

Funding Streams of the Toronto Urban Health Fund

HIV Prevention

Projects in the HIV prevention stream should primarily reach people from the priority populations who are engaged in high risk sexual behaviours. High risk activities depend on the context and on the people involved. These activities could include (but do not always include) condomless sex, sex with multiple partners, sex work, and/or sex with people with detectable viral loads. Projects should focus on interventions that include behaviour change, enhanced access to preventative technologies and services (e.g., testing, condoms, treatment as prevention), or enhanced access to information on prevention strategies (e.g., PrEP, PEP, undetectable viral load) as a primary intended outcome.

Harm Reduction

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 which are responsive to their health needs in a respectful and non-judgmental manner, without necessarily reducing consumption.

Child and Youth Resiliency

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 achieve optimal health outcomes. Projects must use a resiliency approach. More information about resiliency can be found in handout entitled “Toronto Urban Health Fund Child and Youth Resiliency Funding Guide”. While TUHF recognizes the need to provide comprehensive programming, TUHF funded activities should focus on addressing sexual behaviours and/or substance use.

HIV Prevention

- To increase knowledge and awareness of behaviours that put people at risk of HIV
- To increase knowledge and awareness of, and/or access to emerging and existing prevention technologies, strategies, and services
- To increase access to HIV/STI prevention and sexual health promotion messages
- To increase access to prevention services for people living with and/or affected by HIV/AIDS
- To increase access to supportive environments, including reducing stigma and discrimination

Harm Reduction

- To increase access to supportive environments that promote health, and reduce stigma and discrimination
- To increase awareness and access to resources and services including overdose education and prevention for people who use substances
- To increase healthy behaviours of people using substances
- To increase knowledge and awareness of harm reduction strategies, skills, supplies and services
- To increase the capacity of organizations and the community to promote health and offer services within a harm reduction framework

Child & Youth Resiliency

- To increase knowledge and awareness of behaviors that may put children and youth at risk of HIV transmission and substance use
- To equip children and youth with the skills to successfully negotiate and navigate situations should they choose to or engage in behaviours that may put them at risk of HIV transmission
- To promote social and emotional competence for children and youth
- To increase the practise of healthy behaviours by identifying and working with children and youth's strengths and assets that contribute to avoiding or reducing vulnerability
- To increase children and youth engagement and access to supportive community resources and services that promote health

Priority Populations

Priority Populations - HIV Prevention

- 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 infection
- 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

Priority Populations - Harm Reduction

- 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

Priority Populations - Child & Youth Resiliency

- Children and youth with history of family members and/or caregivers using alcohol or other substances
 - Children and youth with behavioural, 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 Neighbourhood 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
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