

Department of Psychiatry

ANNUAL REPORT

2024/25



DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY



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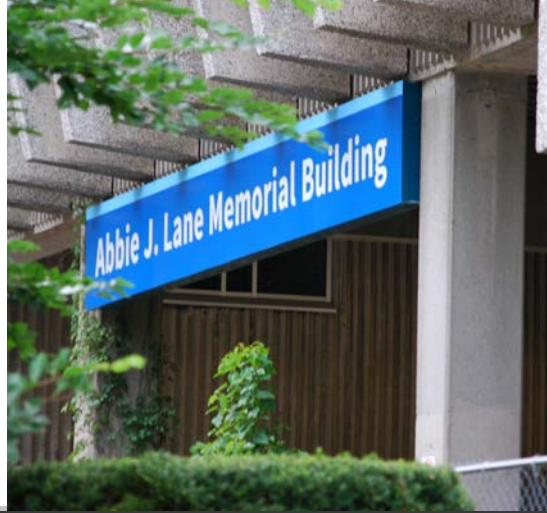
This report covers the period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025, with the exception of the education report, which covers the academic year, July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

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Acknowledgments

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.



OUR VISION

Excellence and innovation in education, research, and psychiatric care.

OUR MISSION

To improve the mental health of society and advance the field of psychiatry through education, research, advocacy, and psychiatric care.

OUR VALUES

Integrity

Creativity

Professionalism

Accountability

Collaboration

Compassion

Inclusivity





This year encapsulated several milestones and accomplishments for the Department of Psychiatry. In 2024, the department celebrated 75 years of a rich history of excellence in education, research, and clinical care. It is a privilege to have led the department during its 75th year and celebrate the accomplishments of its past as well as its future directions.

Entering the final year of the Transformational and Strategic Plan also provided opportunities for reflection and growth. I am proud of the work we have begun in engaging with our communities – both internally, through wellness and EDIA initiatives, externally to the diverse populations we serve, and globally, to help build capacity in delivering specialized mental health care worldwide. Department leaders are meeting to determine new strategic directions and ways we can build on our progress as we prepare for the next strategic plan.

Launched this year, the Dalhousie Centre for Global Mental Health positions the department as a leader in the field of psychiatry and global mental health. It joins under its name recent global mental health initiatives such as the successful International Fellowship Program, international residents' elective program, and clinical programs focused on equity-deserving populations, closing long-standing treatment gaps. One of these clinical programs received international recognition with the Rapid Access and Stabilization Program being awarded the American Psychiatric Association's Bronze Psychiatric Services Achievement Award.

The Centre for Global Mental Health also includes the forthcoming Masters in Global Clinical Psychiatry, pending MPHEC approval, designed to expand expertise in clinical psychiatry among primary-care providers globally.

The department is home to four clinical-academic sections and one division and six research chairs. This year we welcomed Dr. Lori Wozney as the new Sun Life Chair in Youth Mental Health. Research continues to be integrated into each section and division stemming from the establishment of research directors and research assistants for each, and department members continue to be successful in securing research funding and publishing in leading peer-reviewed journals.

A continued focus on distributed medical education provides training opportunities for residents in serving the rural Maritime communities. The psychiatry undergraduate education program began welcoming Master of Physician Assistant Studies students into department services this year. The department's two graduate programs in Psychiatry Research continue to be successful, with the PhD program seeing its first graduate in 2024. This year, two student awards recognizing outstanding achievement in the MSc and PhD Psychiatry Research programs were introduced.

A major milestone in supporting Indigenous mental health was reached in early 2025 with the department signing a Memorandum of Agreement with Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Society – Wije'winen Health Centre, which outlines dedicated, sustainable psychiatric resources to be provided to the centre.

To engage with community, the department hosted two events – a public talk about new mental health services and a mental health mini-conference for front-line staff of community-based organizations serving people experiencing homelessness.

The newly established Social Policy and Advocacy (SP&A) Initiatives Fund, which encourages academic initiatives that help close gaps in serving and engaging equity-deserving populations and being a more trusted partner with community, awarded small grants to six projects in its inaugural year.

New guidelines for celebrating retirements, developed by EDIA and Wellness directors, and guidelines for welcoming new faculty, developed by the EDIA, Wellness, and SP&A directors, were implemented this year. These committees are collaborating on a new initiative to support Newcomers in the department.

None of these milestones and accomplishments could have been achieved without our department members, partners, and stakeholders who have contributed so much to our progress over the year. Thank you all.



Dr. Vincent I.O. Agyapong

Head, Department of Psychiatry
Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University
Head, Department 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, 2024 to March 31, 2025

307

Faculty

29 Professors

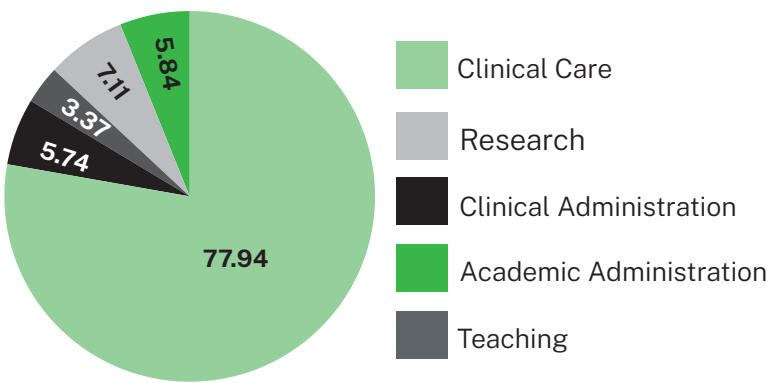
24 Associate Professors

218 Assistant Professors

15 Lecturers

21 Adjunct faculty

How our AFP faculty spent their time



EDUCATION

Undergraduate medical education

Clerkship year is from Aug. 26, 2024 to Aug. 31, 2025

114

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

88 students in HRM

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

10 students at Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (LIC) sites

33

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

16 students in Saint John

17 students at Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (LIC) sites

65

Med 4 electives completed

53 elective requests from Dalhousie students

10 elective requests from other Canadian universities

2 elective requests from outside of Canada

10

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

51

faculty involved in undergraduate teaching

~1,500

teaching hours to undergraduate medical education

22

Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) students rotated through our Dalhousie Medicine Nova Scotia (DMNS) sites from February 2025 to October 2025

19 students in HRM**3** students at distributed sites in Truro and Yarmouth

Postgraduate education

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

44

Residents

1

Canadian Fellow

~723hours of instruction from **~122** faculty**9**applicants matched through CaRMS, including **5** Dalhousie graduates**2**

Geriatric Psychiatry subspecialty residents

3

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty residents

Continuing professional development

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

36

grand rounds, including University rounds

10

Psychotherapy Journal Club meetings

Curriculum development and scholarly work

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

\$8,617

in medical education grant funding received

7

scholarly publications

4

scholarly projects (funded and unfunded)

6

medical student and resident scholarly projects on medical education

13

scholarly projects presented at various conferences

International Fellowship Program
July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

9 international fellows
4 from Ghana
5 from Saudi Arabia

6 international fellows completed their fellowship
2 in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (1 at IWK, 1 in the Northern Zone)
1 at Nova Scotia Occupational Stress Injury Clinic
1 in Forensic Psychiatry
1 in Geriatric Psychiatry
1 in Reproductive Mental Health

Graduate Programs in Psychiatry Research
September 3, 2024 to August 31, 2025

21 Psychiatry Research graduate students
13 MSc in Psychiatry Research students
8 PhD in Psychiatry Research students

RESEARCH
April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025

\$3.4M in new grant money

23 new research projects

\$18M in continuing grant money

160+ peer-reviewed publications

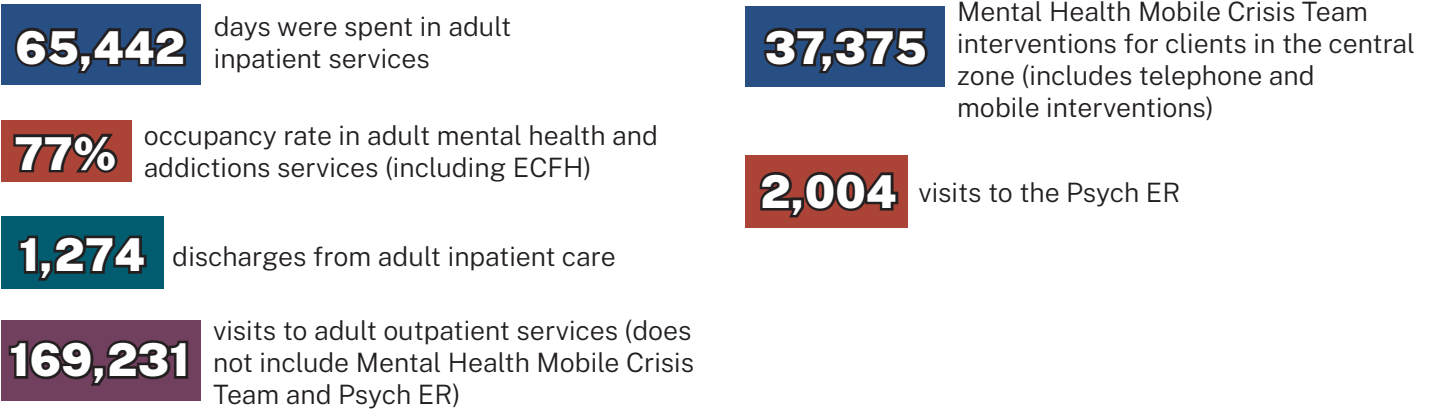
52 faculty members were actively engaged in research

