa	St. Joe's Women's Centre
First Baptist Church	Stewart and Associates
Good Day Workshop	The Mission
Harvest House Ministries	The Ottawa Food Bank
Horizons Renaissance Inc.	The Well/La Source
Housing Help	Tungasuwingat Inuit, "A Place Where Inuit are Welcome"
Jewish Family Services	United Way/Centraide Ottawa
Knights of Columbus St. George Council	Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health
Ministry of Community and Social Services, Eastern Region	West End Legal Services
Minwaashin Lodge/Oshki Kizis Healing Lodge	Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre
Multifaith Housing Initiative	YMCA-YWCA, National Capital Region
Nelson House of Ottawa-Carleton	Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa
Nepean Community Resource Centre	Youville Centre

The Alliance to End Homelessness gratefully acknowledges support for the Community Forum on Homelessness from our Alliance to End Homelessness Members,

***United Way/Centraide Ottawa, the University of Ottawa and
the Homelessness Partnering Strategy, Government of Canada.***

ATEH STEERING COMMITTEE

CHAIR

Mary-Martha Hale Director, Anglican Social Services, Centre 454

VICE-CHAIR

Perry Rowe Executive Director, Salvation Army Booth Centre

MEMBERS

Tim Aubry Senior Researcher, Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services, University of Ottawa

Sheila Burnett Co-Executive Director, Shepherds of Good Hope

Joe Enberg Community Representative

Sue Garvey Director, Cornerstone/Le Pilier

Khristin Hunter Director, Community Impact and Investment, Community Services, United Way/Centraide Ottawa

Rosine Kaley Executive Director, Action-Logement (Action Housing)

Meg McCallum Ottawa Social Housing Network

Terrie Meehan Community Representative

Marilyn Mills Counselling Services Coordinator, Pinecrest-Queensway Health & Community Services

Diane Morrison Executive Director, The Mission

Wendy Muckle Executive Director, Ottawa Inner City Health Inc.

Judy Perley Senior Director, Housing and Support Services, National Capital Region, YMCA-YWCA Ottawa

Evelyne Power Reid *Ex-Officio Member*, Director/Directrice, Eastern Ontario Service Canada Centres/Centres Service Canada d'Ontario Est

Dan Sabourin Director, Community Programs, Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa

Trudy Sutton Executive Director, Housing Help

Paul Wallace Operations Coordinator, Psychiatric Outreach Team, Dual Diagnosis Consultation Outreach Team, Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre

Connie Woloschuk *Ex-Officio Member*, Manager, Residential and Support Services, Housing Branch, Community & Protective Services, City of Ottawa

Marion Wright Executive Director, Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa Branch

Lynne Browne Coordinator, Alliance to End Homelessness

ATEH Forum Organizers

The Research and Evaluation Working Group (REWG):

Chair, Tim Aubry, University of Ottawa

Lynne Browne, the Alliance to End Homelessness

Hiba Agha, United Way/Centraide

Paddy Fuller, Research Consultant

Marcia Gibson, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

Fran Klodawsky, Carleton University

Wendy Muckle, Ottawa inner City Health Inc.

Jean Sorensen, City of Ottawa Housing Branch

Marie-Eve Sylvestre, University of Ottawa

David Vincent, University of Ottawa

OTHER ATEH WORKING GROUPS: **Public Affairs Working Group & Leadership Training Working Group.**

For more information: please contact the Coordinator, Lynne Browne at 613- 241-7913 ext. 205, lbrowne@ysb.on.ca, C/O 147 Besserer Street, Ottawa, ON K1N 6A7

2007 Community Forum on Homelessness

Linking National Research with Ottawa Action and Policy

IN HONOUR OF NATIONAL HOUSING DAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2007

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FINAL PROGRAM

*The Alliance to End Homelessness***2007 Community Forum on Homelessness***Linking National Research with Ottawa Action and Policy***IN HONOUR OF NATIONAL HOUSING DAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2007**University of Ottawa, Tabaret Hall Chapel, 75 Laurier E., 1st Floor, 9:00 am–2:30 pm, Registration Free, Lunch Provided

WELCOMING REMARKS	Mary-Martha Hale , Chair of the Alliance to End Homelessness (ATEH)
FORUM CHAIR	Tim Aubry , Chair of the ATEH's Research and Evaluation Working Group & Senior Researcher, Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services, University of Ottawa.
SPECIAL GUESTS	The Research Alliance for Canadian Homelessness, Housing, and Health REACH³ is a collaborative interdisciplinary network of academic investigators & community partners in Ottawa, Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Montreal.
CITY OF OTTAWA PROCLAMATION NATIONAL HOUSING DAY	Mayor Larry O'Brien presenting.

<p>9:45 Panel Plenary Session</p> <p>Presentations & Audience Questions</p>	<h2>Housing Solutions</h2> <p>MODERATOR – Wendy Muckle, Ottawa Inner City Health & OTTAWA REACH³ Member</p> <p>PANEL MEMBERS</p> <p>Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH, St. Michaels Hospital, Toronto – Policy & program implications</p> <p>Liz Evans, BScN, Portland Hotel Society, Vancouver – Innovative housing programs</p> <p>Lorraine Bentley, MA, Executive Director, Options Bytown, Ottawa – Housing situation</p> <p>Larry Magnan, Resident, Options Bytown, Ottawa – A personal perspective</p>
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10:45 **Break**

<p>11:00 Panel Plenary Session</p> <p>Presentations & Audience Questions</p>	<h2>Homeless Youth Move Forward</h2> <p>MODERATOR – Susan Farrell, Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre & Ottawa REACH³ Member</p> <p>PANEL MEMBERS</p> <p>Bruce MacLaurin, MSW, PhD (Cand.), University of Calgary – Calgary street youth</p> <p>Catherine Worthington, MSc, PhD, University of Calgary – Calgary street youth</p> <p>Nancy Haley, MD, FRCP, Montreal Public Health Department – Montreal street youth</p> <p>Andrea Poncia, Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa (YSB) – Ottawa street Youth</p> <p>Janna Dickinson, Youth Advocate – An Ottawa youth perspective</p>
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12:00-12:30 **Lunch** – provided for all participants (Krackers Katering).

