

Department of Psychiatry

ANNUAL REPORT

2025/26



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY



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This report covers the period of April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026, with the exception of the education report, which covers the academic year, July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

Photos by Daniel Abriel, Zuya Production, Pexels. Other images contributed.

Contents

About Us	4
Message from the Department Head	5
Year in Review	6
Excellence in Education	10
High-Impact Research	16
Centre for Global Mental Health	23
Clinical Care Quality and Innovation	26
Serving and Engaging Society	31
Valuing People	33
2026-2031 Strategic Plan	35
Awards & Honours	36
Leadership & Administration	38

Acknowledgements

Dalhousie University operates in the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati Peoples. These sovereign nations hold inherent rights as the original peoples of these lands, and we each carry collective obligations under the Peace and Friendship Treaties. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights in Canada.

We recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies and contributions have enriched that part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years.

About Us



Vision

Excellence and innovation in psychiatric care, education, research, and advocacy, shaping the future of mental health care locally and globally.



Mission

To advance the understanding and treatment of psychiatric illness through excellence in clinical care, education, research, equitable leadership, advocacy, and community engagement.



Values

The values from the Faculty of Medicine's Strategic Plan also guide the department's work:

- Respect
- Inclusion
- Collaboration
- Accountability
- Excellence



Guiding Principles

Co-developed with community partners, these Guiding Principles inform our department's equity work across all streams.

Nothing about us without us: To promote reciprocal co-creation and co-ownership of programs and all academic deliverables

Do no harm: To include awareness of past/present colonial harms, potential future harms, and environmental stewardship

Pluralism/Two-eyed seeing: To include a stance of curiosity and reciprocity in learning and to promote diversity

Strengths-based: To align with positive psychiatry/psychology and to support advocacy

People-first with kindness: To promote a sense of belonging and community

Strategic Directions

Excellence in Education

High-Impact Research

Clinical Care Quality and Innovation

Serving and Engaging Society

Valuing People

Enabler

Governance and Leadership

Message from the Department Head



I am incredibly proud of the exceptional work the department has undertaken this year as we continue to progress in innovation, inclusivity, and global mindedness.

This year solidified the new direction the Department of Psychiatry has been moving towards for the past five years. In early 2026, we introduced our strategic

plan for 2026-2031 building on the bold transformational agenda of our previous plan and reflecting our shared priorities, values, and guiding principles as a clinical and academic community. This new framework reaffirms our commitment to excellence in education, high-impact research, and outstanding clinical care, while placing renewed and deliberate emphasis on our people, our partners, and the communities we serve. As we embark on this next chapter, the plan provides us with a clear roadmap. It was the result of consultation and collaboration with our faculty, learners, staff, partners, and stakeholders and is a document we can be proud to support as we work to implement it.

Our new graduate program, the Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health, received Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) approval in October 2025 and the program team has been preparing to welcome the first group of learners in September 2026. Designed for licensed health-care professionals and taking place fully online, this program is positioned to address gaps in specialized psychiatric care in underserved communities at home and around the world.

Established education programs in the department continue to be successful. The psychiatry residency program filled all nine seats, with many of the new cohort having strong links to Nova Scotia and the Maritimes. Separate selection pathways for Black and Indigenous learners will be included for the upcoming academic year. The psychiatry undergraduate education program is establishing closer links with Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick (DMNB) teaching faculty through the appointment of a Neuroscience Component Head based in DMNB. Students in graduate programs in Psychiatry Research (MSc and PhD) continue to secure scholarships and funding to support their studies.

Having dedicated research directors and assistants in each department section and division continues to produce results as more front-line clinicians are involved

in initiating research projects. Researchers also continue to obtain grants at varying levels and publish in leading peer-reviewed journals.

Celebrating its fourth year, the Transcultural Mental Health Program has provided culturally-responsive care to people from equity-denied populations such as African Nova Scotians, Newcomers, Indigenous People, and those experiencing homelessness.

A new course that aimed to build cultural competence among clinicians was delivered to department faculty in spring 2026. This course was unique because it was co-developed with the Black and African Nova Scotian communities and was the first major initiative of the Serving and Engaging Society pillar in our strategic plan.

Our new strategic pillar, Valuing People, combines our wellness and Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Reconciliation and Accessibility (EDIRA) initiatives, fostering a more inclusive environment where everyone belongs. Existing activities, such as the Newcomer Support Program and faculty welcome guidelines, continue to gain momentum under this new umbrella.

The Dalhousie Centre for Global Mental Health, housed in the Department of Psychiatry, had an impressive year, bringing together various organizations, researchers, and leaders for a national policy dialogue, hosting a study tour for a delegation of the Ghanaian Parliament, and preparing for the centre's first conference in July 2026. The International Fellowship Program continues to attract applicants from high- and low-income countries and is expanding training opportunities to New Brunswick. Two new seminar series were also introduced to enhance the program's academic offerings.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of the department this past year. As we implement our new strategic plan over the coming years, I am confident we have the right framework in place to guide us in achieving our mission of advancing the understanding and treatment of psychiatric illness through excellence in clinical care, education, research, equitable leadership, advocacy, and community engagement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vincent Agyapong'.

Dr. Vincent I.O. Agyapong

Head, Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine,
Dalhousie University
Head of Psychiatry, Nova Scotia Health Central Zone

Department of Psychiatry Facts & Figures

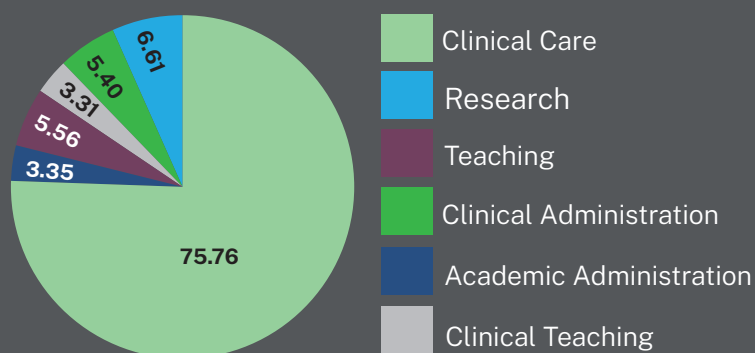
The Department of Psychiatry is a clinical academic department within the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. We're home to over 300 faculty located across the province, country, and even some around the world. Locally, faculty work out of the Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) Health Sciences Centre, IWK Health, Nova Scotia Youth Centre, the East Coast Forensic Hospital (ECFH), the Nova Scotia Hospital, the Operational Stress Injury Clinic, and various community clinics across the Central Zone.

Dalhousie University Faculty

April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026

319
Faculty Members

How our AFP faculty spent their time (%)



EDUCATION

Undergraduate Medical Education

Clerkship year is from Aug. 25, 2025 to Aug. 28, 2026

106 core students rotated through our Dalhousie Medicine Nova Scotia (DMNS) sites

77 students in HRM

18 students at distributed sites (Amherst, Kentville, Truro, and Yarmouth)

11 students at Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (LIC) sites

39 core students rotated through our Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick (DMNB) sites

18 students in Saint John

21 students at Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (LIC) sites

85 Med 4 electives completed

67 electives completed by Dalhousie students

10 electives completed by students at other Canadian universities

8 electives completed by students from outside of Canada

6 Med 1 students participated in the Summer Internship in Psychiatry (SIIP)

55 Faculty involved in undergraduate teaching

24 Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) students rotated through our Dalhousie Medicine Nova Scotia (DMNS) sites from January to December 2026

23 students in HRM

1 student at distributed site in Yarmouth

Postgraduate Medical Education

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

48 Residents

9 applicants matched through CaRMS, including **5** Dalhousie graduates

2 Geriatric Psychiatry subspecialty residents (PGY-6)

2 Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty residents (PGY-6)

Continuing Professional Development

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

38 grand rounds, including University rounds

Medical Education Scholarship

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

5 medical education projects in progress

2 publications in peer-reviewed journals

12 abstracts presented at various conferences

6 learner scholarly projects on medical education

1 new faculty development course developed

International Fellowship Program

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

- 9** International Fellows
 - 4** from Ghana
 - 5** from the Gulf States
- 6** International Fellows completed their fellowship
 - 2** in Neuropsychiatry and Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disability
 - 1** in Forensic Psychiatry
 - 1** in Sleep Medicine
 - 1** in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
 - 1** in Early Psychosis Intervention

Graduate Programs in Psychiatry Research

September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026

- 23** Psychiatry Research graduate students
 - 15** MSc in Psychiatry Research students
 - 8** PhD in Psychiatry Research students

RESEARCH

April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026

- \$5.1M** in new grant money
- \$36M** in continuing grant money
 - 34** faculty members with dedicated research FTE
 - 27** new research projects
 - 164** peer-reviewed publications
 - 95** invited presentations

PATIENT CARE

Adult

April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 (Central Zone only)

- 68,255** days were spent in adult inpatient services
- 77%** occupancy rate in adult mental health and addictions services (including ECFH)

1,306 discharges from adult inpatient care

167,885 visits to adult outpatient services (does not include Mental Health Mobile Crisis Team and Psych ER)

32,447 Mental Health Mobile Crisis Team interventions for clients in the central zone (includes telephone and mobile interventions)

2,032 visits to the Psych ER

Adult — Rapid Access and Stabilization Program (RASP)

April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 (Central Zone only)

1,789 clients seen by RASP

Adult — Transcultural Mental Health Program

April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 (Central Zone only)

116 clients seen and **261** attended visits for the Transcultural Mental Health Program

NS Sisterhood Initiative: **15** clients seen, **16** attended visits

NS Brotherhood Initiative: **23** clients seen, **30** attended visits

Newcomer Health Clinic: **15** clients seen, **25** attended visits

Mi'kmaw Friendship Centre: **42** clients seen, **108** attended visits

Community Mental Health and Addictions (CMHA) clinics: **21** clients seen, **82** attended visits

Child and Adolescent

April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026

3,498 days spent in child and adolescent acute inpatient services

69% occupancy rate in child and adolescent acute inpatient services

2,640 days spent in child and adolescent inpatient intensive services

40,207 Ambulatory Registrations to MHA Program

New Dal master's program responds to global need for better mental health care access

A new online, course-based program from Dalhousie offers licensed health-care professionals around the world a flexible option for expanding the skills they need to provide better care for patients with mental health concerns.