120+ invited presentations

PATIENT CARE

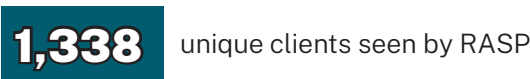
Adult

April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025



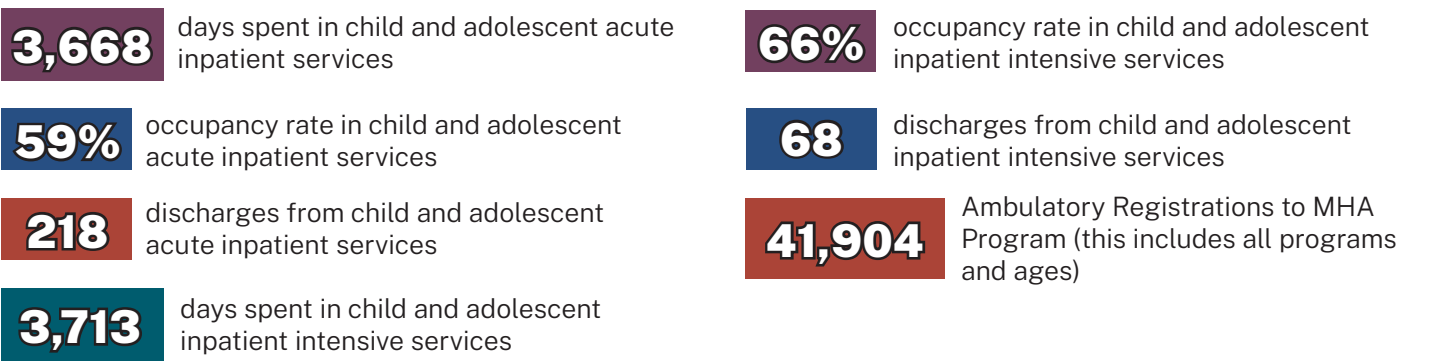
Adult — Rapid Access and Stabilization Program (RASP)

April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025



Child and Adolescent

April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025



Dal Psychiatry welcomes Master of Physician Assistant Studies students

In February 2025, the psychiatry undergraduate education program welcomed students in the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) program.

"It's exciting to welcome MPAS students to our clinical services," says Dr. Lara Hazelton, director of education for Dal's Department of Psychiatry. "For most department members, this is the first time working with this group of learners. I've been impressed with how eager the psychiatrists are to understand the needs of MPAS students so they can offer them rich and meaningful learning opportunities."

The MPAS is a new program offered in Dalhousie's Faculty of Medicine. Learners complete a psychiatry block as a core rotation, just like Medicine, which has similar goals and objectives as for medical students, says Olivia Bachmann, director, MPAS program.

"Having a discrete psychiatry rotation enables PA clerks to better recognize and manage psychiatric disorders, handle crisis situations, understand medication interactions, and navigate legal and ethical considerations. It aims to improve patient communication skills and reduce stigma, leading to better overall patient care."

As part of the psychiatry undergraduate program, MPAS students learn to "conduct comprehensive psychiatric evaluations, evaluate and manage co-morbidities of psychiatric and medical illness, develop and carry out (under supervision) a bio-psycho-social management plan, and develop an appreciation of where the PA role can impact the delivery of psychiatric and mental health services in collaboration with psychiatrists," says Bachmann.

Dr. Sanjana Sridharan, section head for Acute, Consultation, and Emergency Psychiatry, has supervised two MPAS students on the Short Stay Unit for a month each.



"I see a lot of value in providing good psychiatric orientation and skills for MPAS students, no matter what specialty they choose," says Dr. Sridharan. "I could see a palpable enthusiasm and motivation from them to learn interview and de-escalation skills in an acute setting. I saw the amount of time they spent with inpatients listening to them and advocating for them, and showing a sense of accountability for the patients distributed to them."

Feedback from patients was also positive. "They specifically mentioned how they enjoyed the non-judgmental style and therapeutic interactions from my two students," she says.

Physician Assistants can help bridge the gap between an increasing demand for mental health services and a shortage of primary and psychiatric providers, says Bachmann.

"By exposing our clerks to a psychiatry rotation, they will be more inclined to seek employment opportunities in that discipline after graduation."

The first cohort of MPAS students will finish clerkship in December 2025 and will be granted provisional licencing under the CPSNS following completion of clinical training.

Undergraduate medical education

The department continued to provide quality medical education to students in all years.

Faculty provided tutoring, seminars, and lectures for students in Med 1 to Med 3 and were involved in evaluating students from all years.

Faculty provided clinical teaching for 104 traditional block clerks who completed rotations in Central Zone and distributed sites of Antigonish, Kentville, Truro, and Yarmouth. Sixteen block clerks completed rotations in Saint John, NB. The department hosted 65 Med 4 elective students.

Faculty remained active in curriculum development and education-related committees.

Residents also participated in medical education, tutoring Med 2 skilled clinician sessions, delivering Med 3 seminars, participating in the Med 3 mentorship program, and engaging in multilevel learning. Residents organized the Summer Internship in Psychiatry (SIIP) program for 10 Med 1 students from May 26-29, 2025.

The Undergraduate Program helped to coordinate the placement of 22 Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) students in their inaugural clinical year (2025).

Postgraduate education

In summer 2024, Drs. Alexandra Manning and Laura Downing assumed the roles of Program Director and Associate Program Director, respectively.

The residency program has fully transitioned to Competency-Based Medical Education. An internal accreditation review was completed in January 2025, and the program remains accredited. An external review will occur in two years as part of the regular accreditation cycle.

The Fellowship in Sleep Medicine received status as an Area of Focused Competence by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 2024/25.

CaRMS was successful with all nine positions filled. We welcomed our incoming residents on July 1, 2025. In

June 2025 we celebrated the success of six graduating residents.

The residency program continues its dedication to distributed medical education with site visits conducted in Saint John, Sydney, and Kentville. We continue to explore expansion opportunities for training throughout the Maritimes.

The program continues to develop the international elective in Global Mental Health, in collaboration with the University of Ghana Medical School. It partnered with Dalhousie's Global Health Office to deliver a lunch-and-learn session on broader principles of global mental health and pre-departure training.



Year-End Celebration in June 2025. From left to right: Drs. Kathleen Singh, program director, geriatric psychiatry subspecialty residency program; Laura Downing, associate director, postgraduate education; Petra Rafuse; LeAnne Revell; Alison Toron; Jared Allman; Kyle Godden; Sophie Church; Eileen Burns; Ali Manning, director, postgraduate education; Celia Robichaud, program director, child and adolescent psychiatry subspecialty residency program; and, Vincent Agyapong, department head. Photo by Zuya Production.

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry education

Learners in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

From July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry faculty members supervised 30 medical students, nine PGY-3 Pediatrics residents, eight PGY-3 Psychiatry residents, and three Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty residents, plus one visiting CAP subspecialty fellow, one physician assistant student, and one international fellow within our services.

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Subspecialty Residency Program

Congratulations to Dr. Courtney Handford and Dr. Kate Stymiest, who successfully completed their Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty training on June 30, 2024. Dr. Handford accepted a full-time position in Truro, Nova Scotia, and Dr. Stymiest accepted a full-time position at IWK Community Mental Health and Addictions.

Drs. Kyle Godden, LeAnne Revell, and Sophie Church (PGY-6) continue their excellent work in the program, and will graduate in the 2025/26 academic year.

Drs. Talia Bond, Julia LeBlanc, and Kara Yeung were offered and accepted Child and Adolescent Psychiatry subspecialty positions in the residency program. Drs. LeBlanc and Yeung will train in the regular track, and Dr. Bond will train in a rural track. Drs. Bond and Yeung will

begin PGY-5 Child and Adolescent Psychiatry training on July 1, 2025, and Dr. Leblanc will join us August 1, 2025.

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Rural Rotations

Dr. Celia Robichaud, Dr. Alexa Bagnell, and Adrienne McCarthy visited Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island for a site visit on January 29, 2025, led by Dr. Sannie John. The training site was approved for rural rotations for subspecialty Child and Adolescent Psychiatry residents, expanding the program's reach beyond Nova Scotia.

Dalhousie International Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

The first international fellow in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Dr. Peggy Ekremet, of Accra, Ghana, completed her six-month fellowship on February 28, 2025. The next international fellow to join our program will be Dr. Pearl Adu-Nyako, expected to start her training on September 1, 2025.

Geriatric Psychiatry education



Dementia Simulation.

Geriatric Psychiatry subspecialty residency program

Dr. Mackenzie Armstrong graduated the program and joined the Seniors Mental Health team in Dartmouth.

Dr. Eileen Burns' research project "The Dementia Simulation Experience," was added to the mandatory curriculum for PGY-3 Psychiatry residents at Dalhousie University. Dr. Burns received the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry (CAGP) Geriatric Psychiatry Subspecialty Resident Award for the project.

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

The program welcomed Dr. Alec Watts into subspecialty training on July 1, 2025, and is eager to welcome Dr. Lauren Haslam back from parental leave in August 2025.

Dr. Eileen Burns has completed the first rural rotation in Geriatric Psychiatry as part of a pilot project to increase exposure to underserved communities outside HRM, including within Western, Northern, and Eastern Zones. The RPC has voted in favour of making this a mandatory component of the curriculum.

International fellow

Dr. Winnifred Twum completed the first six-month international fellowship in Geriatric Psychiatry in February 2025.