12:30 to 1:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Informal Lunch Networking Caucuses</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Chat with REACH³ members and each other</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Facilitated by Ottawa's Alliance to End Homelessness Members</p> <p>Please select your lunch at noon, and then at 12:30, join one of the hour-long caucuses to share ideas with each other and to ask more questions of REACH³ members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Aboriginals</i> • <i>Community Engagement/NIMBY</i> • <i>Francophone</i> • <i>Health & Harm Reduction</i> • <i>Housing and Supports</i> • <i>Newcomers</i> • <i>Single Women/Single Men</i> • <i>Youth</i>
1:30 -2:30 Plenary Training Session	<p style="text-align: center;">The Good, Bad and Ugly – the InSite Experience</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The “how” behind linking community agencies and researchers</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Led by Liz Evans, Sarah Evans, and Anita Palepu</i></p> <p>A session describing how the community and the academic's worked together on <i>InSite</i>, the good, bad and ugly parts of the experience when the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, come together locally, nationally and internationally.</p>

All day – A sound & photo installation

Street Health Stories

How do you take care of your health when you don't have a home?

Eight Street Health Stories in large lightbox prints with headphones.

The National Film Board of Canada's Filmmaker-in-Residence presents the Street Health Stories installation which gives a human face and voice to Street Health's statistics. **Four photographers who have experienced homelessness**, Adrienne, Jess, Keneisha, and Meghan, document the stories of 28 homeless men and women through audio recordings and portrait-photography. **Katerina Cizek** is a documentary-maker and the National Film Board of Canada's *Filmmaker-in-Residence* at an inner-city hospital, teaming up with partners at the frontlines – doctors, nurses, healthcare providers and patients – partnering media with medicine.

On hand at the Forum to answer questions: Erika Khandor, MHSoc (Street Health Toronto) & Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH, St. Michaels Hospital, Toronto.

Visit www.streethealth.ca/home and click to see a short preview for STREET HEALTH STORIES, an 8 minute film which premiered on CBC News on Sunday, September 23rd. The film presents the stories and statistics of the Street Health Report 2007, with portraits and the voices of survey participants. For more information visit www.nfb.ca/streethhealthstories.

Forum Proceedings will be available on the Alliance to End Homelessness Website:
www.endhomelessnessottawa.ca

We gratefully acknowledge support from our Alliance to End Homelessness Members, United Way/Centraide Ottawa, the University of Ottawa and the Homelessness Partnering Strategy, Government of Canada.

About REACH³

The Research Alliance for Canadian Homelessness, Housing, and Health

Background

Established in 2003 with a 1-yr grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the aim of this network is to build research capacity to enhance our understanding of the health of Canadians who are homeless or vulnerably housed. This dynamic, interdisciplinary team has brought together a team of highly accomplished academic investigators and leaders from community-based organizations in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal.

Three main REACH³ objectives:

1. To understand the causes and consequences of homelessness in Canada;
2. To examine the health disparities affecting homeless adults, families and street youth; and
3. To recognize the social, economic, and behavioural forces underlying these disparities.

REACH³ members span a diverse range of disciplines, including psychology, medicine, epidemiology, sociology, nursing, health services research, public health, health geography, social work, urban studies, and health economics. In its first year, the team's efforts began with the conception and design of a CIHR-funded pilot study to develop the Quality of Life for Homeless and Hard-to-House Adults Instrument (QOLHHI), a new quality of life instrument that would specifically address health and housing issues which have been identified as important to homeless adults and street-involved youth.

Development of Research Projects

In 2006, REACH³ was awarded a 5-year CIHR Interdisciplinary Capacity Enhancement (ICE) Grant in Homelessness, Housing, and Health that would further sustain and expand the team's long-term commitment to policy-relevant research. The grant has recently provided seed funding for pilot projects and proposal development, including the development of 4 CIHR Operating Grant Proposals:

1. To examine the residential trajectory of street youth in Montreal and Calgary, and determine the individual, social and health factors that predict residential stability in this population;
2. To observe changes in health status, psychological distress, quality of life as measured by the QOLHHI, risk behaviours, and use of health services associated with changes in housing status in homeless and vulnerably housed adults in Vancouver, Toronto, and Ottawa;
3. To compare single adults, parents and children re-housed into rent-geared-to-income social housing to those who are wait-listed on health status, depressive/anxious symptomatology, quality of life, social support, perceived general stress, parental stress, behavioural and developmental competencies and potentially injurious events; and
4. To further refine the various subscales of the QOLHHI that was developed based on the results of focus groups with persons who were homeless or vulnerably housed as well as street-involved youth across REACH³ cities.

Summary

REACH³ represents an outstanding opportunity to develop policy-relevant research that will elucidate the effects of housing on population health, the interrelationships between health status and the course of homelessness, and the effectiveness of program and policy interventions to improve the health of Canadians experiencing housing vulnerability.

REACH³ Team Members and their Areas of Expertise

CITY	INVESTIGATORS	COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Vancouver	<p>Anita Palepu, MD, MPH St. Paul's Hospital / University of British Columbia (health services research, injection drug use, HIV)</p> <p>Anita Hubley, PhD University of British Columbia (measurement and evaluation, psychometrics)</p>	<p>Liz Evans Executive Director, PHS Community Services</p> <p>Sarah Evans Coordinator, InSite, PHS Community Services</p>
Calgary	<p>Bruce MacLaurin, MSW University of Calgary (social work, child welfare, street youth)</p> <p>Catherine Worthington, PhD University of Calgary (health services, HIV/AIDS, qualitative research)</p>	<p>Karen Wyllie Community Planner, Calgary Homeless Foundation</p>
Toronto	<p>Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH St. Michael's Hospital / University of Toronto (epidemiology, health services research)</p> <p>David Hulchanski, PhD University of Toronto (housing policy, immigrants & refugees)</p> <p>Jeff Hoch, PhD University of Toronto (health economics, cost-effectiveness analysis)</p> <p>Jim Dunn, PhD University of Toronto (health and social geography, housing inequalities)</p>	<p>Laura Cowan Executive Director, Street Health Community Nursing Foundation</p> <p>Erika Khandor Research & Evaluation Coordinator, Street Health Community Nursing Foundation</p>
Ottawa	<p>Tim Aubry, PhD University of Ottawa (psychology, community-based services)</p> <p>Susan Farrell, PhD Royal Ottawa Health Care Group / University of Ottawa (diagnostic assessment, program evaluation)</p> <p>Fran Klodawsky, PhD Carleton University (geography, environmental studies, housing)</p>	<p>Wendy Muckle Director, Ottawa Inner City Health Project Inc.</p>
Montreal	<p>Élise Roy, MD, MSc Faculté de médecine et des sciences de la santé, Université de Sherbrook (public health, substance use, street youth)</p>	<p>Sylvain Flamand Director of Intervention, Dans la rue</p>

Forum Guests – Biographies

Nathan Allen – Vancouver

Nathan Allen is the coordinator of InSite for Community Safety the community coalition of individuals and groups working to support Vancouver's Supervised Injection Site. He also works for the PHS Community Services Society as the Bank Manager of Pigeon Park Savings, a credit union in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, which provides accessible financial services for local residents. Nathan is attending on behalf of the Portland Hotel Society which is represented by REACH³ members Sarah Evans and Liz Evans from Vancouver.