The **Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health**, a two-year, part-time program launching in fall 2026, will enable care providers the opportunity to enhance their clinical psychiatry skills without ever having to leave the communities they serve.

“Globally, one billion people are affected by mental health conditions, yet there’s a profound shortage of trained mental health professionals, particularly in low- and middle-income countries,” says Dr. Ejemai Eboreime, the program’s director.

Dr. Eboreime says the program will empower health-care providers already embedded in communities — such as family doctors, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurses — to deliver high-quality mental health care. The program centres around graduate-level training in transcultural evidence-based diagnosis, treatment planning, and psychopharmacology. And because it is delivered fully online with no thesis requirement, it offers flexibility for learners whatever their circumstances.

“Whether you’re a licensed health-care professional from rural Nova Scotia, the Caribbean, or Africa, this program can help you make a difference in your community’s mental health,” says Dr. Vincent Agyapong, head of the Department of Psychiatry for Dalhousie and Nova Scotia Health’s Central Zone. “We can start closing some of these treatment gaps so access to mental health care doesn’t remain out of reach for these communities in Nova Scotia, elsewhere in Canada, or globally.”

Centering clinical excellence, cultures, and communities

Developing the program was a collaborative journey. It began as a diploma concept in 2022 and evolved into a master's program based on feedback from extensive consultations with stakeholders such as family physicians in West Africa and nurse practitioners in Nova Scotia.

“What emerged was a clear and urgent need: practicing clinicians need upskilled psychiatric training that doesn't require them to leave their communities or abandon their patients,” says Dr. Eboime.

The program integrates clinical excellence with cross-cultural and person-centered approaches, preparing health workers to lead in diverse mental-health settings around the world.

“The program centers people by placing patients, learners, and communities at the heart of the curriculum,” says Dr. Margaret (Leigh) Meldrum, the program's associate director. “We've intentionally created a space where clinical excellence, reflection, and global perspective coexist.”

There will be weekly sessions offered in real time (synchronous) as well as a self-study component at learners' own pace and time (asynchronous).

A culturally-responsive curriculum

One of the complexities of developing a program applicable to global learners is meeting the needs of different health-care contexts. Not all countries use the same tools to diagnose mental health conditions, for example.

As it prepares graduates to deliver evidence-based care in vastly different health-care contexts, a diverse faculty team has been working to create a culturally-responsive curriculum that integrates both DSM-5 (The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition) and ICD-11 (International Classification of Diseases, 11th Revision) frameworks, honours Indigenous and non-Western healing traditions, and includes decolonized approaches to mental health education by allowing space for diverse healing traditions to inform evidence-based practice.

“Mental health challenges don't exist in isolation — they're shaped by culture, history, systems, and access to care,” says Dr. Meldrum. “This program was designed to help clinicians think beyond diagnostic checklists and develop the skills needed to deliver thoughtful, ethical, and culturally-responsive care in diverse settings, both locally and globally.”

The Department of Psychiatry has committed to fund a limited number of scholarships, ensuring communities most affected by mental health workforce shortages can access this training, says Dr. Eboime.

The ripple effect

Empowering health-care providers in their communities and investing in their education benefits individual patients and entire health systems.

“This program creates a ripple effect,” says Dr. Eboime. “When a family physician in northern Nigeria or rural Nova Scotia completes this program, they return to their practice with enhanced skills in psychiatric assessment, culturally-adapted treatment planning, and evidence-based psychopharmacology. That means better care for their patients, reduced unnecessary referrals to overburdened specialist services, and improved capacity to manage complex mental health presentations.”

Graduates also return as leaders on their teams, in quality improvement initiatives, and in integrating research evidence into practice, adds Dr. Eboime.

“Globally, we're building a network of practitioners who can lead mental health initiatives in their communities while contributing to the global knowledge base through culturally-grounded research and innovation.”

The Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health is welcoming its first cohort in September 2026.

Learn more at dal.ca/clinical-psychiatry-global

The Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health is designed for eligible healthcare professionals who already hold an active license to practice clinically in their jurisdiction and does not qualify graduates for professional licensing.

Undergraduate Medical Education

The Undergraduate Education Program continues to provide education to medical students throughout their training.

For the first time, the Neuroscience Component Head position is held by a faculty member based at Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick (DMNB), allowing the program to establish closer links with DMNB teaching faculty.

Faculty provided tutoring, seminars, and lectures for Med 1-4 students and were involved in evaluating students from all years. Entrustable Professional Activities for clerkship, used at most medical schools in Canada, was successfully implemented in the 2025/26 academic cycle.

Faculty also provided clinical teaching for block clerks who completed rotations in Central Zone and distributed sites of Amherst, Kentville, Truro, Yarmouth, and Saint John. The department continued to host Med 4 elective students.

Residents organized the annual SIIP (Summer Internship in Psychiatry) program for a small group of Med 1 students from June 2-5, 2026.

The Undergraduate Program continued to help coordinate the placement of Master of Physician Assistant Studies students.

Postgraduate Medical Education

CaRMS was successful with all nine positions filled and the department welcomed the new cohort of psychiatry residents in July 2026. Many of the incoming PGY-1s have strong links to Nova Scotia and the Maritimes. For the upcoming academic year, the residency program will include separate selection pathways for Black and Indigenous learners for the next CaRMS cycle. In June 2026, the department celebrated the success of 10 graduating residents.

As part of the regular Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons accreditation cycle, the program will undergo an external review in November 2026.

A global review of the residency curriculum is underway to better align with Competency-Based Medical Education. A curriculum sub-committee is being formed with resident representation and will review didactic curriculum and longitudinal research and psychotherapy curricula.

The program saw the first psychiatry resident complete a one-month international elective in Global Mental Health at the University of Ghana Medical School in October 2025. This initiative is designed to develop clinical and leadership skills in the global context of low- and middle-income countries.



Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Education

Learners in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

From July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry faculty members supervised 33 medical students, seven PGY-3 Pediatrics residents, six PGY-3 Psychiatry residents, six Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty residents (includes PGY-5 and PGY-6), one Physician Assistant student, and one International Fellow within their services.

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Subspecialty Residency Program

One resident successfully completed their Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty training on Dec. 31, 2025 and accepted a full-time position at the IWK's Garron Centre.

Three PGY-5 residents continued their excellent work in the program, as did one PGY-6 resident who graduated in June 2026 and accepted a position at the IWK.

Another resident accepted a Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty position in the residency program and began training on July 1, 2026.

The program is planning for its next regular external review by the Royal College in November 2026.

Dalhousie International Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

One International Fellow from Ghana completed a six-month fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry on Feb. 28, 2026.



Geriatric Psychiatry Education

Geriatric Psychiatry Subspecialty Residency Program

The program is preparing for its next regular external review by the Royal College in fall 2026.

A new, one-month rural Geriatric Psychiatry rotation was successfully piloted in spring 2025. Following positive feedback, this rotation is now mandatory for all residents, helping to meet the requirement of at least 10 per cent of training to occur outside HRM and increase exposure to

underserved rural communities, including within Western, Northern, and Eastern Zones. The program is also exploring PEI as a new potential rural site for a Geriatric Psychiatry rotation.

The 2026/27 academic year will be the program's busiest since its inception, with four active subspecialty residents.

Medical Humanities

The Medical Humanities Program in Dalhousie's Department of Psychiatry promotes the integration of the humanities, arts, and reflective practice into psychiatric education and clinical care. In 2025/26, the program continued to foster empathy, professionalism, narrative competence, ethical reflection, and creativity among learners and faculty.

A highlight of the year was the Department of Psychiatry's Annual Student Writing Competition, a national initiative inviting medical students, residents,

and fellows across Canada to explore the human dimensions of medicine through reflective writing. The program also supported educational activities examining literature, ethics, philosophy, history, and the arts in relation to mental health and psychiatric practice.

Through its collaboration with Dalhousie's Medical Humanities (HEALS) Program, these initiatives help enhance physicians' and psychiatrists' understanding of patients' experiences and promote compassionate, patient-centred care.

Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health

The Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health received Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) approval in October 2025.

This online, part-time, course-based, two-year graduate program is an educational opportunity for licensed health-care professionals, such as family doctors and nurse practitioners, looking to build their expertise within their current practice and communities. By enhancing mental health-care capacity and skills among eligible health-care professionals globally, this program addresses gaps in specialized psychiatric care, particularly in underserved regions.