PhD in Psychiatry Research program sees its **first graduate**



Dr. Sarah DeGrace.

On Oct. 23, 2024, Dr. Sarah DeGrace graduated with her PhD in Psychiatry Research, earning her a distinct place in the Department of Psychiatry's history as the program's first graduate. Dr. DeGrace was one of two Indigenous PhD students in our graduate program.

"Being the first graduate of the PhD in Psychiatry Research program represents the culmination of years of work, not only from myself, but from the many mentors who contributed to the creation of this program and to my development within it," says Dr. DeGrace. "For me, this milestone is a personal accomplishment that I feel reflects a shared commitment in the Department of Psychiatry to advancing mental health research in meaningful ways. It also feels like a responsibility to set a strong foundation for future students and contribute to the program having a reputation of excellence."

Dr. DeGrace holds a Bachelor of Science degree (honours) from Acadia University and is also a graduate of the Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry's MSc program, which she completed in one year instead of the standard two. After completion of the MSc in Psychiatry Research program, she joined the department's first cohort of PhD students in 2021.

Throughout her graduate studies, Dr. DeGrace was supported with internal and external scholarships. Her MSc thesis was published as a first-authored manuscript, and her PhD research has resulted in five publications. Dr. Sherry Stewart was her mentor for both her MSc and PhD studies.

"We are very proud of all that Dr. DeGrace has achieved — consistently attracting external funding for her graduate-level studies, winning several awards, securing funding for her research endeavours, mentoring junior students, and publishing all of her five dissertation studies," say Dr. Sherry Stewart, coordinator, psychiatry research graduate programs, and Dr. Kim Good, associate coordinator.

While her publication record is a personal achievement, having her research inform clinical work would make her most proud, says Dr. DeGrace.

With her PhD studies complete, Dr. DeGrace is taking up a Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Mood, Anxiety, and Addiction Comorbidity (MAAC) Lab at Dalhousie University, where she'll continue her research on PTSD and Cannabis Use Disorder. She is also teaching Psychology classes at Dalhousie and Saint Mary's University.

Graduate training in psychiatry research



Year-End Celebration in June 2025. From left to right: Dr. Kim Good, associate coordinator, graduate programs; Holly Carbyn (MSc student); Steven Jackson (MSc student); Samuel Obeng Nkrumah (MSc student); Medard Adu (PhD student); and, Dr. Vincent Agyapong, department head. Photo by Zuya Production.

In summer 2024, seven MSc students successfully defended their theses and graduated from the MSc in Psychiatry Research program in October.

Following a successful summer dissertation defence, the PhD in Psychiatry Research program saw its first graduate in October 2024. Congratulations to Dr. Sarah DeGrace, who also received the Best Dissertation Award from Dalhousie in the Social Sciences and Humanities category.

In summer 2025, there will be five MSc thesis defences and three PhD dissertation defences.

Graduate students in psychiatry research continue to be successful in obtaining scholarships to fund their studies, with a total of 13 of our graduate students receiving scholarships for the upcoming 2025/26 academic year.

In fall 2025, we will welcome a new cohort of eight MSc and three PhD students.

Curriculum development and scholarly work

Department faculty and staff received \$8,617 in grant funding for two scholarly medical education projects. The funding was awarded by the Dalhousie Psychiatry Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychiatry grant and Dalhousie Psychiatry Curriculum Development Fund.

Detecting and Mitigating Bias in Continuing Professional Development and Residency Teaching. (Hazelton L, Esliger M, Good K, MacLeod T, Manning A, Murphy C, Burns E, McLaughlin R, Robichaud C) for \$4,792.36.

Meldrum M, Lefurgey S, Rudnick A (2025 -2026). Person-centered teaching regarding stress and trauma related disorders for psychiatry residents [Grant] -Department of Psychiatry - \$3,825.

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

- Psychiatry Research Day
- Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine's Medical Education Research and Innovations Showcase (MERIS)

- Dalhousie Department of Medicine Research, Innovation, and Quality Day
- International Congress on Academic Medicine (ICAM)
- Association for Academic Psychiatry
- Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) Distributed Medical Education Research Day
- Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada Continuing Professional Development Research Symposium

Seven medical education projects were published in various journals:

- Academic Psychiatry
- Canadian Journal of Physician Leadership
- Canadian Medical Education Journal

Six learner scholarly projects were supervised by faculty and staff. Projects included teacher identity, hidden curriculum, trigger warnings, and curriculum development and innovation.

Continuing professional development



The conference chair and speakers for the 2025 W.O. McCormick Academic Day.

W.O. McCormick Academic Day

The annual W.O. McCormick Academic Day conference was held on April 25, 2025 and welcomed 156 attendees. This year's theme was Trauma and Related Disorders. Thank you to the event speakers: Dr. Amjad Bin Faidh, Dr. Abraham (Rami) Rudnick, Dr. Christopher Mushquash, Dr. Nyassa Navidzadeh, Dr. Margaret (Leigh) Meldrum, Rory MacIsaac, Danielle Hopkins, and Dr. Sonia Murray.

Medical Humanities

The Medical Humanities Program in Dalhousie's Department of Psychiatry, coordinated by Dr. Leigh Meldrum, integrates the arts and humanistic inquiry into psychiatric education and clinical practice. In 2024/25, the program hosted its annual national writing competition for medical students, residents, and fellows, and organized the department-wide medical humanities seminar for all psychiatry residents. Additional events included a staff and learner book club and film night. The program also contributed to the department's 75th anniversary celebrations by co-producing

a commemorative video and contributing to the publication *Commemorating the Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry's 75th Anniversary: A Historical Retrospective 1999–2024*. Dr. Meldrum collaborated with residents through a dedicated humanities committee to develop events and supervised a senior resident's humanities-focused project. Delivered effectively over the academic year, the program's core initiatives aimed to deepen empathy, enhance narrative competence, and foster creative reflection within psychiatric education and care.

Section/division research directors have successfully engaged front-line clinicians on research topics specific to their areas of work. This has generated research projects that are in various stages of development.

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.

The Director of Research took a sabbatical from January 1 to June 30, 2025. Interim Co-Directors of Research were appointed to provide coverage during this time.

Departmental research funding

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning grant recipient (2024 intake):

- Dr. Lara Hazelton: *Detecting and Mitigating Bias in Continuing Professional Development and Residency Teaching*

2024 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 2024, summer studentships were awarded to four learners:

- Alanna Kaser (supervisor Dr. Sherry Stewart): *Psychotic like experiences, academic achievement, and mental health among undergraduates*
- Marika Schenkels (supervisor Dr. Aaron Keshen): *CBT-T Outcomes in the NS Provincial Eating Disorder Service: A Quality Assurance Project*
- Tamar Gazit (supervisor Dr. Patrick McGrath): *Written Exposure Therapy for Teenagers with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: A Pilot Study Randomized*
- Ella Hodgson-Pageau (supervisor Dr. Kara Dempster): *A Pilot Study to Compare the Effectiveness of Long Acting Injectable Paliperidone Palmitate Versus Aripiprazole Monohydrate in First Episode Psychosis*

2024 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 2024 DPRF recipients:

- Dr. Ejemai Eboreime: *Exploring Multifactorial Barriers and Resources for Accessing Comprehensive and Equitable Mental Health Care for Newcomers in Nova Scotia (EMBRACE-NS)*
- Dr. Malgorzata Rajda & Fakir Yunus: *Development and validation of the Knowledge, Attitude, Belief, and Practice (KAB-P) questionnaire of insomnia in Canadian adults*
- Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy: *Randomized Controlled Trial of eCBT Group Treatment for LateLife Depression*
- Dr. Mutiat Sulyman: *Examining Attitudes Towards Injectable Psychiatric Medications in Women Undergoing Acute Mental Healthcare*
- Dr. Barbara Pavlova & Steven Jackson: *Using Actigraphy and Speech Analysis to Measure Physical Activity and Perseverative Thinking in People with Mood Disorders*

Due to the success of the spring 2024 DPRF, the fall 2024 DPRF round was cancelled.

Public panel discussion: Use of digital interventions and AI in mental health care: promise and perils



Panelists at the public panel discussion “Use of digital interventions and AI in mental health care: promise and perils” on Oct. 31, 2024. From left to right: Drs. Vincent Agyapong, Lori Wozney, Jaime Delgadillo, Sageev Oore, JianLi Wang, and Phil Tibbo.

The annual public panel discussion was held the evening before Research Day on Oct. 31, 2024. Dr. Phil Tibbo, Director of Research, moderated the discussion, and attendees heard from panelists:

- Dr. Jaimie Delgadillo, our Research Day keynote speaker
- Dr. Vincent Agyapong, Head of the Dal Department of Psychiatry
- Dr. Sageev Oore, Canada CIFAR AI Chair; Associate Professor, Faculty of Computer Science, Dalhousie University; and, Research Faculty Member, Vector Institute
- Dr. JianLi Wang, Professor; Canada Research Chair in Health Data Science and Innovation, Departments of Community Health & Epidemiology, and Psychiatry, Dalhousie University; and Affiliated Scientist, Nova Scotia Health
- Dr. Lori Wozney, Sun Life Chair in Youth Mental Health; and, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Dalhousie University.

34th Annual Research Day

The department’s 34th Annual Research Day was held on Nov. 1, 2024. The keynote speaker was Dr. Jaime Delgadillo, Professor of Clinical Psychology, University of Sheffield, UK. His presentation was titled “Advances in personalized and precision mental health care.”