More info: Nathan Allen, 406-65 West Cordova, Vancouver BC, V6B 8P6, phone: 604-833-0748, email: Nathan@phs.ca

Tim Aubry, PhD (REACH³) – Ottawa

Dr. Tim Aubry is a professor in the School of Psychology and Senior Researcher at the Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services at the University of Ottawa. His areas of research include community mental health, homelessness, and program evaluation of health and social services. Dr. Aubry is currently the Chair of the Research and Evaluation Working Group of the Alliance to End Homelessness in Ottawa. He is the co-Principal Investigator of the Ottawa Panel Study on Homelessness, a longitudinal study examining pathways out of homelessness.

More info: Tim Aubry, CRCS, University of Ottawa, 34 Stewart, # 104, phone: 613-562-5800 ext. 4815, email: Tim.Aubry@uOttawa.ca, www.sciencesociales.uottawa.ca/psy/eng/profdetails.asp?login=taubry

Lorraine Bentley, MA – Ottawa

Lorraine Bentley has a Master's degree in Urban Planning from the University of Waterloo. She has both Canadian and international experience in researching, planning and implementing housing and community support services for the most vulnerable populations. Since 2000, she has been the Executive Director of Options Bytown Non-Profit Housing Corporation, an organization that provides supportive housing for people with a history of homelessness, addictions and mental illness.

More Info: Lorraine Bentley, Executive Director, Options Bytown Non-Profit Housing Corp. 380 Cumberland St., Ottawa ON K1N 9P3, phone: 613-241-6363 x223, fax: 613-241-4855, email: lbentley@optionsbytown.com, <http://www.optionsbytown.com>

Laura Cowan, RN, BScN (REACH³) – Toronto

Ms. Cowan is the Executive Director of Street Health, an innovative, non-profit community-based agency founded in 1986 that provides services to address a wide range of physical, mental and emotional needs for homeless and socially marginalized people in Toronto. Ms. Cowan has led a number of community-based participatory research projects on issues of homelessness and health care, housing, harm reduction, and income security.

More info: Laura Cowan, Street Health, Toronto, phone: 416-921-8668 ext. 231; email: laura@streethealth.ca

Janna Dickinson – Ottawa

Janna Dickinson is a 20-year-old street kid, traveler and panhandler; all of which hold no bearing on her strong capabilities as an intellect, activist and advocate for those less fortunate. Her role as an advocate includes spreading awareness of many things from homelessness to harm-reduction and discrimination. She also personally works with youth to ensure they know what's safe when it comes to sex, drugs and diseases as well as teaching them to learn their own personal boundaries and to respect those limits that others have established. She is a passionately engaged and involved youth who takes a firm stance on tough issues and fights for her beliefs in hopes of benefiting her community.

More Info: Contact C/O: 613.241.7788 ext 409, hiv@ysb.on.ca

Liz Evans, BScN (REACH³) – Vancouver

Liz Evans is the Executive Director of the PHS Community Services Society, an innovative non-profit organization providing housing, supports, and advocacy in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. The Society operates single room occupancy hotels, supported mental health apartments, North America's only supervised injection site, a community credit union, a drug-users resource centre, a low-income dental clinic, a needle exchange, and a number of other programs. Liz has been honoured with several awards including the Health Advocate of the Year Award by the Registered Nurses Association of B.C., Canada's Top 40 Under 40, and the Queen's Golden Jubilee for Community Service.

More info: Liz Evans, PHS Community Services Society, 20 West Hastings St. Vancouver BC., Phone 604 683-0073 ext 351, email: liz@phs.ca

Sarah Evans, BA (REACH³) – Vancouver

Sarah Evans is the Program Coordinator at the Supervised Injection Facility (InSite) and at related community health projects operated jointly by the PHS Community Services Society and Vancouver Coastal Health. She has been involved in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside community for 15 years as an organizer, educator, researcher, service-provider and resident.

More info: Sarah Evans, PHS Community Services Society, 20 West Hastings St. Vancouver BC., Phone 604 683-0073, sarah@phs.ca, <http://www.sharedlearnings.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Prof.dspProfileFull&profilesId=18131194-83ff-4f31-aea0-37e8756b3d0e>

Susan Farrell, PhD (REACH³) – Ottawa

Dr. Farrell is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry and clinical professor in the School of Psychology, University of Ottawa. She is a clinical psychologist and the Head of Evaluation Research for the Psychiatric Outreach Team, which serves homeless persons with concurrent mental illness and substance abuse. She is a promising new researcher with expertise in the areas of community mental health services for homeless persons, treatment and evaluation of concurrent disorders, and program evaluation.

More info: Susan Farrell, Psychologist, Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre, 1145 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, ON, K1V 7K4, phone: (613)722-6521 ext. 7134, email: sfarrell@rohcg.on.ca

Sylvain Flamand (REACH³) – Montreal

Sylvain Flamand is the Director of Intervention at Le Bon Dieu dans la rue - or Dans la rue as the organization is more commonly known. Dans la rue has been a leader in working with Montréal street kids since its creation in 1988. Our success stems directly from the philosophy of our founder, Father Emmett Johns, whose conviction that all youths are entitled to be respected and listened to in a non-judgemental way, forms the very backbone of the services we offer.

More Info: Sylvain Flamand, Le Bon Dieu dans la rue, 1664, Ontario Street East, Montréal, QC H2L 1S7, phone: 514-526-7677 Ext. 224, email: SylvainF@danslarue.org, <http://www.danslarue.org>.

