

Event Brief

Webinar: MHP-IF project community engagement

November 30, 2022

A [recording](#) of this webinar is available, as well as the [slide deck](#).

Purpose

This interactive webinar sought input from the *Mental Health Promotion Innovation Fund* (MHP-IF) project community on the KDE Hub's Annual Symposium 2023 planning and other Hub supports for Phase 2. Additionally, the Hub team shared highlights from the recently completed MHP-IF Project Community Survey (round 2) and discussed updates regarding the Hub Secretariat.

Participants

This webinar was attended by 13 MHP-IF project team members and eight Hub Secretariat members.

Meeting structure

- After brief opening remarks, members of the Hub team shared updates about the expansion of the Hub team and community, findings from the Hub's review of Phase 2 project applications, and results from the Project Community Survey (round 2).
- Participants were then joined breakout rooms and took part in collaborative Annual Symposium planning. Miro (a visual collaboration platform) was used to record input.
- The webinar closed with a brief return to plenary for some Hub updates.

What did we learn?

Updates about the expansion of the Hub community and team

- The KDE Hub has received new funding as part of the *Supporting the Mental Health of those Most Affected by COVID-19* (MH COVID) investment administered by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). This funding will allow the Hub to support more than 30 additional projects also focused on the mental health of Canadians. The Hub Secretariat has welcomed six new team members as part of this investment.
- The Hub will facilitate opportunities for projects from the MHP-IF and MH COVID to engage with one another and continue to offer space for projects within each funding program to connect.

Phase 2 application review findings

- After a systematic review of MHP-IF Phase 2 project applications, the Hub team identified the following priorities for Hub supports: research and evaluation, partnerships, scaling, knowledge exchange, seeking and securing additional funding.
- Potential topics for new knowledge development in Phase 2 will be explored over the coming months and with the input from the project community and PHAC MHP-IF team.

Findings from the MHP-IF Project Community Survey (round 2)

- The 18 individuals surveyed were mainly project leads, or in project management/coordination.
- The top four categories of benefits gained by projects participating in the MHP-IF community were: 1) Knowledge, 2) Sense of Community, 3) Activities, & 4) Outcomes
- In 2020, most projects had either 'no' or 'light' connection with other MHP-IF project teams, and in 2022, most projects had either a 'light' or 'some' connection with other MHP-IF project teams.
- Projects shared that the Hub could continue providing support by offering opportunities to connect, access to scale-up and evaluation content, balancing Western tools with indigenous tools, and information on the wider MHP Field

Annual Symposium planning input

- The “leveraging momentum theme” inspired discussion around advocacy at the community and systems level, methods to strengthen implementation and scale sustainability post COVID-19, and implementation science as means of accelerating change.
- Participants shared speaker suggestions, and there was an interest in a panel between individuals who desire system change and those who have taken part in system change.
- Those working in youth mental health spaces (e.g., representatives from government, police, and education) were identified as important stakeholders to invite to the Symposium. Media presence was also suggested.
- Project team members expressed enthusiasm for continued opportunities to learn about each other’s work and for networking. Several suggested that the Hub provides project teams with a template to describe and share project details at the Symposium.

How will learnings from this event be used?

- Input from breakout rooms will inform Annual Symposium planning.
- The Hub will continue to host opportunities for sharing between projects and explore additional opportunities (outside of the Symposium) for engaging mental health promotion stakeholders in dialogue around project work.
- The Hub will convene the project community around priorities for Phase 2 knowledge development opportunities in the coming months.

