

HL17.3 Appendix 1

Appendix 1: Toronto Urban Health Fund Priority Populations and Funding Objectives

Toronto Urban Health Fund Funding Streams, Objectives and Priority Populations

TUHF has identified four approaches to effectively address the prevention of HIV transmission and substance misuse. These approaches form the framework for the four TUHF funding streams.

1. Prevention of HIV Through Sexual Transmission*

***PREVIOUSLY CALLED HIV PREVENTION**

Funding Stream Description

Prevention of HIV through Sexual Transmission stream projects should primarily reach people from priority populations who engage in high risk sexual behaviors to prevent HIV transmission.

High risk behaviors depend on different contextual factors that individuals are faced with and could (but do not always) include condomless sex, sex with partner(s) of unknown serostatus, and sex with multiple partners.

Projects should focus on interventions that increase the use of prevention strategies e.g. Treatment as Prevention such as Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), and Undetectable=Untransmissible (U = U), Projects can also incorporate preventative tools and methods (e.g. testing, condoms) and services, and address stigma and behavior change, as primary intended outcomes.

Prevention of HIV Through Sexual Transmission Funding Stream Target Populations

- Gay and bisexual men and youth, and men who have sex with men (MSM)
- People from countries with emerging or high prevalence rates of HIV
- People living with HIV
- Sexual partners of people living with or at risk for HIV exposure
- People who are or who identify as transgender
- People who identify as Two-Spirit or Indigenous LGBT identity
- People who are from First Nations, Inuit and Métis populations

Prevention of HIV Through Sexual Transmission Funding Stream Funding Objectives

- To increase healthy sexual behaviors that reduce risk of HIV
- To increase knowledge and use of existing prevention tools (i.e. condoms and PrEP), strategies, and services
- To increase knowledge of HIV/STI serostatus through testing
- To increase knowledge, use and adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) to reduce HIV transmission
- To increase the capacity of organizations and the community to promote sexual health, address stigma, and offer services within a sexual health promotion framework

2. Harm Reduction

Funding Stream Description

Harm reduction projects should be aimed at working with populations using illicit substances and diverted pharmaceuticals to prevent the transmission of communicable diseases such as hepatitis C and HIV, an overdose, as well as other negative impacts of drug use.

Projects should increase access to harm reduction/prevention resources for these populations by offering services that meet their health needs in ways that are respectful and non-judgmental, without necessarily reducing consumption.

Harm Reduction Funding Stream Target Populations

- People who share drug use supplies
- People who are homeless, precariously/under/unstably housed or street-involved
- People who are not regularly accessing harm reduction services
- People who are incarcerated or who have been involved with the criminal justice system
- People who are involved in sex work activities
- People who use or choose to use illicit substance(s) and/or diverted pharmaceuticals
- People who are from First Nations, Inuit and Métis populations

Harm Reduction Funding Stream Funding Objectives

- To increase healthy behaviors of people using substances
- To increase the availability and use of health protection and promotion services that support people who use substances
- To increase knowledge and use of harm reduction strategies, skills, supplies and services
- To increase awareness and use of resources and services to prevent overdoses among people who use substances (i.e. overdose education, naloxone training, supervised consumption sites, consumption and treatments services, overdose prevention sites)
- To increase the capacity of organizations and the community to promote health and offer services within a harm reduction framework

3. Child and Youth Resiliency

Funding Stream Description

The Child and Youth Resiliency Stream supports community-based prevention interventions that provide opportunities for children and youth who are marginalized and face multiple barriers to achieving the best health outcomes possible. Projects must use a resiliency approach. While TUHF recognizes the need to provide comprehensive programming, TUHF funded activities should focus on addressing sexual behaviors and/or substance use.

More information about resiliency can be found here: [TUHF Resiliency Guide](#)

Child and Youth Resiliency Stream Target Populations

- Children and youth with history of family members and/or caregivers using alcohol or other substances
- Children and youth with behavioral, mental health, and/or social challenges
- Children and youth excluded from school or with poor school engagement
- Children and youth who have been involved with the criminal justice system
- Children and youth in care under protection services or foster care
- Children and youth from racialized groups residing in designated Neighborhood Improvement Areas (NIA)s or those facing extreme socio-economic disadvantage
- Children and youth facing challenges related to their identity including (but not limited to) race, sexuality, gender identity and gender expression
- Children and youth from First Nations, Inuit and Métis populations

Child and Youth Resiliency Stream Funding Objectives

- To increase personal agency (e.g. *inner capability¹) among children and youth by working with them to identify and use their individual strengths and assets in ways that help them avoid or reduce vulnerability
- To increase resourcefulness by equipping children and youth with the skills to successfully negotiate and navigate situations should they engage in behaviors that put them at risk of HIV transmission and/or substance use
- To promote social and emotional competence for children and youth faced with adversity, and enabling them to transform stressful situations into opportunities to learn and thrive
- To enhance child and youth engagement with resourceful ²environments, communities, and life settings³ that promote health
- To increase the capacity of organizations and the community to promote health and offer services within a resiliency framework

¹ *Inner capability* also known as personal agency, reflects part of a developmental process in which an individual becomes more resilient by harnessing their inner strengths and external resources in order to turn stressful situations or adversity into opportunities to thrive.