Nancy Haley, MD FRCP – Montreal

Dr. Nancy Haley, has been a practicing paediatrician for over 25 years at Ste Justine Hospital in Montréal. She is Associate Professor of Paediatrics at Université de Montréal and Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at McGill University. For the past 15 years, she has been a consultant in infectious diseases with the Montreal Public Health Department. She is co-investigator with Dr Elise Roy, MD, MSc (REACH³) on several epidemiological studies on the health problems of street youth. In 1998, as a result of a study showing high rates of mortality and morbidity among street youth, she worked with a group of experts to develop and implement recommendations to provide accessible health care services for street youth. Currently, her research is focused on evaluating the health promotion and prevention needs of youth in child protection centres.

More Info: Nancy Haley, MD, Montreal Public Health Department, 1301 rue Sherbrooke St East, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2L 1M3, tel: 514-528-2400 p.3893, email:

nhaley@santepub-mtl.qc.ca

Anita Hubley, PhD (REACH³) – Vancouver

Dr. Hubley is an associate professor in the Measurement, Evaluation, and Research Methods program in the Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia. Her areas of expertise include applied measurement and test development and validation. Dr. Palepu and Dr. Hubley have led innovative research to develop and validate the Injection Drug Users Quality of Life Scale; these methods will be applied to our Team's development of a new Quality of Life for Homeless and Hard-to-House Individuals (QOLHHI) Instrument.

More info: Anita Hubley, PhD, Scarfe 2316, UBC, 2125 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4, Phone: 604 822 9223, Fax: 604 822 3302, Email: anita.hubley@ubc.ca

http://www.ecps.educ.ubc.ca/faculty/a_hubley.htm

Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH (REACH³ Team Leader) – Toronto

Dr. Hwang is an associate professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto and a research scientist at the Centre for Research on Inner City Health at St. Michael's Hospital. His areas of expertise include epidemiology, health services research, and general internal medicine. Dr. Hwang is internationally recognized for his research on homelessness and health, the medical care of homeless persons, and the health of marginally housed inner-city populations. His papers on mortality among homeless adults are considered landmarks in the field.

More info: Dr. Stephen Hwang, Centre for Research on Inner City Health, St. Michael's Hospital, 30 Bond St., Toronto, Ontario M5B 1W8. E-mail: HwangS@smh.toronto.on.ca

<http://www.stmichaelshospital.com/crich/faculty/hwang.php>

Erika Khandor, MHSc (REACH³) – Toronto

Ms. Khandor holds a Master of Health Science degree in Health Promotion and is the Research and Evaluation Coordinator at Street Health. She has extensive experience in front-line community work, advocacy, and community-based research.

More info: Erika Khandor, Street Health, Toronto, phone: 416-921-8668 ext. 237; email:

erika@streethealth.ca

Fran Klodawsky, PhD (REACH³) – Ottawa

Fran Klodawsky is an associate professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University, with cross-appointments in the Institute of Political Economy and the Institute of Women's Studies. She has carried out community-based action research and authored numerous publications on the intersections between marginalization, identity, housing, and homelessness. Dr. Klodawsky is the co-Principal Investigator of the Ottawa Panel Study on Homelessness, a longitudinal study examining pathways out of homelessness.

More info: Fran Klodawsky, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5B6, Telephone: 613-520-2600 x8689; Fax: 613-520-4301, email: Fran_Klodawsky@carleton.ca,

www.carleton.ca/geography/faculty/klodawsky.html

Bruce MacLaurin, MSW, PhD (Cand.) (REACH³) – Calgary

Bruce MacLaurin is an assistant professor and promising new researcher in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Calgary. His research expertise is in the areas of child welfare, child abuse, and child neglect. Prof. MacLaurin's current work examines the relationship between street youth and the child welfare system.

More info: Bruce MacLaurin, Assistant Professor, Phone: 403.220.4698, email: bmaclaur@ucalgary.ca,

http://fsw.ucalgary.ca/faculty_staff/macLaurin

Larry Magnan – Ottawa

Larry Magnan is a resident of Options Bytown who has been homeless, on the streets as well as in shelters. Is an ex-member of the Board of Directors of Options Bytown and currently sits on the Planning Committee of Center 454 (Anglican Social Services).

More info: Larry Magnan, phone: 613-255-3608, email: lar_mag@yahoo.ca.

Wendy Muckle, RN, BScN, MHA (REACH³) – Ottawa

Wendy Muckle is the Executive Director of Ottawa Inner City Health, Inc. (OICH), a shelter-based health program that addresses the needs of chronically homeless people. OICH provides a range of harm-reduction services through its 15-bed palliative care hospice, 30-bed convalescent care unit, and 25-bed managed alcohol unit and primary care clinic. In 2001, the WHO and UNESCO recognized OICH as one of the world's most innovative initiatives dealing with poverty and health. Ms. Muckle is engaged in local and international research projects on homelessness, social exclusion, AIDS, and health inequities and sits on the Steering Committee of the Ottawa Alliance to End Homelessness.

More info: Wendy Muckle, Executive Director, Ottawa Inner City Health, Inc., 500 Old St Patrick, Unit G, Ottawa, ON K1N 9G4, phone: 613-562-4500, fax 1-613-562-4505, email: wmuckle@uottawa.ca

Anita Palepu, MD, MPH (REACH³) – Vancouver

Dr. Palepu is an associate professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia/St. Paul's Hospital and the holder of a prestigious Senior Scholar Award from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research. She is recognized internationally for her outstanding research on the impact of substance use in people infected with HIV and on health care utilization and harm-reduction strategies among injection drug users.

More info: <http://www.cheos.ubc.ca/aboutus/scientists6.html>

Andrea Poncia, HIV/AIDS Educator – Ottawa

Andrea Poncia brings seven years of experience working with high-risk youth to this discussion of homeless youth moving forward. Through her role as HIV/AIDS Educator within Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa's Housing Continuum, Andrea collaborates with a team of service providers in supporting high-risk youth to meet their social determinants of health with a focus on harm reduction, housing placement, sexual health, mental health and youth engagement.