The program is preparing to welcome its first cohort in September 2026. A dedicated curriculum committee is developing course content. Program leadership and course directors took part in a professional development workshop emphasizing best practices in online education and the integration of transcultural competencies.

The Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health is designed for eligible healthcare professionals who already hold an active license to practice clinically in their jurisdiction and does not qualify graduates for professional licensing.

Graduate Training in Psychiatry Research

In spring/summer 2025, five MSc students successfully defended their theses, and three PhD students successfully defended their dissertations. Following this, they graduated from the MSc and PhD in Psychiatry Research programs in October 2025.

In summer 2026, there will be seven MSc thesis defences and two PhD dissertation defences.

Graduate students in psychiatry research continue to be successful in obtaining awards and scholarships to support their studies.

In fall 2026, the programs will welcome a new cohort of 10 graduate students (nine MSc students and one PhD student), bringing diverse academic backgrounds and research interests.



Continuing Professional Development

W.O. McCormick Academic Day

The 2026 W.O. McCormick Academic Day conference “Bridging the Silos: Comprehensive Care for Individuals with Persistent Psychotic Disorders” was held on April 24, 2026 and welcomed over 100 attendees.

This year, we were pleased to welcome the following speakers: Keynote Speaker Dr. Lena Palaniyappan (McGill University and Douglas Research Centre); Keynote Speaker Dr. Vicky Stergiopoulos (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and University of Toronto); Dr. Kara Dempster (Dalhousie University); Dr. Jason Morrison (Dalhousie University); Chris McWilliam (Nova Scotia Health); Dr. Rudolf Uher (Dalhousie University); and, Krista Ellsworth (Early Psychosis Intervention Nova Scotia).



Medical Education Scholarship

Five medical education projects were in progress. These projects address key areas such as bias in teaching and continuing professional development (CPD), person-centred approaches to trauma education for psychiatry residents, geriatric psychiatry teaching review for general psychiatry residents, best practices for implementing HyFlex education in CPD, and the role of the teacher identity in professional identity formation.

Two medical education studies were published in peer-reviewed journals. One study highlights an innovative simulation-based approach to teaching capacity assessment skills for geriatric psychiatry and geriatric medicine residents, and the other explores the complexities of establishing rural psychiatry post-graduate training sites.

Twelve faculty, learner, and staff medical education projects were disseminated via conferences and annual meetings including:

- Department of Psychiatry Research Day
- Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine's Medical Education Research and Innovations Showcase (MERIS)
- International Congress on Academic Medicine (ICAM)
- Canadian Academy for Geriatric Psychiatry Annual Meeting
- Association for Academic Psychiatry Annual Meeting

Six learner scholarly projects were supervised by faculty and staff. These projects encompassed program evaluation, research, archival research, and a scoping review. Topics explored our resident neuroscience curriculum, resident-led medical student mentorship program, hidden curriculum of caring for older adults, assessment of CaRMS-related stress, archival research, and a podcast interview series.

A new course called “Building Cultural Competence for Mental Health Equity” was co-developed and co-delivered by department members and Black and African Nova Scotian community partners. This course used cultural competence as a framework to promote mental health equity. It was designed to advance departmental competence in anti-oppression, equity, and community allyship, in collaboration with partners.

High-Impact Research

Section/division research directors have each been moving forward with engaging front-line clinical staff on research ideas specific to their areas of work. This has generated research projects that are in various stages. Section/division research directors present updates on this work at department Research Committee meetings and in quarterly reports to the Director of Research. The Director of Research meets with the section/division

research directors on a regular basis to advance this aspect of the department's research mandate.

Department researchers continue to be successful with research grants being awarded at varying levels of granting agencies and with publications in leading peer-reviewed journals.

Public Panel Discussion: Psychedelics in Psychiatry: Innovation, Risks, and Realities

The annual public panel discussion was held the evening before Research Day on Nov. 6, 2025.

Dr. Phil Tibbo, Director of Research, welcomed attendees to the event. The discussion was moderated by Dr. George Robertson, Professor of Psychiatry and Pharmacology, and attendees heard from panelists:

- Dr. Joshua Rosenblat (Research Day Keynote Speaker), Associate Professor, Clinician-Investigator, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto
- Dr. Abraham Nunes, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry & Computer Science, Dalhousie University and Psychiatrist, Nova Scotia Health Central Zone
- Dr. Ahmed Saleh, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University and Head of Psychiatry, Nova Scotia Health Western Zone



35th Annual Research Day

The department's 35th Annual Research Day was held on Nov. 7, 2025. The keynote speaker was Dr. Joshua Rosenblat, Associate Professor and Clinician-Investigator, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto. His presentation "Psychedelics for Mood Disorders: A Brave New World" opened the event. Showcasing mainly student research, the day included 11 oral presentations and 55 poster presentations.



Departmental Research Funding

2025 Department of Psychiatry Research Fund (DPRF) Summer Studentship recipients

The Psychiatry Summer Studentship Program is designed to provide qualified undergraduate students with an opportunity to become involved in research in the Department of Psychiatry over the summer.

This program offers students an opportunity to learn new research techniques as they acquire hands-on experience in running experiments and analyzing data.

In 2025, summer studentships were awarded to five learners:

- Yanna Kachafanas (supervisor: Dr. Barbara Pavlova): *Sleep and perseverative thinking in people with mood disorders*
- Lee-Ann Olmstead (supervisor: Dr. Kara Dempster): *Exploring the Use of Mismatch Negativity on EEG and Anterior Cingulate Cortex Glutamate as Prospective Markers of Treatment Resistant Schizophrenia*

- Sam Hawkins (supervisor: Dr. Sherry Stewart): *How and For Whom Does Gambling-Specific Cyberloafing Explain the Links of Problem Gambling Severity to Adverse Work and Mental Health Outcomes?*
- Disha Sharma (supervisor: Dr. Phil Tibbo): *Assessing Fidelity to Care in Early Intervention Services for Psychosis in rural and urban NS*
- Kelly Meaney (supervisor: Dr. George Robertson): *Metabolic Mechanisms Responsible for Ibogaine-Induced Brain Repair*

Of the five students, two began their MSc in Psychiatry Research with the department and two joined the department as research assistants.

2025 Department of Psychiatry Research Fund (DPRF) recipients

The department provided funding to the following research projects through the Department of Psychiatry Research Fund (DPRF).

Spring 2025 DPRF recipients:

- Dr. Jill Chorney: *Measurement to Meaning: Implementing Measurement-Based Care in Child & Adolescent Mental Health*
- Dr. George Robertson: *Identification of the Drug Targets for Ibogaine*

Fall 2025 DPRF recipients:

- Bronwyn Inness (MSc. in Psychiatry Research student, now former): *From Envy to Gratitude: Emotional Responses Linking Social Media Comparisons to Relationship Quality*
- Ashley Francis (PhD in Psychiatry Research student, now former): *Understanding the role of sex in the neural implications of cannabis use on inhibitory functions in early psychosis: A multimodal neuroimaging study*

- Dr. Elena Koning (Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellow): *Stimulating research on Psychedelic Treatments for Eating Disorders: Evaluating Patients' Perspectives to Inform a Novel Treatment Protocol and Clinical Trial*
- Dr. Kim Good: *Vaping Cue Reactivity in patients with early phase psychosis: a pilot study*
- Dr. Anthony Pianosi: *Assessment of the Use of Clozapine in a Day Hospital Setting*
- Dr. Deborah Parker: *Impact of Dialectical Behaviour Therapy and Treatment Length on Mental Health Service Utilization*
- Dr. Charles Kelderhouse: *Evaluation of the Use of Decision-Support Tools in Adolescent Youth Accessing Intensive Services*



Canada Research Chair in Addictions and Mental Health: **Dr. Sherry Stewart**

The Canada Research Chair in Addictions and Mental Health (Stewart) focuses on mechanisms and effective interventions for concurrent mental health and addictive disorders.

Dr. Stewart is Director of 'UniVenture' — a \$2.5M, multi-site SSHRC Partnership grant testing her PreVenture program adapted for undergraduates. Preliminary results were presented (NIDA Forum, New Orleans, June 2025) and several papers published (e.g., *Journal of Research in Personality, Psychological Assessment*).

She is NS Lead on the Canadian Underage Substance Prevention (CUSP) trial (\$1.7M CIHR-funded), scaling-up PreVenture in Canada. Analyses are underway and related papers published (e.g., *JAMA Open; Social Science & Medicine*).

Dr. Stewart published on PTSD-addictions comorbidity (e.g., *European Journal of Psychotraumatology, Journal of Psychiatry & Neuroscience*), submitted a CIHR

cannabis consortium grant, and presented a Canadian Psychological Association invited address (Montreal, June 2026). She continues data collection for an ancillary PTSD-dog olfaction study (NFRF-funded; PI: Gadbois) resulting in a new SSHRC Partnership grant (PI: Dell).

Dr. Stewart leads the ongoing CIHR-funded OpiVenture trial with opioid agonist therapy clients and received a Mitacs accelerate scholarship with Direction 180.

She is the Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse (CRISM) Atlantic's NPI (\$2.4M, CIHR-funded). They seed-funded nine research development grants and funded five CRISM-trainees through their new Cross-Node Placement program. Through CRISM, Dr. Stewart presented on opioid use to the new Fentanyl Czar, Brosseau (Ottawa, July 2025); co-presented to the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs (Dartmouth, June 2025) resulting in a CIHR-funded, community-led collaboration (PI: Tibbo) on cannabis use in Indigenous youth; and provided expertise in evaluating drug harms in Canada (*Journal of Psychopharmacology*).