There were 11 oral presentations scheduled for the day and 52 poster presentations. Unfortunately, the day was cut short, and the afternoon session was cancelled due to a power outage. Students who were scheduled for an oral presentation in the afternoon presented at the department’s grand rounds in December 2024.



Research Day 2024 award winners. Left to right: Jibran Hagalwadi (Best Presentation Award Undergraduate Student), Dr. Phil Tibbo (Director of Research, Department of Psychiatry, and event chair), Ella Hodgson-Pageau (Best Presentation Award Undergraduate Student), Lorie Dietze (Best Presentation Award Graduate Student), Dr. George Robertson (Interim Research Co-Director, Department of Psychiatry; now former), and Dr. Ejemai Eboeime (Interim Research Co-Director, Department of Psychiatry; now former). Missing from photo: Dr. Anthony Hinde (Best Presentation Award Psychiatry Resident).



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

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

Dr. Stewart is Director of 'UniVenture' — a \$2.5 million, multisite SSHRC partnership testing an adaptation of her PreVenture program to address undergraduates' mental health/substance misuse. Follow-up is complete and analyses underway. Several papers were published (e.g., *Emerging Adulthood*, *Journal of School Violence*) and a Mitacs funded (partner=CCSA). Dr. Stewart delivered an invited talk at a CIHR-funded Concurrent Disorders Think Tank (Toronto, December).

Dr. Stewart is NS Lead on the CUSP trial (\$1.7 million CIHR-funded), to disseminate 'PreVenture' to Canadian high-schools. She gave media interviews about long-term program benefits in preventing youth substance use disorders.

The team continued research on mechanisms to explain PTSD-addictions comorbidity, publishing several papers

(e.g., *Cannabis*, *Journal of Psychiatry & Neuroscience*) and receiving two CRISM Atlantic grants to extend this work. The team began data collection for an ancillary PTSD and dog olfaction study (NFRF-funded; co-I's=Gadbois, Budge) and received a Mitacs (partner=CPCoE in Veterans' Health).

Dr. Stewart leads the CIHR-funded OpiVenture trial for reducing polysubstance use in opioid agonist therapy clients. She has trained seven intervention facilitators. Manuals are finalized, and recruitment commenced.

Dr. Stewart is CRISM Atlantic's NPI (\$2.4 million, CIHR-funded). She co-hosted the first Atlantic Node Symposium (100+ attendees, Westin NS, November). They seed-funded 10 grants (3rd CRISM Atlantic Research Development Program competition). Dr. Stewart co-presented on national training activity plans for the new coordinating core (Toronto, November) and participated in an Indigenous Advisory meeting (Wagmatcook, August).



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

Dr. Sandra Meier leads a research program dedicated to advancing youth mental health through digital innovation, mobile sensing, and artificial intelligence. Her team's flagship tool, the Predicting Risk and Outcomes of Social Interactions (PROSIT) app, leverages

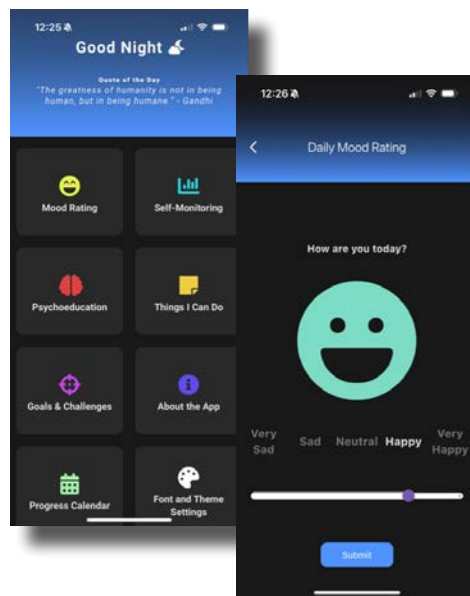
smartphone data, tracking sleep, mobility, screen usage, and sociability to identify early mental health risks. In a clinical high-risk sample, the app predicted anxiety diagnoses with 85–95% accuracy and forecasted six-month increases in internalizing and externalizing symptoms among over 500 adolescents aged 15–21.

Building on PROSIT, Dr. Meier's team developed the SMILE for Life app, which delivers tailored cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) based on users' daily patterns. In a recent trial, SMILE significantly reduced anxiety and depression after four weeks, with benefits sustained at three months. The SMILE app is now being adapted for youth with intellectual disabilities, a group often underserved by conventional mental health services.

Another tool, the BodyScreen app, targets digital risk factors such as social media pressure and negative body image — issues that disproportionately affect marginalized youth. Dr. Meier also leads the eCare22q11 initiative, an online intervention for families of youth with 22q11.2 deletion syndrome. This parenting program has shown promising results, including reduced caregiver stress and anxiety and fewer externalizing symptoms in children.

All interventions are co-designed with youth and families, reflecting a strong commitment to equity, accessibility, and lived experience. These digital health

innovations demonstrate the potential of data-driven tools to enhance early identification, personalize care, and expand access to evidence-based mental health support for youth and families across Canada.



The SMILE app.



Canada Research Chair in Early Intervention: Dr. Rudolf Uher

Dr. Rudolf Uher leads a clinical research program focused on personalized treatment and prevention of depression, bipolar disorder, and psychosis.

The Families Overcoming Risks and Building Opportunities for Wellbeing (FORBOW) project follows over 600 youth participants in Halifax and New Glasgow. It uses interviews, speech analysis, activity tracking, brain scans, and genetic testing to optimize early identification of risk and enable targeting of early interventions to avoid severe mental illness.

The FORBOW team's research concluded that most antecedents are transdiagnostic and common to mood and psychotic disorders. This complements previous results showing that family history of mental disorder also carried a non-specific risk. These results suggest early interventions need to be broadly transdiagnostic.

The Skills for Wellness project, integrated with FORBOW, tests whether early transdiagnostic interventions involving psychological coaching reduce the long-term risk of mental illness in youth.

Even with prevention, some youth will develop severe mental disorders, with major depressive disorder being the most common one. Choosing the right treatment can make a huge difference for a young person experiencing depression for the first time. The Treatment Interruptions

Depression Early (TIDE) project is the first study to examine personalized treatment for the first episode of depression in youth. Supported by the Waverley House, Hewitt Foundation, and Medavie Health Foundation, TIDE combines activity tracking, brain wave recording, and voice analysis to determine who will benefit from psychological treatment and who requires medication. TIDE follows youth for several years to assess recovery, and it launched a second site in Montreal, QC to expand its reach.

Dr. Uher leads OPTIMUM-D (Optimized Predictive Treatment in Medications for Unipolar Major Depression), a multi-site project supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the

Canadian Biomarker Integration Network in Depression. With over 500 Canadians participating, OPTIMUM-D is the largest clinical trial of depression treatment in Canada to date and tests whether a biomarker-based personalized selection of antidepressant and adjunctive medication improves the outcomes of major depressive disorder.

To ensure equitable treatment nationally, Dr. Uher and colleagues from the Canadian Network for Mood and Anxiety Treatment (CANMAT) updated clinical guidelines for depression, published in September 2024. Dr. Uher and CANMAT colleagues are working to disseminate evidence on depression treatment to health care providers in Canada.



Killam Chair in Mood Disorders: Dr. Martin Alda

The focus of Dr. Alda's work as the Killam Chair in Mood Disorders is on several aspects of bipolar disorder.

Our research program includes several lines of investigations. The first one is the clinical and genetic heterogeneity of bipolar disorder. We have established a cohort of large families with bipolar disorder and study the clinical features, long term course and outcome, as well as treatment response in members of these families.

An additional research resource built over more than 25 years is the Maritime Bipolar Registry, a voluntary registry of people with bipolar disorder who are interested to participate in various studies and advance the knowledge of this serious illness. Our longitudinal studies have led us to propose the predictors of treatment response to some of the most important long-term treatments. We have been able to test our results recently in several international collaborative studies.

In the last year, these collaborations resulted in publications in *Nature* and *Nature Neuroscience* among others.

The unique clinical and genetic resources have been also immensely helpful in collaborative studies of neurons derived from induced pluripotent stem cells.

Another line of our work, also with emphasis on long term course and outcome of bipolar disorder, uses activity and sleep monitoring with a digital device worn as finger ring. Such data can help anticipate imminent risk of relapse and implement timely action to prevent clinical deterioration.

Another practical result of our work spanning more than two decades is implementation of regular annual reviews in patients, screening for metabolic complications, which are much more common in bipolar disorder and negatively affect its outcome.



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

Dr Philip Tibbo, as the Dr. Paul Janssen Chair in Psychotic Disorders, continues in his mandate to lead, foster, and mentor research in psychosis and schizophrenia. His research focus has remained in the field of early intervention for psychosis, covering neuroimaging to service delivery and novel treatment options.

In 2024/25, the Chair continued research into the understating of effects of cannabis on psychosis development and outcomes. Data from a two-site CIHR-funded neuroimaging study are being analyzed. The study aims to characterize the effects of various levels of cannabis use on brain white matter structure and connectivity in young adults with and without early phase psychosis (EPP). Manuscripts from this novel data set are forthcoming.

The Chair co-leads a CIHR Team Catalyst Grant with colleagues across the country examining the genetic, pharmacologic, and psychosocial factors linked to cannabis-induced psychosis and the neurodevelopmental mechanisms underlying risk. In spring 2025, the Halifax arm finished recruiting non-help seeking adolescents (15–16-year-olds) to investigate neuroinflammation and neuronal connectivity and function with adolescent exposure to cannabis via neuroimaging. Two MSc students (one past and one current) are attached to this project. Based on this work, the Chair secured a Brain Repair Centre 2025 Innovation Grant to fund a unique medication repurposing study to examine metformin effects on brain white matter in early phases psychosis patients who use cannabis.