More Info: Andrea Poncia, HIV/AIDS Educator, Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa, phone: 613-241-7788 ext 409, fax 613-241-7789, email: hiv@ysb.on.ca

Catherine Worthington, MSc, PhD (REACH³) – Calgary

Catherine Worthington is an associate professor and a CIHR New Investigator at the Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary with expertise in HIV and health services provision for vulnerable populations. Her work employs both quantitative and qualitative methods within a collaborative, community-based framework. Prof. MacLaurin and Dr. Worthington are co-primary investigators in a CIHR-funded study on the HIV and health risks of Calgary street youth.

More info: Cathy Worthington, Phone: (403) 220-8507, e-mail: cworth@ucalgary.ca
http://fsw.ucalgary.ca/faculty_staff/worthington

Karen Wyllie, BSW – Calgary

Karen Wyllie is Community Planner with the Calgary Homeless Foundation and has worked on Calgary's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, which will be released in January, 2008. She has worked in program evaluation and research for 15 years, evaluating a wide variety of social service agencies and researching in the areas of poverty reduction and family violence. She is a student in the Masters of Social Work program at the University of Calgary.

More info: Karen Wyllie, Community Planner, Calgary Homeless Foundation, McDougall Centre, 455-6 Street SW, Calgary, AB T2P 4E8, Phone: 403-262-2921 ext 226, Fax: 403.262.2924, email: karen@calgaryhomeless.com, www.calgaryhomeless.com

Housing Solutions Panel

MODERATOR

Wendy Muckle, Ottawa Inner City Health & OTTAWA REACH³ Member

PANEL MEMBERS

Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH, St. Michaels Hospital, Toronto – Policy & program implications

Liz Evans, BScN, Portland Hotel Society, Vancouver – Innovative housing programs

Lorraine Bentley, MA, Executive Director, Options Bytown, Ottawa – Housing situation

Larry Magnan, Resident, Options Bytown, Ottawa – A personal perspective

PRESENTATION NOTES Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH, St. Michaels Hospital, Toronto

Housing Solutions: The Role of Research

Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH

Centre for Research on Inner City Health,
St. Michael's Hospital;
University of Toronto

Key Challenges

- Policy-making is usually not driven by evidence or research
- We often simplify the evidence in an effort to have an impact on policy makers and the public (the sound-bite)
- We need to be wary of over-simplifying the problem or the solutions
- We need to consider the implications of making our case on the basis of cost-savings

Chronic Homelessness

- 10-20% of homeless people are chronically homeless
- Vast majority have addictions, mental illness, or both
- This relatively small group of individuals accounts for a large proportion of service use and the “visible problem” of homelessness

Ending Chronic Homelessness through Supportive Housing

- Claim: Supportive housing will
 - End chronic homelessness
 - Improve the quality of urban life
 - Generate cost savings through decreased hospitalizations and shelter use

Supportive Housing: the Good News

- Culhane, Housing Policy Debate 2002
 - Supportive Housing for 4,700 mentally ill homeless people in New York City
 - Before housing: \$40,000 / yr in service use
 - Cost of housing: \$14,000 / yr
 - After housing: service use decreased by \$12,000 / yr
 - Net cost of providing housing: \$2,000 / yr
- Kessel, J Urban Health, 2006
 - Supportive housing for chronically homeless people in San Francisco
 - 249 eligible applicants
 - 114 housed, 135 not housed
 - Among 114 housed, 74% were still housed 2 years later
 - Housing can end chronic homelessness

Supportive Housing: the Bad News

- Kessel E, J Urban Health, 2006
 - No effect on the following outcomes:
 - Emergency department visits
 - Medical-surgical hospitalizations
 - Psychiatric hospitalizations
 - Ambulatory medical care
 - Ambulance use
 - Substance abuse services
 - Mental health services

PRESENTATION NOTES are unavailable at this time from **Liz Evans**, BScN, Portland Hotel Society, Vancouver

PRESENTATION NOTES Lorraine Bentley, MA, Options Bytown, Ottawa



The Housing *Plus* Research Project

- A three-year research project
- Will help tenants, service providers and the university researchers to work together to strengthen Supportive Housing (Housing*Plus*)
- first collaboration of its kind – *groundbreaking project*
- a unique approach to researching, measuring and evaluating housing

Who is involved?

- Researchers: academics from the University of Ottawa, Carleton University and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Partners: Ottawa Supportive Housing Network
- Funding: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council & the City of Ottawa

Goal

- To develop and study a collaborative community approach to understanding and improving supportive housing in Ottawa

Collaborative Communities

- Groups of professionals and consumers of services working together to address a shared challenge
- Housing *Plus* staff and tenants
- Will work together to develop tools for evaluating Housing *Plus* in Ottawa
- Will enable them to learn about successes & challenges
- Will then work to develop and implement innovative ways for improving delivery of Housing *Plus*

The Evaluation Tool

- “Key component profiles” (KCP) approach for evaluating the implementation of complex social programs
- Housing *Plus* to be evaluated through 40 benchmarks in 4 areas (Person, Housing, Support, Systems)
- The collaborative community to develop & implement innovations to address common areas of improvement
- Together with researchers, they then evaluate whether innovations are adopted and result in improvements

Studying the community

- Researchers will study development of the collaborative community
- Will draw lessons about how these communities evolve to develop a shared understanding of good practice in Housing *Plus* delivery
- Will also produce lessons to guide the development of future collaborative communities

Timeframes

Year 1

- Project planning
- Development of steering committee and collaborative community
- Development of evaluation tool

Year 2

- Study of implementation of Housing *Plus*
- Development of strategies for Housing *Plus* improvement

Year 3

- Evaluation of adoption of innovations in Housing *Plus*

Outcomes

- New knowledge about collaborative approaches for improving social services generally
 - An evaluation tool that can be applied by other agencies
 - A study of the implementation of Housing *Plus* in Ottawa
 - Strategies for improvements in the delivery of Housing *Plus* in Ottawa
 - A sustainable collaborative community focusing on Housing *Plus* in Ottawa

Conclusion

- From reaching out to our community partners and sharing clear information with the public . . .
- *to working in partnership on a groundbreaking research project, we are working to Housing Plus as a successful and cost-effective way to address homelessness in Ottawa*

PRESENTATION NOTES Larry Magnan, Options Bytown, Ottawa

- Housing is mortar & bricks & stone, which make walls & floors & roofs – but they do not make homes.
- Homes are sustainable; housing often is not.
- Homes create a sense of belonging; housing does not.
- Only when we understand fully why most people are homeless, or at the risk of being homeless, can we hope to end homelessness.
- Affordable, sustainable supportive housing is the only viable method of creating homes, fostering a sense of belonging in a community, keeping people in their homes, and cutting down the eviction and recidivism rates.
- But even supportive housing is not a panacea – just as diversity brings change, so does cooperation.
- We need increase our partnerships with outside agencies, drop-in centers, and arms-length counselling, and maintain “outreach” resource centers in buildings without in-place support.
- In July, council stated a goal of ending homelessness in 10 years. Until we understand the difference between bricks and homes, we will not be using our limited resources effectively, and council’s great words will remain words.

