

Tele-Mental Health Service Area 6

Weechi-it-te-win Family Services is the Aboriginal Tele-Mental Health Service Coordinating Agency for the First Nations, Métis, Inuit and urban Aboriginal communities in Service Area 6. We are the Coordinating Agency for all Community-Based Aboriginal Mental Health Service Providers in this vast area. The area covers approximately 800,000 km² of beautiful northwest and northeast Ontario from the U.S. Border of the Kenora/Rainy River Districts, and northward to Fort Albany, Moosonee, and Timmins in the Cochrane District.



Weechi-it-te-win Family Services Inc.

Tele-Mental Health Service

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Weechi-it-te-win Family Service Inc. Tele-Mental Health Service

Nanaadawewinan Clinical Team





What is our service about?

We are able to provide access to specialized mental health consults to children and youth using videoconferencing on the Ontario Tele-Medicine Network and Keewaytinook Okimakinak eHealth. We connect children and youth to a specialist from either of the 3 Hubs; The Hospital for Sick Children, the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario, or the Child and Parent Resource Institute who can address their issues. We are child and youth centered and sensitive to the social, linguistic, and cultural diversity of the families in the northern communities. It is a cost-effective program as children, families, and workers don’t have to travel hundreds of kilometers to consult with a psychiatrist. The Tele-Mental Health Service will be staffed by individuals with the appropriate range of skills necessary to respond effectively to the needs of the adults, children, and their families.

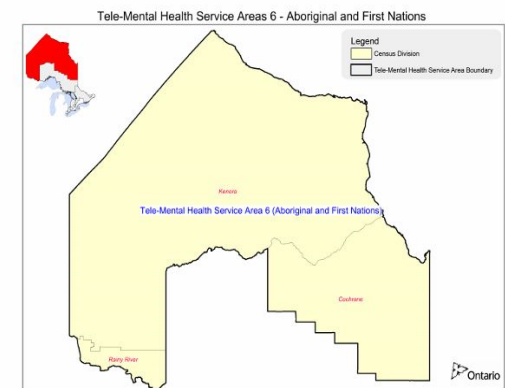
Who can make a referral and how?

All publicly funded mental health professionals working with children and youth will be able to refer to the Tele-Mental Health Service. This includes mental health professionals working in all child and youth mental health agencies, school boards, hospital out-patient programs, family health teams, Aboriginal Health Access Centres, Friendship Centres, trained professionals employed in youth justice settings, and professionals in other community-based agencies that provide child and youth mental health services.

Locally, the Tele-Mental Health Coordinator will be letting service providers know what the eligibility criteria and referral processes are, and receiving referrals from these community service providers in the process. The TMHC will also be conducting a “Service Readiness Review” once a referral is received. Collaboration with the Hubs then takes place in order to establish referral protocols, prioritize the referral, and manage the wait time for the Service. TMHC will then schedule the consult between community service provider, on behalf of the client, and the appropriate Hub. TMHC will now arrange for the consult to take place at an OTN/KO eHealth/local access site as close to home for the child or youth as possible.

Outreach & Partnership Development

The Tele-Mental Health Services Coordinator will be promoting the service as part of a continuum of child and youth mental health services in the community by increasing awareness of the service, supporting service providers in accessing the service and working with service providers to find the most appropriate local mental health support, including Tele-Mental Health. The TMHC will be supporting service providers in developing technical knowledge to access the service, help them understand where Tele-Mental Health fits in supporting the needs of their communities, and will work with service providers to deliver it in a culturally and linguistically appropriate way. We will develop local partnerships to provide linguistically appropriate service and outreach. And we will develop the partnerships necessary to facilitate technology sharing and client-hosting with non-MCYS funded OTN sites, including Local Health Integration Networks (LHINS), Community Networks of Specialized Care, and MCYS local access sites.



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