

INYI Initiatives, Publications and Events

Initiatives:

Lending a Hand to Our Future is a partnership involving researchers, decision makers, practitioners, immigrant service agencies and other community groups in Ontario. The partnership is dedicated to producing and using evidence-based research to improve health care services to children and youth new to Canada as well as to promoting the concept of shared responsibility among all sectors that deal with children and youth. The partnership recently received funding from the CIHR/Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Partnerships for Health Systems Improvement for a project to screen and assess refugee youth in Toronto for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), to offer treatment with Narrative Exposure Therapy and to evaluate treatment effectiveness. The project will use and document the success of a “train the trainers” model to enhance the capacity of the health care system to deal with a highly prevalent and disabling condition. The project is an important component of a growing attempt to bring together all partners – health, education, child and youth services, citizenship and immigration -- that have a mandate to support the mental health of immigrant and refugee children and youth, to catalyze creative interactions among them, and to develop innovative solutions for one of Canada’s neglected challenges. For further information, contact Dr. Morton Beiser, mbeiser@psych.ryerson.ca

New Publications:

Khanlou N. & Wray R. (2014). A whole community approach toward child and youth resilience promotion: A review of resilience literature. *Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*, 12:64-79. You can have [free access](#) to this article at:

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11469-013-9470-1/fulltext.html>

Khanlou, N., Haque, N., Sheehan, S., & Jones, G. (2014). "It is an issue of not knowing where to go": Examining the experience of immigrant mothers of children with disabilities from the service providers' perspective. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. You can have [free access](#) to this article at:

http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10903-014-0122-8?sa_campaign=email/event/articleAuthor/onlineFirst%20%29

Jennings, S., Khanlou, N. & Su, C. (2014). Public health policy and social support for immigrant mothers raising disabled children in Canada. *Disability & Society*, 29(10), 1645-1657.

Upcoming Events

On February 23, 2015, the Office of the Women's Health Research Chair in Mental Health in collaboration with Dr. Mahdiah Dastjerdi (School of Nursing, York University) will hold the Seminar *The Role of Gender and Ethnicity in the Well-being and Integration of Iranian and Afghan Older Adult Immigrant Women in Canada*. This is a project funded by the \$15K Xchange Challenge, Women’s College Hospital. The event will include academic and community presenters.

Conference details:

Date: February 23, 2015

Time: 12:00- 2:30

Place: 280N York Lanes, York University. 4700 Keele St.

Toronto, ON

Canada, M3J 1P3

York University leading the Youth Research and Evaluation Exchange program
Luz Maria Vazquez

According to the Government of Ontario, in this 21st century, the multicultural diverse young population of the province is facing particular challenges: changing family structures, high levels of unemployment and competitive job markets (Minister of Children and Youth Services, 2014, p. 7). To help this population to navigate these changes, in 2013 the government launched the initiative ***Stepping Up: A Strategic Framework to Help Ontario's Youth Succeed***, aiming at supporting and improving the opportunities of vulnerable youth in the province. Presented as "the first-of-its-kind framework", this Framework looks at integrating youth's own voices and identified needs into youth-serving agencies who are providing them services. This initiative also integrates a wide range of themes such as: health and wellness; strong, supportive friends and families; education, training and apprenticeships; employment and entrepreneurship; diversity, social inclusion and safety; and civic engagement and youth leadership.

As part of this umbrella initiative, York University is leading a collaborative Youth Research and Evaluation Exchange program (announced on December 2, 2014). This program is in collaboration with the Government of Ontario and other academic institutions (Carleton University, Western University, Lakehead University, Laurentian University) and community organizations. Among its objectives are to provide guidance and support to grassroots organizations across five hubs in Ontario: Toronto, Thunder Bay, Ottawa, London and Sudbury. The idea is "to help grassroots organizations deliver services more effectively" (York University, 2014). The initiative will be led by York University's professor Uzo Anucha, who has "extensive experience working with youth-serving agencies" (York University, 2014), as well as by the University's award-winning Knowledge Mobilization Unit. The government will provide \$3.75 million for this initiative over two and a half years.

References

York University. (2014). *New program will help organizations provide better services to youth*. York University's Daily news. December 2, 2014. Toronto, Ontario. http://yfile.news.yorku.ca/2014/12/02/new-program-will-help-organizations-provide-better-services-to-youth/?utm_source=YFile_Email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=MorningEmail