Homeless Youth Move Forward

MODERATOR – Susan Farrell, Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre & Ottawa REACH³ Member

PANEL MEMBERS

Bruce MacLaurin, MSW, PhD (Cand.), University of Calgary – Calgary street youth

Catherine Worthington, MSc, PhD, University of Calgary – Calgary street youth

Nancy Haley, MD, FRCP, Montreal Public Health Department – Montreal street youth

Andrea Poncia, Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa (YSB) – Ottawa street youth

Janna Dickinson, Youth Advocate – An Ottawa youth perspective

PRESENTATION NOTES Catherine Worthington and Bruce MacLaurin, University of Calgary

The ‘Calgary Youth, Health and the Street’ Study: Community-Based Research for Services Improvement

Catherine Worthington and Bruce MacLaurin

Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary

Contact: cworth@ucalgary.ca or bmaclaur@ucalgary.ca

Youth Homelessness

- Youth homelessness is episodic alternating with periods of stability
- Continuum of street involvement – from time limited to street entrenched
- Key points of intervention:
 - when concerns are first noted in the living situation
 - following first contact with the street, or
 - following first crisis or difficulties while on the street
- Continuum of services required to address:
 - basic needs (food, clothing, accommodation)
 - well being (protection, health, mental health services, substance abuse)
 - the future (education, income and employment)

The Calgary Youth Health and the Street Study Research Questions

To improve services for street-involved youth at all stages of street life:

1. Who are street-involved youth in Calgary?
2. What are the differences in health risks, coping strategies, and service needs among different groups of street-involved youth?

Community-Based Research

"Community-based research refers to research processes which are, to various degrees, driven by, or responsive to, the *needs and interests of a specific community*. Community-based research is a form of research in which principles of *community involvement and collaboration* are applied using scientifically accepted research methods.

The research must demonstrate direct community *involvement*, community *relevance*, *equity* in partnerships and *methodological rigour*."

CIHR - Institute of Infection and Immunity

The Calgary Youth, Health and the Street Study

- Team of 15 agency representatives, youth with street experience, and university researchers
- Trained street outreach workers collected 355 anonymous surveys at a variety of locations
 - All city quadrants; gathering places; agency locations; shelters
 - 47% of youth currently living on street, 33% lived on street in the past, 20% street involved
- Trained street outreach workers conducted 40 in-depth interviews
- Two roundtables to interpret results and develop service recommendations
 - Street-involved youth
 - Service providers, planners, and policy makers

Study Results – Some Highlights

- Prior to street involvement:
 - High prevalence of child maltreatment – witnessing domestic violence (54%), physical abuse (62%), sexual abuse (30%), neglect (42%), and emotional maltreatment (75%)
 - 55% had previous experience with child welfare services and of this group, 49% resulted in placement in care
 - Almost 69% of street involved youth had been charged with a crime and 80% of those as juveniles
 - 43% of youth reported mental health concerns
 - 38% had attempted suicide
- Street experiences:
 - 76% experienced violence while on the streets
 - 26% of youth were asked to exchange sex for food or shelter
 - 54% of youth were asked to serve as a look out for the police during illegal activities
 - 23% rated their health "fair" or "poor"
 - 48% had been pregnant/gotten someone pregnant

Issues and Priority Action Areas

Issue 1: High number of youth living on the street

Action: Emergency shelter beds for youth

Issue 2: Pregnancy

Action: Sexual health education training for staff

Issue 3: Education

Action: Flexible programs to assist youth complete high school

Issue 4: Addictions

Action: Flexible treatment options for youth

Issue 5: Suicide and mental health

Action: Suicide prevention training for staff; increased mental health services for youth

Issue 6: Services focus on most street entrenched

Action: Develop prevention/early intervention programs

Issue 7: Public perceptions and policies

Action: Professional and policy-maker education

“It’s not a dark road. I mean, it’s whatever I want to make of it.

Wherever I want to go, I know I can get there.

***It’s gonna take work, it’s gonna take discipline,
it’ll take a lot of things, but it’s not unreachable.***

So, I’m not hopeless.”

(Male interview participant)

PRESENTATION NOTES Nancy Haley, MD, FRCP, Montreal Street Youth

Health Problems of Street Youth . . . from research to action in Montreal

Nancy Haley, MD FRCPC

Paediatrician, Ste Justine Hospital, Montréal &
 Medical Consultant, Montreal Public Health Department
 Contact: 514-528-2400 p.3893, nhaley@santepub-mtl.qc.ca

Dr. Nancy Haley's full presentation is available as a PDF on the ATEH website, www.endhomelessnessottawa.ca .

Her presentation outlines:

- The research on health of Montreal street youth 1995 to 2007
- The collaborating community organizations
- Sexual behaviours of youth
- Alcohol and drug use behaviours
- Injection drug use among street youth
- Health problems of street youth
- Psychological Suffering among street youth
- What can be done to decrease mortality and morbidity among youth, including youth suggestions
- 9 recommendations – Research to action in Montreal
- Youth health team, including a fixed site, mobile outreach services, a multidisciplinary team and challenges that remain – Research to action in Montreal
- Acknowledgements: street youth who shared their experiences and opinions with the research team and the community organizations dedicated to street youth.

