

Access & Flow Panel Presentation NSHA Spring Forums Adult Residential / Regional Rehabilitation Centres Sector

Prepared with input from the ARC/RRC Association
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Who We Serve

Individuals ranging in age from 19 to 80+ years with:

- Moderate to severe intellectual and/or physical disabilities
- Chronic mental illness
- Addictions
- Acquired brain injuries

Common Myths About Us

- Only support individuals with intellectual disabilities
- Work under a medical model as opposed to a social model
- Access to intensive nursing & specialty services are universally available
 - Psychology, psychiatry, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, hearing & speech, intensive nursing, recreational therapy, pharmacy
- Do not have a wide range of expertise or services to offer our residents or other sectors
- Clients do not make decisions regarding their medical treatment

Our Realities

- Serve individuals with complex behaviour challenges associated with their diagnosis
- Follow a person-centred model
 - Creates a customized plan for each resident
- Access to specialty services is not universally available
- Residents must be medically stable as we have insufficient nursing staff to provide medical care
- Specialized expertise in supporting people with complex challenging behaviours
- Provide a continuum of progressive services & supports to empower people with diverse abilities
 - Independent living services
 - Access to employment opportunities
 - Vocational training & skills development
 - Social enterprise
 - Access to a range of residential services
 - Health-related & other specialty services
- Believe in supportive decision making & choice

Largest Challenges to Seamless Transition Along Continuum (Gaps)

- Our expertise is not widely recognized
- Misinformation or missed information from other institutions
 - Medical history
 - Behavioural history
- Lack of relationships with the health sector
- Misperceptions about our residents/lack of understanding of resident needs (social stigmas)
- Need for greater support from the police & hospitals

Facilitators in Transitioning Along Continuum (Strengths)

- Accurate & up-to-date resident information
- Good relationships with other service providers & regional offices
 - DCS & DHW
- Better understanding of who we can & cannot effectively & safely support

What We Need From Other Program Areas

- Support in meeting the needs of individuals with complex, challenging behaviours & mental health issues
 - Support from:
 - Hospitals
 - Home care nursing (e.g. IV antibiotics)
 - Mental health & addictions

What We Can Offer Other Program Areas

- Have expertise in supporting individuals with disabilities, in a social, person-centred model of care, & in responsive behaviour management
 - Behaviour intervention
 - Positive behaviour support
 - Program development
- Willing to share our expertise & array of speciality services

Top Priority for Collaboration and Change

- Need to gain a mutual respect for other sectors
- Need to realize that together we are a system & can accomplish more
- Need to better understand the roles & responsibilities of the other sectors

Thank You

Questions?
Comments?