In collaboration with members of the Department of Emergency Medicine, a CCSA-funded project examined physical and mental health cannabis-related

presentations to the emergency department. One manuscript (related to suicidal ideation) from this data set was published with another manuscript submitted.

The Chair completed a CIHR-funded study examining the use of cognitive enhancement therapy for problematic alcohol use in early phase psychosis (manuscript under review). The Chair received a 2025 CRISM-Atlantic grant to continue this work in NS and NL (including alcohol and cannabis use).

A 2024 awarded TRIC grant examining a therapeutic trial to enhance engagement to EPP care is actively recruiting participants.

Collaborations with other researchers locally, nationally, and internationally remain important in furthering our understanding of significant research areas related to early psychosis care.

The Chair is Past-President of the Canadian Consortium for Early Intervention in Psychosis and remains the Clinical Director of Early Psychosis Intervention Nova Scotia. From January–July 2025, the Chair was on a six-month sabbatical, allowing some time to focus on manuscripts and grant writing.



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

Starting in October 2024 as Sun Life Chair in Youth Mental Health, Dr. Lori Wozney is focused on advancing early access to care by accelerating how evidence is translated into real-world systems. The transdisciplinary research program of the Chair engages youth with lived expertise to co-design services and generate actionable insights for clinicians, communities, and policymakers.

Dr. Wozney leads the \$1.45M CIHR-funded Generating Resilience on Our Way to Integrated Youth Services (GROW-IYS) project, supporting Nova Scotia's development of eight Anchor Youth Spaces. Phase 1 of the research was completed through participatory methods to engage youth in service planning across three communities. Youth co-presented at the International Association for Youth Mental Health Conference (IAYMH).

With co-leads Drs. Chorney (Dal Psychiatry) and Baechler (Dal Management), Dr. Wozney secured a new \$7.5M investment from Research Nova Scotia. The *Unifying Networks to Innovate in Youth Mental Health (UNITE)* team spans 20 organizations across sectors including education, health, justice, and social development. It aims to build capacity and test system-level innovations in navigation support and data integration. The UNITE lab is now in development.

In roles as supervisor, thesis committee member as well as through the national Digital, Inclusive, Virtual, and Equitable Research Training in Mental Health Platform (DIVERT), Dr. Wozney is mentoring a new generation of scholars. To advance the work of the Chair, Dr. Wozney took on invited leadership roles with the Maritime SPOR Support Unit and Pan-Canadian IYS Collaboration Centre focused on learning health system development.

Shaping national discourse in youth mental health is a key focus of the Chair. As frequent invited panelist and speaker, Dr. Wozney also co-authored papers on peer support for eating disorders, electronic discharge communication tools, digital health equity, clinical practice principles, digital mental health and rapid access solutions.



Youth presenters at IAYMH 2025.

Mental health as a human right: New Dal centre champions global access and education

The launch of a new academic centre at Dal signals a deepening of a shared commitment to one of the most pressing challenges of our time — global mental-health disparities.

That's how the Dalhousie Centre for Global Mental Health's inaugural director described the creation of the new academic hub at a launch event in late May.

"Mental health is a universal human right, yet access to effective and culturally appropriate care remains an unfulfilled promise for millions around the world," said Dr. Vincent Agyapong, who is also head of psychiatry for Dalhousie and Nova Scotia Health Central Zone.

The new academic centre, housed in Dal's Department of Psychiatry, will contribute to reducing gaps in mental health treatment worldwide through cutting-edge research, innovative care, education, and advocacy.

Leaders in government, academia, and international organizations spoke in support of the centre at the event on May 30, 2025.

A shared vision

The centre's work will align around a number of key issues, including:

- innovative and scalable mental health services and programs
- understanding mental health determinants in vulnerable populations
- promoting mental health literacy and resilience
- educational excellence and capacity building
- building strong and sustainable partnerships
- fostering global networks for research and practice



"This new centre is a powerful example of how Dalhousie is living out its mission as a global leader in health research and education," said Dr. David Anderson, dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

"As the centre establishes itself as a hub for global collaboration, including its aspirations to work with the WHO and PAHO, it stands as an example of what's possible when we combine academic excellence with a deep commitment to social responsibility and health equity," added Dr. Anderson.

Enhancing access

The centre brings together several global mental health initiatives. These include the Rapid Access and Stabilization program (RASP) which improves access to psychiatry consultations in the Halifax area. RASP began two years ago and will expand across the province.

The Honourable Brian Comer, Minister of Addictions and Mental Health, highlighted the importance of partnerships and innovative approaches to improving timely access to mental health care for Nova Scotians.

"As we know, mental health can be quite complex," he said. "There are many building blocks. We need to build up a system for everyone across the province."

He said global centres like Dal's will be invaluable, bringing together like-minded people to drive progress, challenge thinking, and "help build the blocks that we need to move forward."

Increasing knowledge and skills

The centre's other initiatives include a special-interest forum, guest lecture series, international fellowship program, and resident elective exchange program.

Dal's Masters in Global Clinical Psychiatry (pending MPHEC approval) is the centre's hallmark educational program. The one-of-a-kind, online program is designed to expand expertise in clinical psychiatry among primary-care providers globally to address gaps in specialized psychiatric care.

"By meeting learners where they are and providing education that is both accessible and practice-driven, the centre is helping to build mental health workforce capacity in regions around the world, while enhancing care in under-resourced communities here in Canada," said Dr. Graham Gagnon, Dalhousie's acting VP of research and innovation.

Establishing relationships

True to its motto "mental health equity through global partnerships," the centre sees collaborations as key to its success. Its advisory board includes members from national and international organizations. Formal agreements for education initiatives like the international fellowship program and resident exchange program are already in place.

"Today's launch is more than the inauguration of a new academic centre," said Dr. Renato Oliveira e Souza, unit chief for the Department of Mental Health and Substance Use, Pan American Health Organization. "It's a bold affirmation of our shared commitment to advancing health equity both regionally and globally."

Several research projects in the Department of Psychiatry relate to global mental health, demonstrating why the department is an ideal site for the centre, said faculty member Dr. Linda Liebenberg, as she highlighted several researchers.

Collaborations exist with researchers in Canada, Ghana, Uganda, Zambia, Nigeria, Brazil, Australia, UK, South Africa, and several European countries.

A history of global impact

The Honourable Stanley Kutcher, a Canadian Senator and former head and faculty member in Dal's Department of Psychiatry, delivered a keynote reflecting on several global mental health initiatives during his time with Dalhousie.

Senator Kutcher, who also served as the Sun Life Financial Chair in Adolescent Mental Health at Dal, described the centre's launch as a personal and moving moment.

He said some impacts of the initiatives are still felt in global communities.

"This will be a mutually beneficial journey," said Senator Kutcher.



From left to right: Senator Stanley Kutcher, Dr. Vincent Agyapong, and the Honourable Brian Comer, Minister of Addictions and Mental Health.

Dalhousie Centre for Global Mental Health

The Centre for Global Mental Health received Dalhousie Board of Governors approval in March 2025. On May 30, 2025, the Department of Psychiatry held a launch event for the centre. Speakers included Dr. David Anderson, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University; the Honourable Brian Comer, Minister, Office of Addictions and Mental Health; the Honourable Stanley Kutcher,

Senator; Dr. Renato Oliveira e Souza, Unit Chief for the Department of Mental Health and Substance Use, Pan American Health Organization; Dr. Graham Gagnon, VP research and innovation (acting), Dalhousie University; and, external advisory board members and collaborators.

Masters in Global Clinical Psychiatry

The Masters of Global Clinical Psychiatry received Dalhousie Board of Governors approval in March 2025 and is pending Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission (MPHEC) approval. This one-of-a-kind,

online program is designed to expand expertise in clinical psychiatry among primary-care providers globally to address gaps in specialized psychiatric care.

International Fellowship Program

The International Fellowship Program plays a crucial role in bridging gaps in mental health care internationally by fostering the exchange of knowledge and expertise among healthcare professionals from diverse regions. This initiative equips fellows from high- and low-income countries with specialized training and skills that can be applied in their home communities.

The program welcomes international fellows across a wide range of subspecialties. Recently, it has expanded to include Addiction Psychiatry and Transcultural Psychiatry, with fellows now training in these essential areas. As of June 30, 2025, six international fellows have completed training. The program also expanded fellowship training to New Brunswick, which is accepting international fellows.

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 Partnerships and Global Health, 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.

- Dec. 6, 2024: “Youth mental health and early intervention: A global exigency that calls for global exchange” presented by Dr. Srividya Iyer, Psychologist; Canada Research Chair in Youth, Mental Health and Learning Health Systems (Tier 1); Professor, Department of Psychiatry, McGill University; and, Researcher, Douglas Research Centre.

The following two successful lectures were held:

- Sept. 13, 2024: “The wealth of a nation” presented by Professor Swaran P. Singh, Professor of Social and Community Psychiatry and Director, Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing Research, University of Warwick; and, Associate Medical Director, R&I, Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust.

RASP wins international award

In May 2025, the Rapid Access and Stabilization Program (RASP) received international recognition. The program was awarded the American Psychiatric Association (APA)'s Bronze Psychiatric Services Achievement Award. This award recognizes outstanding programs that deliver services to people with mental illness or disabilities that have overcome obstacles and that can serve as models for other programs.