PRESENTATION NOTES Janna Dickinson, Youth Advocate in Ottawa

Youth Advocate in Ottawa

Janna Dickinson,

Youth Advocate in Ottawa, Contact C/O: 613.241.7788 ext 409, hiv@ysb.on.ca

- Janna will provide an Ottawa youth perspective as a 20-year-old street kid, traveler and panhandler; all of which hold no bearing on her strong capabilities as an intellect, activist and advocate for those less fortunate.
- Her role as an advocate includes spreading awareness of many things from homelessness to harm-reduction and discrimination.
- She also personally works with youth to ensure they know what's safe when it comes to sex, drugs and diseases as well as teaching them to learn their own personal boundaries and to respect those limits that others have established.
- She is a passionately engaged and involved youth who takes a firm stance on tough issues and fights for her beliefs in hopes of benefiting her community.

PRESENTATION NOTES Andrea Poncia, Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa (YSB)

YSB's Housing Continuum

Andrea Poncia

HIV/AIDS Educator, Downtown Services and Drop-in

Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa

Contact: hiv@ysb.on.ca, 613.241.7788 ext 409

Youth Services Bureau is approaching 50 years of operation in the City of Ottawa. We started as a grassroots organization that provided residential living for young men and street outreach to youth. Fast forward 30 years, and the organization had expanded considerably and we were providing a range of services to youth and their families. This growth prompted an organizational review in the early 1990's where we consulted youth, YSB workers, community partners and stakeholders in defining who we are, what we do and how we do it.

Through this process we developed a set of values that informs all of the work that we do.

SERVICES

Our agency now has 4 major client service departments- mental health, youth justice, employment and community services. In all the programs we offer there are similarities in the profile of youth we work with, however the common challenge for all programs and staff is building trusting relationship with youth who have experienced trauma, abuse and minimally, lack of support from the adults in their lives.

I am going to speak specifically to our approach to working with homeless youth within the community services department with a look at our Housing Continuum and the values that inform our work.

HOUSING CONTINUUM DEFINED

Downtown Services and Drop-in – basic needs as well as street outreach program, a multidisciplinary health clinic, Trusteeship, HIV Prevention Education Program, Youth Engagement Program

Young Men's and Young Women's Emergency and Transitional Housing Services – 30 beds in individual rooms, 12 emergency beds and 12 transitional beds and 6 swing beds, basic needs, case management, referrals, individual support

Long Term Housing Services – 43 rent-geared-to-income apartments, 3 apartment buildings, case management, referrals, individual support. By having all of these programs in one agency we are trying to eliminate the silo effect.

- We do this by sharing management, and some front line staff work in multiple units increasing consistency and safety;
- Increases consistency in messaging in all units promoting safety;
- Many community partners work in multiple units – youth can access workers at any unit they choose promoting accessibility;
- We are trying to promote efficiency;
- Youth don't have to continually repeat their experience;
- Non-linear approach where youth can move from one program to the other;

- strength based approach focused on learning – what was learned, lets try again when you feel ready – meet the youth where they are, non-judgmental, respecting differences in approaches.

The Non-Linear Housing Continuum Exemplifies how YSB works with the values

- Safety – consistency in messaging re: non-judgmental, meet youth where they are at, harm reduction, glbtqw inclusive, sex positive, inclusive of youth who are living with HIV
- Accessibility – they only have to come to one service and they can get all housing needs met
- Choice – respect their choices and the decisions they make, and try to provide as many options as possible
- Power with vs. Power Over – youth makes all the decisions, youth lead their journey through the services
- Youth can access the housing continuum from any point in the system, increasing accessibility

They have taught us strength, courage, and many valuable life lessons. Within the Housing Continuum we are developing as we learn, and our best teachers are the youth themselves. It truly is remarkable what these youth have lived and still have such a positive attitude about life.

ONE YOUTH'S STORY

“Because of YSB, I am now in a comfortable atmosphere with very little financial stress on my mind. Andrea, If it weren't for you presenting this program to me in the first place, I would never have known that it even existed. Lizanne, you assured me that my case was a high priority, and made me feel at ease about getting into an apartment. Christine, I was immediately comfortable with you. As a young lesbian, I knew that I could talk to and trust you. You set me up with the appropriate people to get my keys and begin my new life in this beautiful building. Now I can be taken care of until I get myself back on track. You have no idea how much impact you have on people's lives.”

The Good, Bad and Ugly – the InSite Experience

The “how” behind linking community agencies and researchers

Led by Liz Evans, Sarah Evans, and Anita Palepu

A session describing how the community and the academic's worked together on **InSite**, the good, bad and ugly parts of the experience when the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, come together locally, nationally and internationally.

Insite – Supervised Injection Site

North America's first legal supervised injection site

<http://www.vch.ca/sis/>

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) in partnership with the PHS Community Services Society opened North America's first legal supervised injection site (Insite) scientific research pilot project in September 2003. Since opening its doors, Insite has been a safe, health-focused place where people can go to inject drugs and connect with health care professionals and addiction services. It is an integral part of Vancouver Coastal Health's continuum of care for people with addiction, mental illness and HIV/AIDS in the Vancouver community.

To operate legally, Health Canada granted VCH a three-year operating exemption under Section 56 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, and has provided \$500,000 per year to support the scientific research pilot project. The BC Ministry of Health provided \$1.2 million to renovate the former retail space, and provides operating funding through Vancouver Coastal Health.

Q & A's

What is a supervised injection site?

A supervised injection site is a clean, safe environment where users can inject their own drugs under the supervision of clinical staff.

Why was Insite established?

Injection drug use remains a serious problem in Vancouver. [Health Canada](#), recognizing the harms associated with injection drugs for users and the community, developed guidelines to apply for a supervised injection site scientific research pilot project.

In June 2003, Health Canada granted VCH an [exemption](#) under Section 56 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) to establish North America's first supervised injection site scientific research pilot project at 139 East Hastings Street in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

The location was selected in accordance with pre-established criteria that included accessible to active injection drug users, costs development and operating permits, and community impact.

How does Insite work?

Clients who enter Insite are assessed and led through a waiting area to a 12-seat injection room where they can inject their own drugs under the supervision of trained medical staff. They have access to clean injection equipment including spoons, tourniquets and water, aimed at reducing the spread of infectious diseases.

After injecting, they move to a post-injection room where, if appropriate, staff can connect clients with other on-site services. These include primary care for the treatment of wounds, abscesses and other infections; addiction counseling and peer support; and referral to treatment services such as withdrawal management, opiate replacement therapy and other services.