She disseminated results of a CIHR-funded Concurrent Disorders Think Tank (CCSA conference, Halifax, November 2025; *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*) and moderated a webinar (February 2026).



Canada Research Chair in Developmental Psychopathology and Youth Mental Health: **Dr. Sandra Meier**

Dr. Sandra Meier leads an innovative research program focused on transforming youth mental health care through digital technologies, mobile sensing, and artificial intelligence.

Her work aims to improve early identification of mental health difficulties, personalize interventions, and expand access to evidence-based care for young people and their families.

A cornerstone of this work is the Predicting Risk and Outcomes of Social Interactions (PROSIT) app, which uses smartphone sensing data, including sleep, mobility, screen use, and social behaviour, to identify youth at

risk for mental health problems. In clinical high-risk samples, PROSIT predicted anxiety diagnoses with high accuracy and identified adolescents at risk for worsening symptoms months before clinical presentation.

Building on these advances, Dr. Meier's team developed SMILE for Life, a mobile intervention that combines passive smartphone sensing with personalized cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT). The recently published trial demonstrated significant reductions in anxiety and depressive symptoms after four weeks, with benefits maintained at follow-up. The intervention is now being integrated into health-care services and adapted for youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Recognizing the impact of social media on well-being, Dr. Meier's team also developed BodyScreen, a digital intervention designed to reduce body dissatisfaction and disordered eating risk among adolescent girls and young

women. Pilot findings showed high engagement and improvements in body appreciation, appearance-related concerns, and social media use behaviours.

Dr. Meier also leads the international eCare22q11 Initiative, which provides online support for families affected by 22q11.2 deletion syndrome. The program has demonstrated reductions in caregiver stress and anxiety alongside improvements in child behavioural outcomes.

Across all projects, youth, families, clinicians, and community partners are actively involved in co-designing interventions, ensuring that digital mental health solutions are effective, equitable, and accessible. Together, these innovations demonstrate how data-driven technologies can enhance prevention, personalize care, and expand access to mental health support for youth and families.



Canada Research Chair in Early Intervention: **Dr. Rudolf Uher**

Dr. Rudolf Uher leads a clinical research program focused on early identification of risk, prevention, and personalized treatment of depression.

The Families Overcoming Risks and Building Opportunities for Wellbeing (FORBOW) project is following over 600 youth participants in Halifax and in New Glasgow. The FORBOW team monitors the young participants using interviews, cognitive testing, activity tracking, and brain scans. This information allows identifying risk early and helps target early interventions to those who need them to avoid mental illness. The Skills for Wellness project, integrated with FORBOW, is testing whether early transdiagnostic interventions involving psychological coaching reduce the long-term risk of mental illness in youth.

In the last year, the breadth of work in FORBOW has expanded to include new methods of speech analysis and genetic testing thanks to two grants awarded to Dr. Uher by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. One of these grants will fund the application of artificial

intelligence methods to voice recordings, which may provide an additional wealth of information about early manifestations of risk and resilience. The other grant funds a global collaboration of the FORBOW team with researchers in Australia, Brazil, Denmark, the Netherlands, Spain, Turkey, the UK and the USA to bring together clinical and genetic data in the largest-ever effort to characterize genetic risk in families. Thanks to the combination of data across diverse populations, this collaboration will allow establishing the value of genetic tests in the early identification of risk across populations of diverse ancestry.

Even with prevention in place, some youth will end up developing severe mental disorders, with major depressive disorder being the most common one. The right choice of first treatment can make a huge difference for a young person experiencing depression for the first time. The Treatment Interrupts Depression Early (TIDE) project is the first study to examine personalized treatment for the first episode of depression in youth. With support from the Waverley House, Hewitt Foundation, and Medavie Health Foundation, TIDE uses an innovative combination of activity tracking, brain wave recording, and voice analysis to find out who will benefit from psychological treatment and who requires medication to overcome depression. In

the last year, TIDE has expanded recruitment to Quebec. Across the two provinces, youth aged 12 to 24 years are receiving excellent treatment while providing unique data and enabling personalized choice of the first treatment for depression in a person's life.

Dr. Uher is also leading projects to improve the treatment of depression for all Canadians. The Optimized Predictive Treatment In Medications for Unipolar Major Depression (OPTIMUM-D), a multi-site project supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Canadian Biomarker Integration Network in Depression (CAN-BIND), is testing whether a biomarker-based personalized

selection of antidepressant and adjunctive medication can help more people with depression get better faster. OPTIMUM-D is now recruiting in 10 sites across Canada and has already treated over 200 adults with depression.

FORBOW, SWELL, TIDE, and OPTIMUM-D follow the common aim of reducing the burden of depression. Dr. Uher's hope is that the combination of early risk identification, targeted prevention, early intervention, and personalized treatment can halve the impact of depression in Canada.



Killam Chair in Mood Disorders: Dr. Martin Alda

As Killam Chair in Mood Disorders, Dr. Alda's research focuses on clinically relevant aspects of bipolar disorder.

Our research program includes several lines of investigation that focus on the clinical and genetic heterogeneity of bipolar disorder, its long-term course, and factors that influence its long-term outcome.

This work is based on extensive clinical resources developed over more than 25 years, including a cohort of large families affected by bipolar disorder and the Maritime Bipolar Registry, a voluntary registry of individuals with bipolar disorder who are interested in participating in clinical and neurobiological studies of the illness.

Our longitudinal research has identified predictors of treatment response to several of the most important long-term therapies for bipolar disorder. These findings have been examined in several international collaborative studies. During the past year, these collaborations resulted in the first large-scale investigation of genomic predictors of response to mood-stabilizing anticonvulsants and a study examining epigenetic factors that contribute to the risk of bipolar disorder.

Our unique clinical and genetic resources have also supported collaborative research using neurons derived from induced pluripotent stem cells, providing new opportunities to investigate the biological mechanisms underlying bipolar disorder.

Another major area of research focuses on the long-term course and outcome of bipolar disorder through the use of digital monitoring technologies. Activity and sleep patterns are assessed using a wearable ring device, generating data that may help identify periods of increased relapse risk and facilitate timely interventions to prevent clinical deterioration.

A further practical outcome of our work over the past two decades has been the implementation of regular annual reviews for individuals with bipolar disorder. These reviews include systematic screening for metabolic complications, which are substantially more common in this population and are associated with poorer clinical outcomes.



Dr. Paul Janssen Chair in Psychotic Disorders: **Dr. Philip Tibbo**

Dr. Philip Tibbo continues in his mandate to lead, foster, and mentor research in psychosis and schizophrenia. The Chair's research focus has remained in the field of early intervention for psychosis.

Over the last year, research continued into the understating of the effects of cannabis on psychosis development and outcomes. Neuroimaging data from two different CIHR studies have been completed, examining cannabis effects on brain white matter in 1) those with early phase psychosis (EPP) and 2) a community sampling of non-help seeking 15–16-year-olds. One paper from this work has been published in *JAMA Psychiatry* with two other papers submitted for publication and at least one other in preparation for submission. Based on this work, the Chair was successful in obtaining funding for a unique medication repurposing study to examine metformin effects on brain white matter in early phases psychosis patients who use cannabis.

A recent 2026 CIHR grant will see partnership with the Mi'kmaw community in understanding cannabis use

in their youth and young adults, through Indigenous storytelling methods, which builds on the work being completed by a 2025 CRSIM grant exploring cannabis products used in EPP in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador.

With the completion of a CIHR-funded study examining the use of cognitive enhancement therapy for problematic alcohol use in early phase psychosis (manuscript published in 2025), the Chair received funding to continue this work in NS and NL (now including alcohol and cannabis misuse), funded through a 2025 CRISM-Atlantic grant.

With respect to service delivery, the Chair is examining a therapeutic trial to enhance engagement to EPP care and a 2025 QEII Equity grant is examining fidelity to EPP standards through the lens of those living in rural locations, African Nova Scotians, Indigenous People, and Newcomers.

Collaborations with other researchers locally, nationally, and internationally remain important to the Chair, with Halifax being a site for a number of projects related to understanding EPP biology, comorbid substance use in EPP, and other service delivery projects. The Chair is Past-President of the Canadian Consortium for Early Intervention in Psychosis (CCEIP) and remains the Clinical Director of Early Psychosis Intervention Nova Scotia (EPINS).



Sun Life Chair in Youth Mental Health: **Dr. Lori Wozney**

Dr. Lori Wozney, as Sun Life Chair in Youth Mental Health, continues her mandate to advance early access to care.

Her research focuses on integrated youth services (IYS) and learning health systems, generating new knowledge on how to design, implement, and sustain equitable, data-informed models of care in partnership with youth, caregivers, clinicians, and communities.

In 2025/26, the Chair advanced a major program of system-level research through the co-led *Unifying Networks to Innovate in Youth Mental Health (UNITE)*

initiative, supported by a six-year investment from Research Nova Scotia. UNITE brings together 20+ organizations to test innovations in navigation, data integration, and cross-sector collaboration. The UNITE Lab opened in 2025, with co-design research streams underway and initial publications in development.