² *Resourceful environments* refer to external resources and supportive environments which children can access in order to enhance their social and psychological development, and which comprise relationships with core adults such as family members and teachers.

³ *Life settings* describe a combination of relational and contextual resources, namely, stable, trusting and supportive relationships; and others such as educational resources, safe housing and strong communities.

4. Indigenous Funding Stream

Funding Stream Description

The Indigenous Stream supports wellness and wholistic approaches that are derived from traditional Indigenous world views and perspectives.

The root causes of HIV and substance use vulnerabilities within Indigenous communities can be traced to the trauma, alienation and dislocation that resulted from the effects of colonial oppression.

Funding will be provided to projects from Indigenous organizations working with First Nations (including those who are status and non-status, and on and off reserves), Metis and Inuit, that build on the strengths and resilience of cultural approaches and teachings to counter the effects of colonization.

Funding will be guided by TUHF's Indigenous Funding Framework (see Figure 1) developed by the TUHF Indigenous Advisory Circle (IAC), which is based on the fundamental teachings of kindness and the offering of help and incorporates the Physical, Mental, Emotional, and Spiritual aspects of the individual.

Four Key Domains

- Training and Resource Development
- Promotion and Prevention
- Care and Prevention Support
- Diagnosis and Crisis Mitigation

Figure 1: Toronto Urban Health Fund Indigenous Funding Stream Objectives

Toronto Urban Health Fund Indigenous Funding Stream Objectives

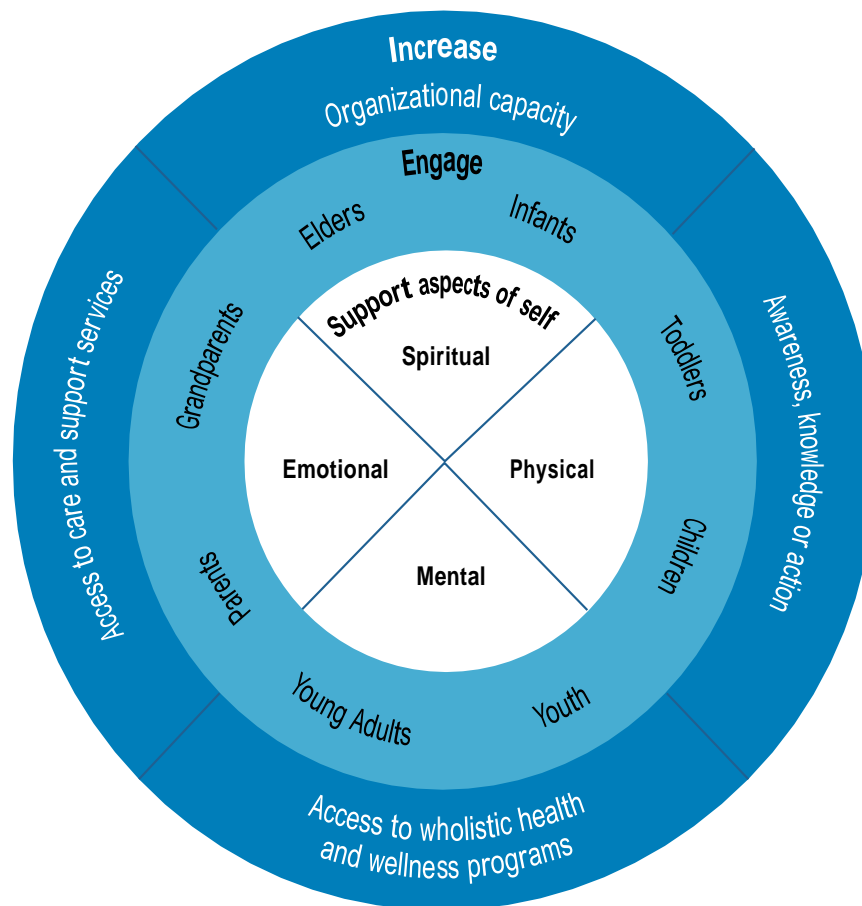
Increase organizational capacity to:

- Support community partners and/or service users in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs, services and/or resources for preventing HIV and/or impacts related to substance use
- Act on factors that address and prevent HIV transmission and/or impacts related to substance use
- Promote health and offer services within a harm reduction framework

Increase access to wholistic health and wellness programs through:

- Supportive environments that promote health and address stigma and discrimination around HIV and substance use
- Referrals and linkages to allied health professional programs and services for people at risk of HIV transmission and substance use
- Referrals and linkages to social programs that support basic needs and services for people who use substances
- Health and wellness programs for people at risk of HIV transmission and/or impacts related to substance use

Will your project:



Increase awareness, knowledge or action related to:

- Strengthening resiliency and reducing potential harms, through the development of social wellness and personal skills that work with inherent strengths and assets
- Negotiating and navigating situations that increase the practice of safer sexual activity and/or substance use
- HIV/STI testing, prevention tools and prevention counselling services

Increase access to care and support services that:

- Prevent HIV transmission and impacts related to substance use
- Address harm reduction and/or overdose prevention for people who use substances
- Increase health and wellness activities among people who use substances
- Support people living with HIV in the use of prevention tools and services to prevent secondary transmission of HIV