

IMPACT GRANTS: Supporting northern Ontario communities

Project summary

Enhancing access to child and youth mental health services by improving referral pathway from police officers

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What's the issue?

Statistics show that about 15% of police calls involve a person experiencing at least one mental health challenge. This puts police officers in a unique position to identify at-risk children and young people who need a follow-up for mental health services.

What's the solution?

This project will incorporate the use of a novel and intuitive mental health screener to help officers appropriately assess mental health issues. By providing police officers with the right tools and knowledge, they will be in a better position to appropriately assess and respond to mental health indicators.

What impact is anticipated?

In addition to helping children and young people access the mental health services they need, this project will strengthen communication and collaboration between young people, police officers and community mental health service providers.