The Chair also continued leadership of the CIHR-funded *GROW-IYS-NS* project, advancing a learning health system approach to the development of Nova Scotia's eight Anchor Youth Spaces. Participatory and arts-based methods engaged youth in defining successful and sustainable IYS models, informing implementation and knowledge mobilization.

Complementary initiatives are advancing data use in care. CIHR-funded *GROUND-IYS* is building data literacy and supporting integrated dashboards for quality improvement. The Chair co-hosted the Atlantic IYS Data and Research Convening in fall 2025 and is leading planning for a provincially co-designed Youth Data Retreat.

A completed CIHR-funded study on goal-based outcome monitoring produced the first evidence-based practice principles in this area, with multiple manuscripts under review following an international consensus meeting hosted in Nova Scotia last fall. Through national and international collaborations, the Chair continues to shape coordinated, data-informed youth mental health systems.

The Department of Psychiatry is home to six research chairs.

Killam Chair in Mood Disorders

Dr. Martin Alda

Canada Research Chair in Developmental Psychopathology and Youth Mental Health

Dr. Sandra Meier

Canada Research Chair in Addictions and Mental Health

Dr. Sherry Stewart

Dr. Paul Janssen Chair in Psychotic Disorders

Dr. Philip Tibbo

Canada Research Chair in Early Intervention

Dr. Rudolf Uher

Sun Life Chair in Youth Mental Health

Dr. Lori Wozney



Centre for Global Mental Health hosts Ghanaian Parliament delegation for study tour

Following a request, in July 2025, the Centre for Global Mental Health welcomed a five-member delegation from the Psychology Unit of the Ghanaian Parliamentary Service for a week-long study tour to gain knowledge and insight into best practices in mental health programming.

The delegation included members of the Psychology Unit of the Ghanaian Parliamentary Service, established in 2017 to enhance the well-being of members of Parliament, staff, and their families. Global collaborations and mental health equity drive the mission of the Centre for Global Mental Health, making the study tour an opportunity not to be missed.

The eventful study tour was the result of much planning and preparation to curate a meaningful and beneficial experience for the delegation. The Mental Health Commission of Canada, Nova Scotia Health, IWK Health, Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology, and Dalhousie University contributed to the study tour.



National Policy Dialogue on Translating Innovation into Impact: Scaling and Integrating Evidence-Based Supportive Text Messaging Programs into Canada's Care Systems

On Feb. 20, 2026, leaders from federal, provincial, and territorial governments, regional health authorities, Indigenous partners, philanthropy, academia, youth organizations, and digital health innovators convened for a National Policy Dialogue about integrating supportive text messaging into Canada's mental health care systems. The dialogue was co-led by the Dalhousie Centre for Global Mental Health and the Global Psychological eHealth Foundation. The Mental Health Commission of Canada presented about the landscape of mental health in Canada and the digital mental health opportunity.

The event presented over a decade of rigorous evidence supporting the use of supportive text messaging programs such as Text4Hope, Text4Support, and related

adaptations. These programs deliver brief, automated, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy-informed supportive messages that reduce symptoms of depression, anxiety, stress, PTSD, substance cravings, and suicidal ideation. Participants shared operational lessons and their perspectives and identified cross-cutting themes.

Key takeaways included:

- Supportive text messaging is one of the most rigorously evaluated digital mental health interventions globally.
- It is low-cost, high-reach, and scalable without requiring smartphones or data plans.
- Randomized controlled trials demonstrate reduced symptoms, hospital readmissions, and length of stay.
- Economic analyses demonstrate mean cost savings of more than \$7,000 per patient within six and 12 months post-discharge.
- National coordination is feasible and aligned with federal priorities, including 9-8-8 crisis services, equity, and emergency preparedness.
- Sustainable funding and intergovernmental collaboration are essential for scale-up.



International Fellowship Program

In 2025/26 six International Fellows completed fellowship training. The fellowships were completed in Neuropsychiatry and Psychiatry of Intellectual and Developmental Disability, Forensic Psychiatry, Sleep Medicine, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and Early Psychosis Intervention.

The diversity of fellowship areas reflects a strong alignment with evolving clinical priorities and workforce needs. While all completed and current training has been based in Halifax, the program is expanding into New Brunswick with upcoming placements.

The program continues to attract strong international interest, with over 30 applications received since May 2025.

To complement its clinical training mandate, the program has strengthened its academic programming by introducing two seminar series: a transdiagnostic clinical seminar series and a research focused series, both designed to enhance fellows' competencies in clinical reasoning, systems thinking, ethics, and applied research.

Mental Health Responses in a Changing World Conference

The Centre for Global Mental Health prepared to host its first conference "Mental Health Responses in a Changing World 2026: Innovative Responses to Humanitarian Emergencies" online in July 2026.

The conference was designed to engage a diverse, interdisciplinary audience, bringing together practitioners, researchers, policymakers, students, and

community members. It featured a keynote presentation, panel discussions, community group spotlights, and interactive breakout sessions.

Global Mental Health Guest Lecture Series

The Dalhousie Global Mental Health Guest Lecture Series is offered in collaboration with the Nova Scotia Health Innovation Hub, IWK Health, and the Office of Community Engagement, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University. The lecture series invites local, national, and international global mental health experts to present current research and topical and contemporary issues related to global mental health. The following lectures were held:

Sept. 17, 2025 (presented as part of Department of Psychiatry Rounds)

Title: Psychopathology, Culture, & Society

Presenter: Dr. Femi Oyeboode, Psychiatrist; Radio Host; Author, Institute of Clinical Sciences, University of Birmingham

Nov. 28, 2025

Title: Rural and Remote Psychiatry: How Canadian and Rwandan Psychiatry may have Global Reach and Relevance

Presenter: Dr. Jack Haggarty, Psychiatrist; Professor and Former Chair of Psychiatry, NOSM University; and, Certified Physician Executive

Jan. 16, 2026

Title: Community-Led Indigenous Mental Health and Addiction Research

Presenter: Dr. Christopher Mushquash, researcher, clinician, and First Nation scholar

March 25, 2026 (presented as part of Department of Psychiatry Rounds)

Title: The intersection of psychotherapeutic work and the cultural axis

Presenter: Dr. Jaswant Guzder, Clinical Professor, University of British Columbia (psychiatry); Co-Director, UBC Social and Cultural Psychiatry Program; and Adjunct Professor (psychology) University of Victoria

May 29, 2026

Title: The Exploration, Preparation, Implementation, Sustainment (EPIS) Framework and Applications in Global Mental Health Research

Presenter: Dr. Gregory Aarons, Clinical and Organizational Psychologist and Professor of Psychiatry at UC San Diego

Advancing equitable mental health care in Nova Scotia: Transcultural Mental Health Program celebrates fourth anniversary

In early March 2026, leaders in government, Nova Scotia Health, Dalhousie University, community organizations, and person with lived experience spoke at an event to recognize the Transcultural Mental Health Program's fourth anniversary.

Launched in 2022, the program responds to treatment gaps for African Nova Scotians, Indigenous People, Newcomers, and those experiencing homelessness.

It operates through the Nova Scotia Brotherhood and Sisterhood Initiatives, Newcomer Health clinic, the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre, the Rapid Access and Stabilization Program, and community mental health and addictions at Bayers Road, Bedford/Sackville, Dartmouth, and Cole Harbour.

“These communities were disproportionately affected by trauma, social inequities, systemic barriers, and cultural misunderstandings within healthcare systems,” Dr. Vincent Agyapong, head of Psychiatry for Dalhousie University and Nova Scotia Health Central Zone, recounted at the event. “Many were receiving primary care — but not equitable access to specialized psychiatric support in ways that were culturally responsive and trauma-informed.”

With no additional funding available for physician resources to establish a new program, Dr. Agyapong turned to faculty members to see who was willing to

dedicate one day a month at a primary care location serving these communities. While he hoped for four, 10 psychiatrists stepped forward.

Nova Scotia Health's Mental Health and Addictions Program also stepped up, providing essential administrative coordination and scheduling support. Patients who had previously fallen through the cracks were being seen, heard, and treated, said Dr. Agyapong.

Eventually, the team developed and submitted a request for physician resources. Recognizing the need, government responded favourably. The program was then transformed from volunteerism into a sustainable, structured model of care.

Since its inception, it has provided mental health care to hundreds of people from these under-served populations.

“Cultural competence encompasses accountability that goes beyond being kind, sensitive, and humble, to ongoing, continuous, and measurable work to build trust and skills — individually, organizationally, and within systems — toward health equity,” said Sharon Davis-Murdoch, co-president of the Health Association of African Canadians, during her video keynote address.

One example she shared is the culturally-specific vaccination clinics that were set up during the COVID-19 pandemic.



In another video, Dr. Timothy Holland, family doctor and medical director at the Newcomer Health Clinic in Halifax, described the unique challenges experienced by Newcomers when accessing health services and how other professionals like social workers and case managers are key to bridging these gaps.

The Honourable Brian Comer, minister of addictions and mental health, acknowledged the role of the Rapid Access and Stabilization Program in providing access to care in rural parts of the province, and the rollout of integrated youth services across the province offering culturally competent care.

The anniversary event highlighted the strong community partnerships central to the Transcultural Mental Health Program's success.

"It's been so wonderful to work as a team with the Transcultural Psychiatry program on Etuaptmumk, which means two-eyed seeing, approaches for community members to be heard and feel safe in their psychiatric care," said Shonna Brown, mental health nurse at the Wije'winen Health Centre and cultural co-lead of the Indigenous mental wellness team.