RASP is an initiative of Nova Scotia Health and Dalhousie University's Department of Psychiatry.

Launched to address long-standing barriers faced by patients and primary-care providers in accessing timely psychiatric support, RASP has delivered comprehensive psychiatric assessments and digital mental health support (Text4Support) to more than 2,300 unique patients across Nova Scotia's Central Zone in just two years.

Key program impacts include:

- 1,673% increase in access: In Nova Scotia's Central Zone, access to psychiatrists for patients referred by primary care providers rose by 1,673% comparing the 2022/23 (pre-RASP) and 2024/25 (post-RASP) fiscal years.
- 25% of referrals seen by RASP: In the 2024/25 fiscal year, one in four individuals referred — or self-referred — to the Central Zone Mental Health and Addictions Program were scheduled for an assessment with a RASP psychiatrist.
- Expanded access for complex cases: With a distinct and centralized RASP in place, 24% more patients with complex mental health needs were connected with psychiatrists through community mental health programs for ongoing care.

The APA's recognition of RASP underscores the importance and impact of this innovative model. This achievement reflects the dedication of the psychiatrists, operational leaders, and administrative staff who have



Dr. Vincent Agyapong, department head, with members of the RASP team.



Matthew White, director, Mental Health and Addictions Program Central Zone (left) and Dr. Vincent Agyapong (right).

worked tirelessly to expand mental health care access. We extend our sincere thanks to the Government of Nova Scotia for its vital support and funding.

Announced in late May 2025, the program will be expanding across the province.

Section of Acute, Consultation, and Emergency Psychiatry

On Feb. 12, 2025, we were pleased to welcome the Honourable Brian Comer, Minister, and Kathleen Trott, Deputy Minister, Office of Addictions and Mental Health, to our department to visit the Rapid Access and Stabilization Program (RASP). In 2024, RASP accounted for 25% of completed central intakes. RASP celebrated its second anniversary with an event on May 2, 2025. Announced in late May 2025, the program will be expanding across the province.

A Neuropsychiatry Education Day Workshop, organized by the Department of Psychiatry in collaboration with Queen's University, successfully convened residents from Neurology and Psychiatry departments of both institutions. The event, held on Oct. 26, 2024, also included doctors from various specialties affiliated with the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons and the University of Ghana's Department of Psychiatry.

Dr. Mark Paramlall, a Neuropsychiatrist, organized a monthly Neuroradiology/Psychiatry meeting to collaborate and discuss complex cases with CT and MRI findings with a Neuroradiologist. Residents have enjoyed presenting in this meeting and the feedback from faculty that attended was very positive. The Neuropsychiatry Special Interest group presented five abstracts at the American Neuropsychiatry Psychiatry Association meeting in Montreal and received very positive response on the ongoing projects.



On Feb. 12, 2025, we were pleased to welcome the Honourable Brian Comer, Minister, and Kathleen Trott, Deputy Minister, Office of Addictions and Mental Health, to our department to visit the Rapid Access and Stabilization Program (RASP). From left to right: Huanhong Xie, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy, Director of Social Policy and Advocacy; Dr. Vincent Agyapong, Head of Psychiatry for Dalhousie and Nova Scotia Health Central Zone; the Honourable Brian Comer, Minister, Office of Addictions and Mental Health; Dr. Sanjana Sridharan, Head, Section of Acute, Consultation, and Emergency Psychiatry; and, Kathleen Trott, Deputy Minister, Office of Addictions and Mental Health.

Section of Community Psychiatry

As of April 2025, the Community Psychiatry Section commemorates its fourth year, marked by notable advancements in leadership, clinical care, education, and research. The appointment of clinical academic leaders (CALs) across Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs) has bolstered leadership, fostered collaboration, and facilitated the integration of innovative practices. Targeted recruitment strategies are effectively addressing psychiatrist shortages, with the objective of enhancing service accessibility and mitigating clinician burnout. Two recent subspecialty positions in Transcultural and Addiction Psychiatry have been funded, thereby augmenting service capacity and outreach to underserved populations. Educational developments include the establishment of dedicated psychotherapy training programs, coordination efforts, and the recruitment of a research assistant to support evidence-based practice and academic collaborations.

The Transcultural Mental Health Program has launched a Cultural Competency Training initiative and is refining referral pathways for diverse populations. Lastly, the forthcoming Annual Community Psychiatry Education Day will promote professional development and collaboration, thereby reinforcing the section's dedication to training the next generation of mental health professionals.

Section of Forensic Psychiatry

Implementation of the section's new Model of Care began in December 2024. Following an invitation to present the new Model of Care, preliminary data collected were presented at the International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services conference in Dublin, Ireland in June 2025.

One international fellow completed their fellowship in Forensic Psychiatry at the end of April 2025 and another international fellow began their fellowship in May 2025.

The section is welcoming two new forensic psychiatrists in August 2025.

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 psychiatry adult acute care units and the Geriatric Assessment Unit.

The section is finalizing updated referral criteria and the associated referral form.

Geriatric psychiatrists Drs. Keri-Leigh Cassidy and Amy Gough are nearing implementation of a randomized controlled trial assessing efficacy of a cognitive behavioural therapy group intervention for older adults with depression. Current resident scholarly/research projects include the implementation of an experiential dementia workshop for psychiatry residents and development of best practice in screening for suicide in persons entering long-term care facilities.

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.





Attendees at the Atlantic Provinces Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 16th Annual Conference in June 2024.

The Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry made significant clinical and academic contributions provincially and nationally this past year. We celebrated a retirement and welcomed two new faculty. A new psychiatry manager joined the division, and we recognized the leadership contributions of our departing manager who moved to a new role at IWK. Faculty took on new leadership roles in the department including the Dalhousie Psychiatry Residency Program Director.

Faculty have had national impact and recognition for their clinical academic work and research. At the Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CACAP) Annual Conference in Winnipeg in September 2024, nine faculty and two residents presented including a keynote. The IWK Mental Health and Addictions program held a World Café in January 2025 where its new strategic plan was launched. Psychiatry clinical academic leaders presented key results and outlined the objectives: “our people will thrive,” “we will transform access,” and “we will create impact” for the next five years. IWK Intensive Services engaged in service transformation work, co-led by Adolescent and Children Intensive Services medical psychiatric leaders and managers. This work is a key result in the strategic plan and is catalyzed by the Garron family gift of 25 million dollars in September 2024, the largest one-time gift in history of Maritime health care.

The division continues to prioritize education with all faculty participating in teaching and supervising medical learners. Faculty received three teaching awards for excellence in education (from Department of Psychiatry and CACAP). The Atlantic Provinces Child

and Adolescent Psychiatry 16th Annual Conference had the highest number of attendees in its history, representing all Atlantic provinces. The subspecialty residency program continued to expand its training sites and established a rotation in PEI. This year, both subspecialty graduates took jobs in Nova Scotia. Our first international fellow from Ghana trained with the division for six months. The division’s research program was bolstered by recruitment of the Sun Life Chair in Youth Mental Health. Research grants (provincial and national) received by faculty as Principal Investigators totalled more than 25 million dollars, an unprecedented achievement. Our two research chairs received awards recognizing equity, diversity and inclusion (Dalhousie) and mentorship (IWK Health) in research.

Leadership development remains a key focus. Three early career faculty took on new leadership roles and the division established a formal leadership mentoring program. Focus on equity-deserving populations is a priority with faculty serving in psychiatry consultation roles with the IWK Newcomer Shared Care Clinic and IWK African Nova Scotian Service. Faculty have also been asked to contribute as national experts in Senate round table and as expert testimony advocating for equitable and just access to mental health and addictions care and gender-affirming care for youth. Several faculty were recognized with national awards for advocacy and leadership. The Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry is incredibly proud of our people and what they have accomplished in the past year in advancing the mission and vision of the department.

Adult Psychiatry Services

Addiction Prevention and Treatment Services

Adult Neurodevelopmental Psychiatric Unit (Mental Illness & Intellectual Disabilities)

Centre for Emotions and Health

Community Mental Health

Concurrent Addiction and Mental Disorders Program

Consultation/Liaison

Early Psychosis

Eating Disorders

Emergency

Forensic Psychiatry Services

Geriatric Psychiatry

Inpatient Psychiatry

Mental Health Day Treatment

Mobile Crisis

Mood Disorders

Neuropsychiatry Program

Rapid Access and Stabilization Program

Recovery and Integration Services

Reproductive Mental Health

Shared Care

Short Stay Unit

Sleep Disorders

Transcultural Mental Health Program

Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Services

IWK Acute Care Psychiatric Inpatient Unit (Garron Centre)

IWK Consultation/Liaison Service

IWK Emergency Mental Health and Addictions Service (EMHAS)

Children's Intensive Services (CIS)

Adolescent Intensive Services (AIS)

Youth Forensic Services (Includes Nova Scotia Youth Facility Secure Care Unit)

Community Mental Health and Addictions Clinics

Specific Care Outpatient Clinics:

- Eating Disorders
- Bipolar Disorders
- Concurrent Disorders
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- Forensic Clinic
- 0-5 Years Clinic
- Early Psychosis
- Autism Spectrum Disorders

Provincial Programs

Adult Neurodevelopmental Stabilization Unit

Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services

East Coast Forensic Hospital

Eating Disorders Program

Mental Health Day Treatment Program

Mood Disorders Program

Nova Scotia Operational Stress Injury Clinic

Nova Scotia Provincial Early Psychosis Intervention Service (EPINS)

Reproductive Mental Health Program

Seniors Mental Health Program

New Dalhousie collaboration supports Indigenous mental health

The Indigenous community in Halifax will have more access to culturally-safe mental health care thanks to a collaboration between the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Society – Wije'winen Health Centre and the Department of Psychiatry at Dalhousie University and Nova Scotia Health Central Zone.

