

# Shifting responsibility from the individual to communities of care

By  
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IHE Consensus Development Conference on

**Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder  
(FASD) – Across the Lifespan**

October 7 to 9, 2009, The Westin Edmonton, Edmonton, Alberta



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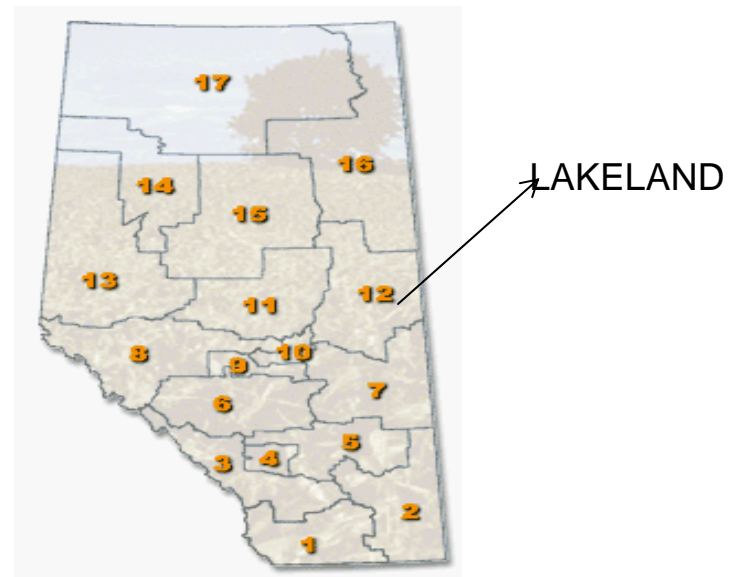
# Communities of care...

- Lakeland Centre for FASD



# LCFASD

- Service Area  
– #12



# LCFASD Services

- Mothers-to-be Mentorship Program (PCAP)
- Diagnostic & Assessment
- Post Diagnostic Outreach
- Referral Supports
- Transition to adult services supports
- Education/Training
- Resource Development
- Awareness
- Summer Camp for kids with FASD
- Emergency Placement (new)



LCFASD summer camp

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# LCFASD Working towards....



LCFASD summer camp

- Residential services for youth with FASD
- Residential services for adults
- Employment supports
- Residential trmt services for homeless pregnant women
- Permanent camp facility
- Therapy options (art, music, etc)
- Respite services



# LCFASD diagnostic's

## **Team members, children's clinic:**

- Pediatrician
- Neuropsychologist
- Speech Language Pathologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Mental Health Therapist
- Addiction Counsellor
- Social Worker
- Public Health Nurse
- Teacher
- Cultural Liaison
- Team Coordinator
- Post Diagnostic Outreach Workers



# LCFASD diagnostic's

## **Team Members, Adult Clinic**

- Physician
- Neuropsychologist
- Psychiatrist
- Employment counsellor
- Addiction counsellor
- Mental Health counsellor
- Disability services
- Crown Prosecutor
- Team Coordinator
- Post Diagnostic Outreach Workers



# LCFASD diagnostic partners

- Health authority
- Children services authority
- Community agencies
- Alberta Justice
- NE Persons with developmental disabilities
- Alberta Employment & Immigration





# Policy Recommendation #1

Building Communities of Care

- Recommend payment models for professionals that reward the work that is needed to serve those with FASD

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# LCFASD community involvement



Mocktail  
challenge



Fundraising  
gala



Presentations



Diagnostic  
team retreat

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# Policy Recommendation #2

Building Communities of Care

- Allow communities time to build capacity and awareness to delivery effective services for individuals with FASD and their families.

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# LCFASD

- Community of care:



LCFASD cleaner



# Living in an abandoned car



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# Policy Recommendation #3

Building Communities of Care

- On/off reserve inadequacies need to be addressed. It can not simply be on or off reserve status – we need clearer definitions and options for individuals to access services.



# Policy Recommendation #4

Building Communities of Care

- Plan to serve the most complex of individuals with FASD. If you meet the needs of the most complex then it will inform systems to meet the needs of those that are less complex.





# Policy Recommendation #5

Building Communities of Care

- Expansion of the AISH Benefits Administration Program to include CPP and EI to provide more financial guidance for adults with FASD.





# Policy Recommendation #6

Building Communities of Care

- Attitude shift from government services to: how can we help you?
- Rather than: how can I exclude you from services?

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# Innocence meets jail



Photo from  
summer  
camp



# Policy Recommendation #7

Building Communities of Care

- Reduce the costs to the legal system by redirecting individuals with FASD out of the system on first offences if they are non-harmful.



# Policy Recommendation #8

Building Communities of Care

- To consider the volume of individuals with FASD within the legal system that instead of screening FASD in we should reverse this policy to screen FASD out. Building a system based on these premise would change how we think about our justice delivery system.



# Business success



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# Policy Recommendation #9

Building Communities of Care

- To build systems that support families such as easy and reliable respite options, and out of home placements when needed.

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# Policy Recommendation #10

Building Communities of Care

- To build a skilled work force to serve individuals with FASD and their families.

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# Policy Recommendation #11

Building Communities of Care

- Make available capital funds to build the necessary residential options for youth and adults to begin the gathering of evidence based residential services.

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# Programs Needed

1. Transition services for youth with FASD to adult services
2. Continuum of residential options
3. Emergency placements
4. Residential addictions programs for homeless pregnant women and girls.
5. Post secondary programs for adults with FASD.
6. Letting go of the stigma!



“The tragedy is not the child with the disability, but how we as a society respond”.  
(parent)