Similarly, bringing psychiatrists into their space has made mental health care more available and more accessible, said Natalie Johnson, team lead for the Nova Scotia Sisterhood.



Section of Acute, Consultation, and Emergency Psychiatry

Inpatient services have benefitted from Clinical Academic Leaders on each unit, strengthening collaboration with senior management, playing a role in introducing a culture of local decision making, and fostering practice-sharing between units.

The section's services continue to establish pathways and consultations between and for outpatient and inpatient services and work on quality initiatives and residency training programs. The Day Hospital and recovery and integration services continue to ease pressures on inpatient services and acute care. The Rapid Access and Stabilization Program made notable progress to reduce wait times for psychiatric consultations.

During the last year, the section focused on the implementation of the crisis-based model of care in the QEII Emergency Department. This model supports Psychiatric Emergency Services clinicians, within their scope of practice, to assess and discharge appropriate low-risk patients in collaboration with emergency physicians, while ensuring timely escalation to psychiatry

when further assessment or intervention is required. A working group has continued to meet to monitor implementation and optimize workflows.

The section worked to actively prepare for OPOR implementation in May 2026.

Research remains active with its research director and research assistant supporting research initiatives within the section.

Section of Community Psychiatry

The Section of Community Psychiatry continued to advance across leadership, clinical service delivery, education, and research.

The establishment of Clinical Academic Leaders across all Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs) continues to be positive, with this leadership model supporting the integration of clinical innovations and fostering a culture of shared leadership and mentorship.

The ongoing initiatives to address staffing shortages in the Community Services Section have been successful.

Subspecialty services are operating successfully, providing care to highly complex, underserved, and equity-denied patient populations. The Transcultural Psychiatry service has been integrated within CMHTs to enhance access and support shared models of care. Addiction services have similarly expanded, including

outreach initiatives targeting equity-denied populations through MOSH (Mobile Outreach Street Health). The Transcultural Mental Health Program continues to evolve, with work underway to refine governance structures and develop referral pathways.

In October 2025, the section hosted a successful Community Psychiatry education half-day, supporting professional development and knowledge exchange. The event included presentations about the Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment Act, advanced biological therapeutics for difficult-to-treat depression, and high-functioning autism in psychiatric clinics.

With the support of the section's research director and research assistant, the Community Psychiatry research portfolio continues to demonstrate substantive progress across a range of clinically and system-relevant initiatives.

Section of Forensic Psychiatry

The Section of Forensic Psychiatry's new Model of Care continues to be implemented.

The governance structure to provide a transparent and structured input from all involved in the system is established.

The section's research component is underway with the support of the section's research director and research assistant.

The section welcomed three forensic psychiatrists to its program and their contributions to clinical care and education have begun.

One International Fellow completed a six-month fellowship in Forensic Psychiatry and the section welcomed a new International Fellow in spring 2026 for a one-year fellowship.

Section of Geriatric Psychiatry

The Geriatric Psychiatry Outreach Teams, located at the Abbie J. Lane in Halifax and 245 Pleasant Street in Dartmouth, continue to provide high-quality clinical care in a variety of settings. Assessment settings include outpatient clinics, home visits, and long-term care settings, and inpatient settings include, but are not limited to, psychiatry adult acute care units and the Acute Care of the Elderly (ACE) Unit. Patients with acute psychiatric issues that cannot be managed in the community are provided care on the Geriatric Psychiatry Acute Inpatient Unit (GPAIU), a 19-bed inpatient unit at the Mount Hope Building at 300 Pleasant Street.

Education continues to be a priority of the section. Supervisors provide teaching and clinical supervision to a variety of medical learners including clinical clerks, and residents of psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, geriatric medicine, and care of the elderly programs. Preparations are well underway to ensure a positive accreditation

outcome for the geriatric psychiatry residency program at the November 2026 Royal College accreditation visit. Geriatric psychiatry faculty and residents continue to be involved in a variety of research and scholarly projects, including implementation of a randomized controlled trial assessing efficacy of a cognitive behavioural therapy group intervention for older adults with depression, implementation of an experiential dementia workshop for psychiatry residents, development of best practices in screening for suicide in persons entering long-term care facilities, and review of stigma towards the elderly in medical learner education.

The Seniors Mental Health Web Education Series continues to be very popular, delivered monthly to physicians and allied health professionals across the province. Recordings will be available through the Atlantic Seniors Mental Health Network at the end of the current academic year.

Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

The 2025/26 year brought meaningful change, innovation, and transformation to the Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The launch of the IWK Mental Health & Addictions Strategic Plan in January 2025 — developed with significant contributions from Psychiatry — provided an early reminder of the pillars upon which our work stands and our shared commitment to excellence in clinical care, education, research, and advocacy for the mental health of children, youth, and caregivers across Nova Scotia and the Maritimes. These commitments were reflected in the many accomplishments of our division throughout the year.

This year marked the beginning of a large-scale transformation of our intensive services, catalyzed by the generous \$25-million gift from the Garron family in 2025. This extraordinary generosity enabled an essential redesign of services across three interconnected arms: a provincial sub-acute inpatient unit, an intensive ambulatory day program, and intensive community outreach for families. In 2026, we look forward to the official launch of the Psychiatry-led sub-acute unit, with admissions beginning September 14.

At the other end of the care continuum, community-based and community-led Integrated Youth Services (IYS) launched its first of eight sites in April 2025. These welcoming, inclusive, walk-in spaces provide youth aged 12–25 with access to a range of mental health, addictions, and other supports within their communities. IWK Mental Health and Addictions (MHA) and Psychiatry are proud to provide the scaffolding for this important initiative and look forward to supporting its continued growth. Initiatives such as IYS reflect our enduring commitment to improving access, responsiveness, and trust for children, youth, and families who have historically faced barriers to mental health and addictions care.

Our commitment to education and teaching was celebrated at the 2025 Department of Psychiatry Year-End Celebration, where three of our faculty were recognized with distinguished education and teaching awards. We were fortunate to welcome 54 learners throughout the year, spanning medical students, graduate students, and two international fellows, as well as four subspecialty residents who joined our group. We were also privileged to supervise and mentor 15 graduate students at critical stages of their learning and professional development.

The scale of awarded research funding also grew in 2025/26, particularly through large network and health-system grants focused on integrated youth services and health-system innovation. Alongside this funded work, our faculty continued to contribute a strong body

of peer-reviewed publications, presentations, quality improvement initiatives, and knowledge translation activities with local, national, and international impact. Faculty members received major grants from organizations including CIHR and SSHRC and published nearly 20 peer-reviewed articles. They also developed and led important capacity-building and knowledge translation initiatives, including the Concurrent Disorders Conference in June 2025, the Atlantic Provinces Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Conference in June 2025, and the Gender Care Symposium in February 2026.

Finally, the IWK launched its new Clinical Information System, One Person One Record (OPOR), on December 6, 2025. Despite the significant challenges inherent in adopting a new electronic health record across the organization, our faculty remained steadfast in maintaining access to and quality of care for our patients. With the dedication and support of our Quality Improvement and IT teams, we persevered with minimal disruption to clinical care.

As always, we are immensely proud of our division and of all that we have accomplished together in 2025/26. The support we draw from one another, our leadership, and our connection to the broader IWK MHA program continue to inspire us to reach new heights of change, growth, and transformation in the year ahead.

Adult Psychiatry Services

Addiction Prevention and Treatment Services	Eating Disorders	Rapid Access and Stabilization Program
Adult Neurodevelopmental Psychiatric Unit (Mental Illness & Intellectual Disabilities)	Emergency	Recovery and Integration Services
Centre for Emotions and Health	Forensic Psychiatry Services	Reproductive Mental Health
Community Mental Health	Geriatric Psychiatry	Shared Care
Concurrent Addiction and Mental Disorders Program	Inpatient Psychiatry	Short Stay Unit
Consultation/Liaison	Mental Health Day Treatment	Sleep Disorders
Early Psychosis	Mobile Crisis	Transcultural Mental Health Program
	Mood Disorders	
	Neuropsychiatry Program	

Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Services

IWK Acute Care Psychiatric Inpatient Unit (Garron Centre)	Specific Care Outpatient Clinics:
IWK Consultation/Liaison Service	• Eating Disorders
IWK Emergency Mental Health and Addictions Service (EMHAS)	• Bipolar Disorders
Children's Intensive Services (CIS)	• Concurrent Disorders
Adolescent Intensive Services (AIS)	• Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
Youth Forensic Services (Includes Nova Scotia Youth Facility Secure Care Unit)	• Forensic Clinic
Community Mental Health and Addictions Clinics	• 0-5 Years Clinic
	• Early Psychosis
	• Autism Spectrum Disorders

Provincial Programs

Adult Neurodevelopmental Stabilization Unit	Nova Scotia Operational Stress Injury Clinic
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services	Nova Scotia Provincial Early Psychosis Intervention Service (EPINS)
East Coast Forensic Hospital	Reproductive Mental Health Program
Eating Disorders Program	Seniors Mental Health Program
Mental Health Day Treatment Program	
Mood Disorders Program	

New course, co-developed with community, builds cultural competence among clinicians

A new course offered in spring 2026 to Department of Psychiatry faculty members aimed to build skills in cultural competence.

