

HOPES HEALTH CENTRE

Information Package

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Executive Summary

HOPES (Halifax Outreach Prevention Education Support) is a student led initiative with the objective of establishing an interprofessional community health clinic for marginalized populations at St. Andrew's church Sunday Suppers. It is the Steering Committee's intention that the Health Centre will complement existing community services by providing health promotion and navigation programs and preventative and basic primary care.

The Steering Committee comprises the student body responsible for establishing the clinic and currently consists of nine academic programs from Dalhousie University and Mount Saint Vincent University, and the Medavie Health Education program including Dentistry, Health Administration, Medicine, Nursing, Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Paramedicine, and Pharmacy. Please see page 3 for more information on the organization and current activities.

Halifax is one of the only major cities in Canada without a Student Run Clinic. The Health Centre presents a rare opportunity for the community and students. The HOPES initiative will allow students the opportunity to learn to work together as an interprofessional teams in a clinical setting while learning more about and working with a diverse population that often faces challenges in accessing the healthcare and social services.

The plan is for HOPES to begin offering services in January, 2016. Health promotion, education, and navigation services will be provided at St. Andrew's Church in conjunction with Sunday Suppers on Sundays from 1:30-5:30 by junior students. Primary Care Services will be offered at Dalhousie Health Services Clinic on LeMarchant St. on Sundays from 1:30-4:00 in the afternoon by more senior students. For the initial two months, the clinic will operate on a trial basis with a small group of already involved students. The clinic will expand to be fully operational for February with the plan of offering full services and operating weekly from that point forward.

About HOPES

VISION

Enhanced health, learning, and equity through collaborative relationships.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to make a meaningful contribution to the Halifax community by delivering sustainable and accessible interprofessional health and social services. By complementing existing services, we aim to create a supportive and healing environment that focuses on education, advocacy and positive social change.

VALUES

Accessibility: Reducing barriers to deliver our services in an equitable, inclusive and respectful manner consistent with the changes we hope to see in society.

Adaptability: Working to meet the dynamic needs of patients/clients by navigating, complementing and partnering with existing community resources.

Collaboration: Creating a supportive environment for patients/clients, students and professionals to work together and learn from one another.

Excellence: Committing to offer the best possible services to address health inequities with the resources available to us.

Sustainability: Maintaining relationships through an organizational model that will ensure continuity of care and foster compassion in our community.

Completed Initiatives

- Environmental Scan for the St. Andrew's church Sunday Super guests
- Governing policies and bylaws for Steering Committee Operations and Conduct
- Established a Faculty Advisory Committee
- Roles and Responsibilities document for individual academic programs
- Initial operating Budget
- Governance Structure for HOPES
- Sponsorship Packages
- Backing and sponsorship from Faculties of Medicine, Health Professions and Dentistry
- Preceptor Packages

Current Initiatives

- Formalizing liability insurance for each academic program
- Finalizing Model of Care
- Identifying available community resources and programs for our patient population
- Finalizing a manual and training program that will be used to help orient volunteers to this Halifax community
- Scheduling volunteer and preceptor orientation

Community Collaborators

- Mobile Outreach Street Health (MOSH)
- Walk in Our Shoes Foot Care Clinic
- St. Andrew's Church
- Primary Care, Nova Scotia Health Authority
- North End Community Health Clinic (NECHC)
- Dalhousie Global Health Office (GHO)
- Sunday Supper at St. Andrew's Church
- Halifax Community Health Board (HCHB)
- Dalhousie University Health Services

Interprofessional Education in HOPES

Interprofessional Collaboration is a core value for the HOPES student led health initiative. Through the developed model of care, there are several opportunities for interprofessional collaboration and learning. At St. Andrew's, students will be working in teams made up of individuals from different programs on offering services weekly, as well as working in interprofessional teams to plan health promotion activities. At the Clinic, students will see patients in interprofessional teams made up based on the patient/clients needs. The teams will work with their preceptors to develop a care plan for the patient. After the Health Centre has closed each week, students will be required to participate in a collaborative debrief, which will include both a debrief on clinic operations as well as on working together and reflecting on the competencies and interprofessional learning that took place.



The Potential for HOPES

To begin, HOPES will be offering services on Sunday Afternoons at St. Andrew's United Church Sunday Suppers and Dalhousie Health Services clinic. In the future, the clinic will ideally offer services an additional one evening a week and will expand its reach in the community. Additionally, the Health Centre hopes to expand to include students from all health-related programs who are interested.