Along with the on-site coordinator, two registered nurses are present at all times with an addiction counsellor and physician support available on-call. Program assistants from our partner, the PHS Community Services Society, help greet and register people, as well as provide peer contact to encourage safe injection practices and orient drug users to use the site.

How many staff work at Insite?

VCH has brought together a team of 16 registered nurses, four alcohol and drug counselors, and others in accordance with Health Canada guidelines to operate the site 18 hours day, seven days a week.

There is an on-site manager and two registered nurses present at all times. An addiction counsellor and physician are available on- call. Program staff from the injection drug user community help greet and register people, as well as provide peer contact to encourage safe injection practices and orientate drug users to use the site.

What are the operating hours?

Insite is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m., seven days a week.

Who operates Insite?

In accordance with Health Canada guidelines, Vancouver Coastal Health operates Insite and provides on-site clinical expertise. Other on-site operations are carried out in partnership with the PHS Community Services Society, a non-profit organization with experience in the Downtown Eastside.

How much does it cost to operate Insite?

Health Canada granted VCH a three-year operating exemption under Section 56 of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, and has provided \$500,000 per year to support the scientific research pilot project. The BC Ministry of Health provided \$1.2 million to renovate the former retail space, and provides operating funding through Vancouver Coastal Health.

Do you have plans to open more supervised injection sites in Vancouver?

There are currently no plans to apply to Health Canada for a Section 56 exemption for additional sites.

Does the Vancouver Police Department support Insite?

The Vancouver Police Department (VPD) is a partner in the establishment of Insite and the scientific research project. VCH and its partners support an integrated strategy to drug use problems that incorporates the four pillars of harm reduction, enforcement, treatment and prevention.

Who conducts the evaluation and review component of the pilot project?

VCH has partnered with the *BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS* to evaluate Insite over the term of the pilot project. An Evaluation and Review team has measured Insite's impact on public health outcomes in terms of the transmission of blood borne infections (HIV, Hepatitis C, endocarditis [an infection in the heart]); referrals to primary health care and addiction treatment; frequency and amount of drug use; use of emergency rooms; and prevention of overdose deaths. The research has also monitored Insite's impact on the surrounding community.

More at <http://www.vch.ca/sis/>

Street Health Stories

How do you take care of your health when you don't have a home?

Eight Street Health Stories in large lightbox prints with headphones.

Four photographers who have experienced homelessness,

Adrienne, Jess, Keneisha, and Meghan,
document the stories of 28 homeless men and women
through audio recordings and portrait-photography.

On hand at the Forum to answer questions:

Erika Khandor, MHS (Street Health Toronto) and
Stephen Hwang, MD, MPH, St. Michaels Hospital, Toronto.

Street Health Stories opened alongside the release of the **Street Health Report 2007**, which reveals a picture of homelessness in Toronto that demands immediate action.

Full report at: <http://www.streethhealth.ca/home.htm>

Community-based healthcare organization, Street Health, surveyed 368 homeless adults in Toronto about their health and access to health care. **Street Health Report 2007** presents the findings. The National Film Board of Canada's Filmmaker-in-Residence program presents the **Street Health Stories** installation which gives a human face and voice to Street Health's statistics.

The National Film Board of Canada's Filmmaker-in-Residence presents the Street Health Stories installation which gives a human face and voice to Street Health's statistics. **Katerina Cizek** is a documentary-maker and the National Film Board of Canada's *Filmmaker-in-Residence* at an inner-city hospital, teaming up with partners at the frontlines – doctors, nurses, healthcare providers and patients – partnering media with medicine.

For the more on the report, go to www.streethhealth.ca

When you visit <http://www.streethhealth.ca/home.htm>, you can click to see a short preview for STREET HEALTH STORIES, an 8 minute film which premiered on CBC News on Sunday, September 23. The film presents the stories and statistics of the Street Health Report 2007 (see above), with portraits and the voices of survey participants.

After the Forum

Street Health Stories – **sound & photo installation**

Will be on display for a week at the

Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre



Informal Lunch Networking Caucuses

Chat with REACH³ members and each other
Facilitated by Ottawa's Alliance to End Homelessness Members

Please select your lunch at noon, and then at 12:30, join one of the hour-long caucuses to share ideas with each other and to ask more questions of REACH³ members.

Locations to be posted.

1. ABORIGINALS

Facilitator: Annette Bradfield, RN (EC), MScN, Outreach Nurse Practitioner, Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health

Also: Don Fiddler of the Métis National Council

2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/NIMBYISM

Facilitator: Marcia Gibson, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

REACH³: Stephen Hwang, St. Michaels Hospital/University of Toronto

Also: Karen Wyllie, Community Planner, Calgary Homeless Foundation; Nathan Allen, InSite for Community Safety Vancouver; and Mary-Martha Hale, ATEH Chair & Centre 454.

3. FRANCOPHONE

Facilitator: Marie-Eve Sylvestre, University of Ottawa,

REACH³: Sylvain Flamand, Director of Intervention at Le Bon Dieu dans la rue, Montreal.

4. HEALTH & HARM REDUCTION

Facilitator: Wendy Muckle, RN, BScN, MHA, Ottawa Inner City Health & REACH³ member,

REACH³: Sarah Evans, MA, Portland Hotel Society; Laura Cowan, RN, BScN, Street Health Toronto.

5. HOUSING AND SUPPORTS

Facilitator: Tim Aubry, REWG & University of Ottawa, Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services

REACH³: Liz Evans, BScN, Portland Hotel Society, Vancouver

6. NEWCOMERS

Facilitator: Paul Weber, City of Ottawa Housing Branch

REACH³: Fran Klodawsky, PhD, Carleton University

Also: Carl Nicholson and Heng Chau, Catholic Immigration Centre Ottawa.

7. SINGLE WOMEN/SINGLE MEN

Facilitator: Lorraine Bentley, Options Bytown

REACH³: Erika Khandor, MHS, Street Health Toronto

Also: Perry Rowe, Salvation Army Booth Centre, Ottawa

8. YOUTH

Facilitator: Susan Farrell, ROMHC/ University of Ottawa,

REACH³: Bruce MacLaurin, University of Calgary, Nancy Haley, Montreal Public Health Department; Catherine Worthington, University of Calgary

Also: Andrea Poncia, Youth Services Bureau, Ottawa; Janna Dickinson, Youth Advocate, Ottawa.