Co-developed with the Black and African Nova Scotian communities, the “Building Cultural Competence for Mental Health Equity” course provided clinicians unique opportunities to listen to and engage with community members, understand their mental health needs, and practice the Cultural Formulation Interview.

Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy, the department’s director of Social Policy and Advocacy, and Dr. Vincent Agyapong, department head, formed a diverse scientific planning committee who developed the content and format.

The topic, objectives, and format were the result of a true collaborative effort between academics, content experts, and people with lived experience, says Dr. Cassidy.

In early January, Drs. Cassidy, Agyapong, and Gaynor Watson-Creed, associate dean of Serving and Engaging in the Faculty of Medicine, introduced the course during Grand Rounds.

Delivered in two parts, the course took place online on April 8 during Grand Rounds and as an experiential session for faculty only in person on May 1.

Faculty attending the experiential session were asked to attend or view part one and read four articles.

Robert Wright, a social worker and sociologist, facilitated the experiential session. An expert panel discussion featured:

- Sharon Davis-Murdoch, CM, co-president of the Health Association of African Canadians
- Dr. Ron Milne, family physician and medical director at the Brotherhood Clinic
- Dr. Cinera Cartwright, a psychiatrist at the Sisterhood Clinic and Transcultural Mental Health Program and the first female African Nova Scotian to graduate from the Dalhousie Psychiatry residency program

All were members of the scientific planning committee and represent the Black and African Nova Scotian communities.

“Being able to share with so many professionals who I know and some I don’t was very confirming and validating for me and to do so with my community beside me all sharing in their mental health experiences was powerful! It was healing!” wrote one community partner in a feedback survey.

During a facilitated discussion, faculty heard directly from community members as they shared their experiences accessing mental health care.

“I felt comfortable enough with the planning team and their respect for me and my community that I was willing to have other, more vulnerable members of my community come to make a contribution,” wrote another community partner.

The course is the first major initiative from the Serving and Engaging Society pillar of the Department of Psychiatry’s 2026-2031 Strategic Plan. It’s aligned with the five guiding principles that inform departmental equity work and supports the pillar’s goal of closing gaps in serving equity-denied groups and becoming a more trusted partner to community.

To our knowledge, this is the first Continuing Medical Education accredited course in the department co-created with the Black and African Nova Scotian communities — a precedent in which Dr. Cassidy says she was proud to have a part.

“The partnership with the Black/African Nova Scotian community was the most unique part of this process — I was especially moved by the stories shared by community members about their experiences of the mental health and forensic systems.”

Early feedback from community partners signals progress. Dr. Cassidy hopes to continue this collaboration to reformat the course content to an online version so it’s more widely available in the department and university.

Next year, the plan is to develop a course with community partners focused on the urban Indigenous community.

Department of Psychiatry 2026-2031 Strategic Plan

In the department’s new strategic plan (2026-2031), the pillar of Social Policy & Advocacy was renamed Serving and Engaging Society. This change is in line with the Faculty of Medicine’s strategic plan and focused on external engagement with community and equity-denied groups.

The pillar’s five guiding principles, co-developed with community, inform the department’s equity work across all streams.

Course: Building Cultural Competence for Mental Health Equity, Co-Created with the Black/ African NS Community

Building Cultural Competence for Mental Health Equity is a new course developed and accredited for faculty which took place over two sessions in spring 2026. A needs assessment was completed to inform course development and a compendium of equity

learning resources was compiled. The topic, format, and objectives were decided together with members of the Black and African Nova Scotian communities.

Serving and Engaging Society Fund

The Serving and Engaging Society Fund (formerly the Social Policy and Advocacy Initiatives Fund) was re-launched with updated funding criteria and re-named to align with the department’s 2026-2031 Strategic Plan. This is an internal funding opportunity available to department members that encourages academic initiatives, in collaboration with community partners, in the areas of education, clinical care, or research.

From April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026, funding was awarded to the following five projects:

- Project:** Research Honoraria — MSc in Psychiatry Research Thesis Project with Patient Partners
Applicant: Daniel Basso
Community partners: Patient partners
Equity-denied groups project will engage: Individuals living with addiction/those using illicit substances; individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities
- Project:** African Nova Scotian/Black Communities and NS Early Psychosis Program Knowledge Exchange Workshop
Applicant: Dr. Kara Dempster
Community partners: Leaders in the ANS/Black community
Equity-denied groups project will engage: Black Nova Scotians; Individuals living with addiction/those using illicit substances
- Project:** Community Event for Elderly African Nova Scotians
Applicant: Damilola Onietan
Community partner: Lucasville Community Association
Equity-denied groups project will engage: Black Nova Scotians; Vulnerable age groups (over 65)
- Project:** Framework Development — Pediatric Mental Health Care
Applicant: Dr. Pippa Moss
Community partners: Youth and their families with lived experience of second-generation antipsychotics treatment, local businesses & organizations, and representatives from community-based mental health and primary care services in rural Nova Scotia
Equity-denied groups project will engage: Vulnerable age groups (those under 19); rural population; individuals living with physical and mental disabilities
- Project:** Research — Transformative Pathways to Promoting Mental Health in Black Students Event
Applicant: Somtoo Henry
Equity-denied groups project will engage: Black Nova Scotians; Other BIPOC populations

Valuing People

Department of Psychiatry 2026-2031 Strategic Plan

Valuing People was included as a new strategic priority in the department's 2026-2031 Strategic Plan to align with the Faculty of Medicine's strategic plan. Valuing People focuses internally on Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Reconciliation, and Accessibility (EDIRA) and Wellness, fostering an inclusive and responsive department where all members feel valued, empowered, and a sense of belonging.

The Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Reconciliation and Accessibility (EDIRA) Committee and the Wellness Committee merged to form the Valuing People Committee, reflecting the department's integrated commitment to inclusion, well-being, and belonging. Since the launch of the new strategic plan, the committee has been working to operationalize its strategic objectives.

Summer Celebration

To build community within the department, the third annual Summer Celebration was hosted at the St. Mary's Boat Club on July 20, 2025. This event was attended by over 90 department members and their family and friends. Highlights of the event include arts and crafts, kayaking lessons, international food, live theatre, and world music.

Before merging into the Valuing People Committee, the Wellness Committee collaborated with the Awards Committee to extend the terms of reference for the Extra Mile Award to include service by advancing the department's mission in the areas of wellness and EDIRA. The first person awarded the Extra Mile Award under the new terms of reference was recognized during this event.



Solutions for Wellness Survey Data

The Director of Wellness met with the Section Head for Acute, Consultation, and Emergency Psychiatry and Clinical Academic Leaders in August 2025 to review how they have addressed the section's Solutions for Wellness data. The section's leadership has enhanced

vacation coverage for their faculty and started monthly neuroradiology rounds to create more in-person professional connections for faculty.

Faculty Welcome Guidelines

Department faculty welcome guidelines were finalized in January 2026 and are being implemented to welcome new faculty (researchers, physicians, and locums > 6 months) joining the department in a consistent, inclusive,

and equitable manner. These guidelines aim to make the department's culture as warm and inviting to new incoming faculty as possible.

Newcomer Support Program

The Newcomer Support Program continues to be a successful mentorship and orientation initiative for International Medical Graduates (IMGs). What began as informal support for Newcomers is moving towards a more structured program that promotes professional integration, retention, and a strong sense of belonging among new faculty members.

The program was initially developed by the Department of Psychiatry Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (EDIRA) Committee prior to the EDIRA Committee's merger with the Wellness Committee. Following the merger, extensive consultation and stakeholder engagement were undertaken in collaboration with the Wellness Committee and the Serving and Engaging Society Committee (formerly the Social Policy & Advocacy Committee) to further refine and strengthen the initiative. Feedback from new faculty members has been integral to the program's ongoing development, ensuring it remains responsive to their needs and supports a welcoming and inclusive environment.

Collaboration with College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia (CPSNS) Welcome Collaborative

The department has ongoing participation in CPSNS quarterly mentorship sessions for newly-licensed physicians, expanding departmental support to the broader provincial health-care community.

Community Engagement

It also continues to collaborate with PLANS (Promoting Leadership in Health for African Nova Scotians), including youth mentorship and health education events in North Preston and Halifax. In the past year, it held a department visit for 26 PLANS co-op students that visited the Abbie. J Lane. Department members spoke to them about what psychiatry is, entry pathways to psychiatry, programs within the department, and provided opportunity for the students to connect with other psychiatrists, graduate students, residents, and MS/Med students within the department, fostering representation and trust within historically underrepresented communities.

2026-2031 Strategic Plan

In January 2026, the Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry proudly introduced its strategic plan for 2026-2031. This new framework, with updated vision, mission, strategic priorities, and goals, will guide its work for the next five years.

While the new plan continues to focus on the department's foundational areas of education, research, and clinical care, it also includes Serving and Engaging Society (formerly named Social Policy & Advocacy), and adds Valuing People as a priority area. The five guiding principles, co-developed with community and the Social Policy and Advocacy Committee, now inform departmental equity work across all streams so our values and our actions are aligned.

Serving and Engaging Society focuses on the department's external-facing community engagement and allyship to equity-denied groups. It is informed by departmental values, five guiding principles, and prioritized equity-denied groups. Also new in this plan are definitions of key equity terms and a list of equity-denied groups of focus for mental health and addictions services.

