

P02-189 - **SHARING THE WEALTH: A COLLABORATIVE MODEL OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

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Current economic realities and funding challenges necessitate organizations to engage in creative solutions that meet ongoing and increasingly complex needs of the clients being served. The creation of the Toronto Urban Health Alliance (TUHA) is a collaborative partnership between six community health centres (CHC) and a hospital-based mental health program to maximize limited resources.

Objectives:

1. Understand the concept and benefits of a collaborative care model through a case based presentation
2. Become familiar with best practices for the successful implementation and ongoing service delivery of collaborative mental health care

Aims: TUHA's aim is to improve access to mental health services and strengthen each Community Health Centres' capacity to meet the mental health needs of its clients through a "shared care model".

Methods: This case based presentation will illustrate the benefits and promising practices of implementing such a model

Results: A shared care model is generally utilized within a particular organization to foster collaborative work among multidisciplinary teams. The unique feature of TUHA is the partnership between six different community health centres and mental health specialists using a common set of principles and objectives to sustain and enhance the quality of service being offered in the community.

Conclusions: Reflections on a multi-site partnership in the delivery of a collaborative model within a large urban centre creates a platform to determine the possibility of replicating a similar model in other communities.