The partnership was formalized in early 2025 with the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The MOA outlines dedicated, sustainable psychiatric resources to be provided to the Wije'winen Health Centre. The centre is the first primary care clinic to serve the urban Indigenous population in Kjiptuk (Halifax).

“Mental health is a fundamental pillar of overall health,” says Dr. Vincent Agyapong, head of Psychiatry for Dal and NS Health Central Zone. “Yet, in many communities, including Indigenous communities, there are significant gaps in access to appropriate, culturally-sensitive mental health services. These gaps have, for far too long, left many individuals and families without the care and support they deserve. This partnership is an exciting step toward bridging that gap.”

Shaping a structural approach

The Indigenous Mental Health Program will include the Wije'winen Health Centre's principles of etuaptmunk (two-eyed seeing) and netukulimk (interconnectedness).

“This Memorandum of Agreement represents an important milestone in the relationship between the urban Indigenous community in Halifax, and the Department of Psychiatry,” says Dr. Brent Young, Wije'winen Health Centre's clinical lead.

“We know that colonialism fuels mental health inequities among Indigenous people, and structural approaches such as this one are part of a broader approach to dismantling structural anti-Indigenous racism in Canada. Through this agreement, the urban Indigenous community will have access to dedicated psychiatric



Representatives from the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Society - Wije'winen Health Centre and the Department of Psychiatry at Dalhousie University and Nova Scotia Health Central Zone announced a new partnership in early January.

resources via Wije'winen Health Centre, and we will have the ability to shape a psychiatric care service that is culturally safe and relevant for Indigenous people.”

Psychiatric care delivered at the centre is part of the Department of Psychiatry's Transcultural Mental Health Program, established to provide accessible, culturally-competent, culturally-safe, and collaborative mental health care for African Nova Scotians, Newcomers, and Indigenous people in Nova Scotia.

“Formal arrangements like the MOA are so important because they signal our willingness to enter into true partnership that honors the sovereignty of Indigenous people and have us working alongside them to improve mental health,” says Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed, associate dean, serving and engaging society in Dal's Faculty of Medicine.

Listening and learning

Initial discussion about a MOA began in 2023 following the one-year anniversary of the Wije'winen Health Centre.

“Since the opening of the Wije'winen in July 2022, I've had the honour of serving as a diplomatic interface between our department and urban Indigenous community,” says Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy, a psychiatrist and director of social policy & advocacy for Dal's Department of Psychiatry. “It's been a privilege to listen and learn from Indigenous people.”

A new academic pillar in the Department of Psychiatry, social policy and advocacy's mandate involves closing gaps in including, serving and engaging equity-deserving groups. Dr. Cassidy and the Social Policy and Advocacy Committee developed a strategy and five guiding principles, which Indigenous knowledge directly informed, she says.

The committee's membership also includes an Indigenous Elder — a first in the history of the Department of Psychiatry.

"Two-eyed seeing" is also one of five guiding principles of the department's social policy and advocacy strategy. The others relate to the Indigenous concept of netukulimk or interconnectedness. They are: "do no harm," "nothing about us without us," "people first with kindness," and "strengths-based."

Dr. Cassidy views the signing of the MOA as an important first step on the department's path toward Truth and Reconciliation, and as an ongoing commitment to co-create the program together.

For example, based on feedback from Indigenous people with lived-experience, she says, psychiatrist Dr. Alex Whynot has co-developed the "Two-Eyed Seeing Psychiatric Assessment" to guide non-Indigenous psychiatrists in the Transcultural Mental Health Program to provide culturally-safe psychiatric assessments.

The work of Dr. Cinera States, the first psychiatrist to offer consultations through the program, has received the praise of the community, says Dr. Cassidy, feedback which she considers to be the most important measure of success.

A trusted partner

Since becoming department head in 2021, Dr. Agyapong has implemented new mental health services, such as the Transcultural Mental Health Program, designed to close treatment gaps for equity-deserving groups. Addressing health inequalities is a collective responsibility and should be done through innovative programs, he says.

Dr. Cassidy acknowledges adhering to the five guiding principles of the social policy and advocacy strategy is key to the department becoming a more trusted partner with community.

"By providing psychiatric services to the Wije'winen Health Centre Clinic, we are not just offering clinical expertise — we are opening a door to a culturally-competent, compassionate, and community-centered approach to mental health care," says Dr. Agyapong.

"We recognize that mental health does not exist in a vacuum, and we must understand and honour the unique challenges faced by Indigenous individuals, families, and communities when providing care."



Social Policy & Advocacy

The Social Policy & Advocacy (SP&A) Initiatives Fund launched in October 2024. This fund encourages academic initiatives in education, clinical care, or research that help close gaps in serving and engaging equity-deserving groups and being a more trusted partner with community. In its first fiscal year, there were eight applications, with six initiatives approved for funding. We encourage all department members to apply for initiatives in the next fiscal year.

SP&A Committee members also strive to serve as examples of advocacy in our department. In this context, SP&A Committee member, Dr. Alex Whynot has spearheaded the Two-Eyed Seeing Psychiatric Assessment for use in the Transcultural Mental Health Program, together with Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy, SP&A Director, who is collaborating with key partners at the Wije'winen and Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre. In January 2025, our department signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the centre to provide access to more culturally safe mental health care for the Indigenous community.

In our department's ongoing efforts to become a more trusted partner to equity-deserving groups in our clinical, research and educational activities, the department is encouraging all members to complete the Faculty of Medicine's Anti-Oppression online course "Supporting Diverse, Inclusive and Anti-Oppressive Learning Environments."

Wellness

The Wellness Committee is working on initiatives to address promoting a culture of wellness and personal resilience.

Faculty welcome and retirement guidelines were implemented in 2024. Both sets of guidelines are part of the department's Transformational Plan for equity and inclusivity and are meant to ensure consistency in how we value our people.

The Wellness Committee is collaborating with Social Policy & Advocacy and EDIA Committees on a proposed Newcomer Support Program to help newcomer faculty successfully meet the challenges of settling into a new environment.

The 2024 Summer Celebration was held at the Discovery Centre on Sept. 6, 2024 for department members and their families. Other wellness outings such as hiking and skating were held throughout the year.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

The Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (EDIA) Committee continues to incorporate EDIA into the clinical, academic, and research activities in the department. The EDIA Committee has representation on all departmental committees.

The committee is working on a new initiative called the Newcomer Support Program in collaboration with Wellness and SP&A Committees.

Members of the committee continue to provide educational content for members of the department/community on EDIA topics. This includes regular presentations at the College of Physician and Surgeons of Nova Scotia Welcome Collaborative to international medical graduates who have recently arrived in Nova Scotia.

Department members have been encouraged to complete the Faculty of Medicine anti-oppression modules on Brightspace.

There are also two research projects ongoing on EDIA themes in the acute care section.

Guiding Principles

These principles guide **Social Policy & Advocacy** activities:

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.

Celebrating 75 years

In 2024, the Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry celebrated 75 years.

The department struck an Anniversary Planning Committee, chaired by Dr. Abraham (Rami) Rudnick, to plan activities to commemorate the occasion.

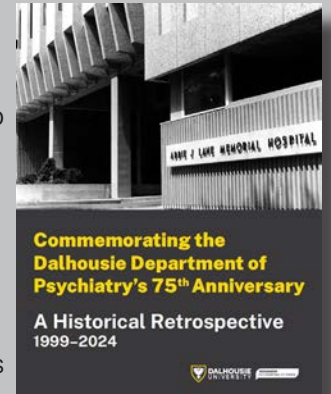
To recognize this significant milestone, the department hosted two community engagement events — a public talk about new mental health services and a mental health mini-conference for front-line staff of community-based organizations serving people experiencing homelessness. The mental health mini-conference was supported by the Social Policy & Advocacy Initiatives Fund.

Dr. Lara Hazelton led the development and was editor of a publication titled “Commemorating the Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry’s 75th Anniversary: A Historical Retrospective 1999–2024” to mark the 75th anniversary. This publication is a follow up to the book edited by Dr. Patrick Flynn to mark the department’s 50th anniversary. Dr. Flynn’s book covered the first 50 years of the

department’s history (1949 to 1999), with the second publication covering the subsequent 25 years (1999 to 2024). The 75th anniversary publication is a compilation of reflections from past and current department heads, members, and poems.

Dr. Margaret (Leigh) Meldrum, medical humanities coordinator, led the development of a video to commemorate the department’s 75-year history.

Our annual holiday party also served as an anniversary celebration event where our anniversary video and publication were introduced.