The new strategic priority area Valuing People focuses internally on EDIRA and Wellness, fostering an inclusive and responsive department where all members feel valued, empowered, and a sense of belonging.



Strategic Planning Retreat

Department leaders convened in April 2026 to engage in the next phase of the strategic planning process, identifying priorities for the department's operational plan.



Awards & Honours



Awards & Honours

Below are some of the awards and honours department members received:

2025 Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada M. Andrew Padmos International Collaboration Award

Dr. Vincent Agyapong

2025 Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Subspecialty Residency Program Supervisor of the Year Award

Dr. Chelcie Soroka

2025 Discovery Awards Emerging Professional Award

Dr. Ejemai Eboeime

2025 Canadian Conference on Global Health Elizabeth and Donald Hillman Award for Most Outstanding Poster Presentation

Dr. Bala Harri (PhD in Psychiatry Research student)

2025 eMental Health International Collaborative (eMHIC) Leadership Excellence Award for Canada

Dr. Vincent Agyapong for the Global Psychological eHealth Foundation

2025 Greenspace Health 2025 MBC Impact Awards, Most Innovative MBC Implementation Award

IWK MHA CQI and senior leadership team (physician co-leaders Dr. Alexa Bagnell and Dr. Sabina Abidi)

2025 IWK Quality Improvement Award

Children's Intensive Services Team Co-Leaders (Dr. Lourdes Soto-Moreno and co-lead)

2025 Nova Scotia Health Making Waves — Employee and Physician Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Reconciliation, and Accessibility (EDIRA) Award

Dr. Mutiat Sulyman

2026 Atlantic Business Magazine, Atlantic Canada's Top 50 CEOs

Dr. Patricia Lingley-Pottie (Strongest Families Institute)

2026 Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Certificate of Special Recognition

Dr. Sarah Fancy for the Garron Centre

2026 Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Paul D. Steinhauer Advocacy Award

Dr. Alexa Bagnell

2026 Doctors Nova Scotia Dr. William Grigor Award

Dr. Selene Etches

2026 Faculty of Medicine Early Educator Award

Dr. Alexandra Manning

2026 Faculty of Medicine Early Career Award for Excellence in Clinical Practice

Dr. Sarah Fancy

2026 Faculty of Medicine Excellence in Research Mentorship — Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Dr. Ejemai Eboeime

2026 Faculty of Medicine Dr. Allan Cohen Memorial Award for Community Service

Dr. Cinera Cartwright

Veterans Affairs Canada Bravo Zulu Award

Dr. Abraham (Rami) Rudnick

QEII Foundation People's Choice Award

Dr. Abraham Nunes

Special recognition by the governments of Canada and Kosovo

Dr. Qëndresa Sahiti (Psychiatry resident)

Retirements

Dr. Kulli Poder
Effective Oct. 15, 2025

Dr. Sreenivasa Bhaskara
Effective Dec. 31, 2025

Sandra Millar
Effective March 31, 2026

Dr. Gail Eskes
Effective June 30, 2026



Department of Psychiatry Awards

2025 Educator of the Year Award

Dr. Joseph Aicher
Dr. Mark Paramall

2025 Distributed Site Outstanding Teacher Award

Dr. Julia Gibson

2026 Dr. Aidan Stokes Mentorship Award

Dr. Mahmoud Awara
Dr. Kim Good

2025 Dr. Larry Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award

Dr. Anthony Pianosi

2025 Outstanding Clinician Award

Dr. Sarah Fancy

Research Day 2025 Award Winners

Best Presentation Award
Undergraduate Student
Gemma Varty

Best Presentation Award
Graduate Student
Nicole Ponto

Best Presentation Award
Psychiatry Resident
Dr. Kyle Godden

Graduate Student Awards

Dr. Benjamin Rusak Graduate Student Award (Masters)
Daniel Basso

Dr. Patrick McGrath Graduate Student Award (Doctoral)
Dr. Jasmyn Cunningham

Residents' Choice Awards

Teacher of the Year Award
Dr. Deborah Parker

Junior Mentorship Award
Dr. Christie McClelland

Junior Resident Professionalism Award
Dr. Abigale MacLellan

Above and Beyond Award
Chad Morash

Senior Mentorship Award
Dr. Michelle MacDonald

Senior Resident Professionalism Award
Dr. Mitchell Mammel

PGY-5 Excellence Award
Dr. Mark Bosma

Resident Awards

Clerks' Choice
Dr. Anthony Hinde

Dr. Herb Orlik Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Resident Award
Dr. Natasha Glover

Dr. Robert and Stella Weil Fund in Psychiatry Prize
Dr. Dana Wiens
Dr. Abigale MacLellan

Horizon Health Network Saint John Zone PGY-1 Resident of the Year Award
Dr. Neha Khanna

Geriatric Psychiatry Resident Award
Dr. Anthony Hinde

Alexander H. Leighton Resident of the Year Award
Dr. Anthony Hinde
Dr. Louise Moodie

Dr. Charles J. David Memorial Prize in Psychiatry
Dr. Mariska Silas
Dr. Dana Wiens

Dr. Harris Lee Barton Scholarship
Dr. Lauren Miller

Dr. W.O. McCormick Award
Dr. Jasmyn Cunningham
Dr. Mitchell Mammel

Leadership

Dr. Vincent Agyapong
Head

Dr. Shazia Hashmi
Director, Education

Dr. Phil Tibbo
Director, Research

Dr. Sabina Abidi
Interim Head, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Dr. Aaron Keshen
Interim Head, Section of Acute, Consultation & Emergency Psychiatry

Dr. Mahmoud Awara
Head, Section of Community Psychiatry

Dr. Risk Kronfli
Head, Section of Forensic Psychiatry

Dr. Mark Bosma
Head, Section of Geriatric Psychiatry

Huanhong Xie
Chief Operating Officer

Dr. Claude Botha
Interim Head
Dalhousie Medicine, NB

Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy
Director, Social Policy and Advocacy

Dr. Mutiat Sulyman
Director, EDIRA

Dr. Zenovia Ursuliak
Director, Wellness

Education

Dr. Shazia Hashmi
Director, Education

Dr. Katharine Black
Director, Undergraduate Education

Dr. Alice Aylott
Transitional Associate Director,
Undergraduate and Clerkship Education

Dr. Kathleen Singh
Director, Geriatric Subspecialty Residency Program

Dr. Celia Robichaud
Director, Child and Adolescent Subspecialty Residency Program

Dr. Cheryl Murphy
Director, Continuing Professional Development

Dr. Abdulmohsen Alhumoud
Humanities Coordinator

Dr. Alexandra Manning
Director, Postgraduate Education (on leave)

Dr. Margaret (Leigh) Meldrum
Acting Director, Postgraduate Education

Dr. Holly Greer
Dr. Michelle MacDonald (Acting)
Associate Directors, Postgraduate Education

Dr. Lukas Propper
Director of Education, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Dr. Jennifer Cumming
Pediatric Residency Coordinator

Dr. Ejemai Eboreime
Program Director, Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health

Dr. Margaret (Leigh) Meldrum
Associate Director, Master of Clinical Psychiatry and Global Mental Health

Dr. Kim Good
Dr. Ejemai Eboreime
Co-Directors, Graduate Programs in Psychiatry Research

Dr. Mahmoud Awara
Director, International Fellowship Program

Research

Dr. Phil Tibbo
Director, Research

Dr. David Gardner
Director of Research,
Community Psychiatry

Dr. Candice Crocker
Director of Research,
Acute, Consultation and Emergency Psychiatry

Dr. Kim Good
Director of Research,
Forensic Psychiatry

Dr. Sherry Stewart
Director of Research,
Geriatric Psychiatry

Dr. Jill Chorney
Director of Research,
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Dr. Sabina Abidi
Interim Head, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Vacant
Associate Head, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

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Interim Head, Section of Acute, Consultation & Emergency Psychiatry

Dr. Ngozi Ezeanozie
Associate Head, Section of Acute, Consultation & Emergency Psychiatry

Section of Community Psychiatry

Dr. Mahmoud Awara
Head, Section of Community Psychiatry

Dr. Josh Green
Interim Associate Head, Section of Community Psychiatry

Section of Forensic Psychiatry

Dr. Risk Kronfli
Head, Section of Forensic Psychiatry

Section of Geriatric Psychiatry

Dr. Mark Bosma
Head, Section of Geriatric Psychiatry

Administration

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Chief Operating Officer

Jennifer Brown
Operations Manager

Mandy Esliger
Evaluation & Curriculum Specialist

Aleya MacNeil
Physician Resource Manager

Penney Miller
Communications Coordinator

Petra Corkum
Graduate Education Coordinator

Linda Ford
Administrative Assistant

Tara Gonzalez
Finance Assistant

Eleanor Kumahia
Administrative Assistant to the
Department Head

Chelsea Mantin
HR Coordinator

Minh Nguyen
Administrative Coordinator

Jana Tamm
Education Coordinator

Tina Craigg
Undergraduate Education
Coordinator

Vacant
Postgraduate Education Coordinator

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Administrative Manager

Jennifer Cunningham
Clinical Administrative Assistant

Melissa Davis
Clinical Administrative Assistant

Debi Follett
Administrative Assistant to
the Chief and Manager

Nicholas Hennessey
Integrated Research Assistant

Dona Mathew
Clinical Administrative Assistant

Adrienne McCarthy
Education Coordinator

Joan Sweet
Booking and Registration Clerk



**DALHOUSIE
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