

Background

The Youth Addictions and Mental health Alliance (YAMHA) came together to provide clinical leadership across the CDHB- funded teams providing child and youth mental health and addictions services within the community.

Guiding Principles of YAMHA include:

- Taking a whole of system approach in order to make these services more integrated and sustainable
- Focussing on children, young people and their families and keeping them at the centre of everything we do;
- Enabling clinically-led service development

YAMHA's Function

YAMHA's function is to:

- Serve as a key point of integration between primary level child and young people's mental health and addiction services.
- Provide leadership in the sector
- Provide advocacy for children and young people with mental health and addiction problems.
- Build relationships across disciplines within the sector
- Strengthen the relationship between primary and secondary child and youth mental health services
- Ensure provision of mental health care is evidence-informed
- Optimise communication with other mental health and wellbeing providers in the sector
- Facilitate workforce training and mentoring

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Aims for 2013/ 2014

- Develop a common referral process
- Develop shared outcome/screening tools
- Ensure that the system meets the need of Maori and Pacific youth
- To provide a forum for sharing quality information, standards, national strategies and trends.
- To provide an integrated and strong voice to inform Ministry of Health and CDHB policy and processes.
- Support training and mentoring

Membership CDHB funded clinical services working with Youth experiencing Mental Health and/or addictions concerns – managers or senior representatives from:

Odyssey House Christchurch
Pacific Trust
Pegasus PHO
Stepping Stone
Waipuna
PuraPura Whetu
CYMHS
Wellbeing North Canterbury Community Trust
Canterbury PHO
Christchurch City Mission
Schools' Mental Health team CDHB
CAF Link - CDHB
Specialist Mental health and addiction services (YSS or CAF Rural) - CDHB

Chairperson YAMHA: Nigel Loughton (Odyssey House)
YAMHA clinical training meeting: Kereama Carmody

Meetings YAMHA: Bi- monthly, First Tuesday of the month 1-2pm
Review 6 monthly

YAMHA clinical training meeting: Bi-monthly, alternate first Tuesday of the month 1-2pm
Review 6 monthly

Agenda A written agenda will be circulated one week prior to the meeting. Items for the agenda should be received two weeks prior to the next meeting.

Minutes Minutes of all meetings will be circulated to:
▪ To the membership