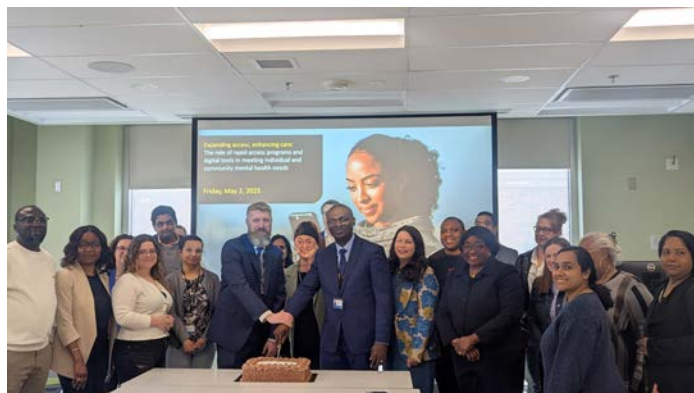


The holiday party included an anniversary cake-cutting ceremony. Back row, Left to right: Drs. Sanjana Sridharan, Phil Tibbo, Mahmoud Awara, and Risk Kronfli. Front row, Left to right: Dr. Alexa Bagnell, Dr. Lara Hazelton, Dean David Anderson, Dr. Vincent Agyapong, Dr. Christy Bussey, Dr. Keri-Leigh Cassidy, Dr. Mutiat Sulyman, Huanhong Xie, and Dr. Zenovia Ursuliak. Photo by Bruce Bottomley

Expanding access, enhancing care: The role of rapid access programs and digital tools in meeting individual and community mental health needs (RASP anniversary event)

On May 2, 2025, the Dalhousie Department of Psychiatry and the Mental Health and Addiction Program at Nova Scotia Health Central Zone hosted an event in celebration of the second anniversary of the Rapid Access and Stabilization Program (RASP).

Speakers included Nova Scotia Health physician and operational leaders, representatives of community partner organizations, person with lived experience, RASP psychiatrists, and special guest speaker Dr. Jitender Sareen, Head, Department of Psychiatry, University of Manitoba and Chair, Association of Chairs of Psychiatry in Canada (ACPC).



Cake-cutting at the RASP anniversary event on May 2, 2025.

Strategic planning leadership retreat

Department leaders convened over two days (evening of May 22 and a full day on May 23, 2025) to reflect on the Department of Psychiatry's 2020-2025 strategic plan and to identify new strategic directions for 2026-2030 and alignment with the Faculty of Medicine's strategic plan.



Department members at the strategic planning retreat in May 2025.



Awards & Honours



AWARDS & HONOURS

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

2024 Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Certificate of Special Recognition
Dr. Normand Carrey

2024 Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Excellence in Education Award
Dr. Celia Robichaud

2024 Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Paul D. Steinhauer Advocacy Award
Dr. Suzanne Zinck

2024 Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry (CAGP) Geriatric Psychiatry Sub-Specialty Resident Award
Dr. Eileen Burns

2024 IWK Health Robert Bortolussi Mentorship Award
Dr. Lori Wozney

2024 Leadership Excellence Award – Physician Leader, NS Health Making Waves Awards
Dr. Ahmed Saleh

2025 American Psychiatric Association Bronze Psychiatric Services Achievement Award
Rapid Access and Stabilization Program

2025 Canadian Psychiatric Association Dr. C.A. Roberts Award for Clinical Leadership
Dr. Aaron Keshen

2025 Dalhousie University President's Research Excellence Award – Emerging Investigator
Dr. Ejemai Eboreime

2025 Doctors Nova Scotia Senior Membership Award
Dr. Cornelis de Boer

2025 Dr. John Savage Memorial Award for Faculty Leadership in Global Health
Dr. Vincent Agyapong

2025 Dr. TJ (Jock) Murray Award for Resident Leadership in Global Health
Dr. LeAnne Revell

2025 Faculty of Medicine Award of Excellence in Clinical Practice
Dr. Aaron Keshen

2025 Faculty of Medicine Award of Excellence in Teaching (PhD Faculty)
Dr. Kim Good

2025 Faculty of Medicine Award for Career Excellence in Research Mentorship
Dr. Martin Alda

2025 Faculty of Medicine Community Teacher of the Year Award
Dr. Ian Mackay

2025 Faculty of Medicine Dr. Allan Cohen Memorial Award for Community Service
Dr. Abraham (Rami) Rudnick

2025 Faculty of Medicine Early Career Investigator Award
Dr. Kara Dempster

2025 Faculty of Medicine Excellence in Basic Research Award
Dr. Kazue Semba

Ambrose Alli University College of Medicine Alumni Association Distinguished Alumnus Award
Dr. Ejemai Eboreime

Best Dissertation Award (Social Sciences and Humanities category)
Dr. Sarah DeGrace

Canadian Certified Physician Executive Designation
Dr. Alexa Bagnell
Dr. Maria Alexiadis

Canadian Psychological Association Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology
Dr. Patrick McGrath

Doctors Nova Scotia Physician Leadership Development Program Completion
Dr. Ngozi Ezeanozie
Dr. Michelle MacDonald
Dr. Christopher Murphy
Dr. Ahmed Saleh

Early Career Academic Excellence Awardee for the 2025 Congress of the Schizophrenia International Research Society
Dr. Kara Dempster

King Charles III Coronation Medal
Dr. Alexa Bagnell
Dr. Cinera States



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AWARDS

2024 Educator of the Year Award
Dr. Selene Etches

2024 Dr. Larry Buffett Outstanding
Teacher Award
Dr. José Mejía

2025 Dr. Aidan Stokes
Mentorship Award
Dr. Patricia Pearce

Research Day 2024 award winners

Best Presentation Award
Undergraduate Student
*Jibran Hagalwadi and Ella Hodgson
Pageau (tie)*

Best Presentation Award
Graduate Student
Lorielle Dietze

Best Presentation Award
Psychiatry Resident
Dr. Anthony Hinde

Graduate student awards

Dr. Benjamin Rusak Graduate
Student Award (Masters)
Holly Carbyn

Dr. Patrick McGrath Graduate
Student Award (Doctoral)
Medard Adu

Residents' choice awards

Teacher of the Year Award
Dr. Sarah Fancy

Junior Mentorship Award
Dr. Celia Robichaud

Junior Resident
Professionalism Award
Dr. Emilie Comeau

Above and Beyond Award
Benjamin Fong

Senior Mentorship Award
Dr. Josh Green

Senior Resident
Professionalism Award
Dr. Jared Allman

PGY-5 Excellence Award
José Mejía

Resident awards

Clerks' Choice
Dr. Lousie Moodie

Dr. Herb Orlik Child & Adolescent
Psychiatry Resident Award
Dr. Lauren Miller

Dr. Robert and Stella Weil Fund in
Psychiatry Prize
*Dr. Talia Bond
Dr. Julia LeBlanc
Dr. Louise Moodie*

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

Geriatric Psychiatry Resident Award
Dr. Jay Toulany

Alexander H. Leighton Resident of
the Year Award
*Dr. Emma Hazelton-Provo
Dr. Lauren Miller*

Dr. Charles J. David Memorial Prize
in Psychiatry
Dr. Emilie Comeau

Dr. Harris Lee Barton Scholarship
Dr. Jared Allman

Dr. W.O. McCormick Award
Dr. Sophie Church

RETIREMENTS

Dr. Saravana Muthu
Effective July 15, 2024

Dr. Mary Ann Hudec
Effective Dec. 31, 2024

Dr. Malgorzata Rajda
Effective Aug. 31, 2025

Dr. Cynthia Calkin
Effective Oct. 30, 2024

Dr. John Aspin
Effective June 27, 2025

LEADERSHIP

Dr. Vincent Agyapong
Head

Dr. Lara Hazelton
Director, Education

Dr. Phil Tibbo
Director, Research

Dr. Alexa Bagnell
Head, Division of Child & Adolescent
Psychiatry

Dr. Sanjana Sridharan
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

EDUCATION

Dr. Lara Hazelton
Director, Education

Dr. Katharine Black
Director, Undergraduate 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. Margaret (Leigh) Meldrum
Humanities Coordinator

Dr. Alexandra Manning
Director, Postgraduate Education

Dr. Laura Downing
Associate Director, Postgraduate
Education

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

Dr. Jennifer Cumming
Pediatric Residency Coordinator

Dr. Ejemai Eboreime
Program Director, Masters in Global
Clinical Psychiatry

Dr. Margaret (Leigh) Meldrum
Associate Director, Masters in
Global Clinical Psychiatry

Dr. Sherry Stewart
Coordinator, Psychiatry Research
Graduate Program

Dr. Kim Good
Associate Coordinator, Psychiatry
Graduate Programs

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. Gail Eskes
Director of Research,
Geriatric Psychiatry

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

CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY

Dr. Alexa Bagnell
Head, Division of Child & Adolescent
Psychiatry

Dr. Sabina Abidi
Associate Head, Division of Child &
Adolescent Psychiatry

SECTION OF ACUTE, CONSULTATION & EMERGENCY PSYCHIATRY

Dr. Sanjana Sridharan
Head, Section of Acute,
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Dr. Mark Paramall
Associate Head, Section of
Acute, Consultation & Emergency
Psychiatry

SECTION OF COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRY

Dr. Mahmoud Awara
Head, Section of Community
Psychiatry

Dr. Aaron Keshen
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

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Postgraduate Education Coordinator

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Evaluation & Curriculum Specialist

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Eleanor Kumahia
Administrative Assistant to the
Department Head

Chelsea Mantin
HR Coordinator

Sandra Millar
Finance Assistant

Penney Miller
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Minh Nguyen
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Jana Tamm
Education Coordinator

Vacant
Research Coordinator

Vacant
Physician Resource Manager

Huanhong Xie
Chief Operating Officer

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Supriya D'Penha
Administrative Manager

Melissa Davis
Clinical Administrative Assistant

Debi Follett
Administrative Assistant to
the Chief

Dona Mathew
Clinical Administrative Assistant

Adrienne McCarthy
Education Coordinator

Rolvin Monteiro
Booking and Registration Clerk

Jeremy Smith
Integrated Research Assistant

Joan Sweet
Booking and Registration Clerk





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