CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
Closing date: November 15, 2019

Integrating Research, Practice, and Policy for Improving Youth Transitions to Adulthood in Alberta

May 6-7, 2020

MacEwan Hall
University of Calgary

DESCRIPTION

Integrating Research, Practice, and Policy for Improving Youth Transitions to Adulthood (YTA) in Alberta will be a unique opportunity to bring attention to the importance of optimizing youth transitions to adult life. This conference will bring together those with a shared interest in understanding the value of utilizing an integrated approach across systems to improve transitions.

This event is intended to bring attention to some of the exciting initiatives and research happening in youth transitions to adulthood in Alberta. We are looking for a brief overview of your work that will be shared with attendees in break-out sessions, grouped by area of focus, followed by questions and discussion.
OBJECTIVES

- Learning from diverse perspectives, including Indigenous and western research methodologies, explore existing research, policy, and practices in adolescent and adult systems in Alberta;
- Learn from youth, caregivers, and other natural supports regarding their recommendations for supporting youth transitioning to adulthood;
- Examine practice-based evidence, initiatives, and projects focused on the transition of youth to adulthood in Alberta;
- Engage with communities to facilitate application of conference learnings to their particular populations; and
- Commit to sharing and applying learnings to improve how we work together to support young people in the transition to adulthood.

AUDIENCE

- Youth and Families welcome!
- Professionals/Service Providers working with Youth and Young Adults
- Policy and Decision Makers
- Researchers
- Anyone interested in advancing Youth Transitions to Adulthood

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract submission opens: September 16, 2019
Abstract submission closes: November 15, 2019 (extended)
Notification of decision: Week of January 27, 2020
Submit by email: info@policywise.com
Subject line: Abstract Submission (Presenter’s First, Last Names)

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Total word count for the abstract is limited to 500 words. Abstracts can be submitted for consideration as an oral presentation or a poster presentation. The submitted abstract must include the following information (not included in the total word count):
Presenters Information:
• Primary contact for the submission including name, email address, phone number, and organization/university
• Names and affiliation of other presenters/team members/co-authors
• A brief (75 word) biography of each presenter

Area of Focus:
• Indicate the Area of Focus of your abstract:
  □ Promising/Innovative Practice □ Research □ Policy
• Indicate the Category:
  □ Children’s Services □ Mental Health
  □ Disability □ Mentorship
  □ Education (high school and post-secondary) □ Natural Supports
  □ Employment/Vocation □ Young People’s Experience of Transition
  □ Health and healthcare services □ Other_______________
  □ Justice

ABSTRACT INFORMATION
Please describe how your practice, research, or policy initiative includes or has implications for cross-sector transitions, promotes collaboration and inclusive communities, and includes meaningful involvement of youth, families, and natural supports. Presentations that include youth and families as speakers will be prioritized. Please note, ALL abstracts must be related to youth transitions to adulthood in either adolescent or adult systems.

Please indicate whether abstract is being submitted for an oral or poster presentation (those submitted for an oral presentation but not accepted will be considered for a poster presentation).

☐ Oral presentations: All presentations should be 15 minutes and presenters are encouraged to allow an extra 10 minutes for questions and discussion afterwards. Oral presentations will be grouped by Area of Focus.

☐ Poster presentations: Postsers must be no larger than 4 feet by 3 feet (landscape). During the poster presentation time, presenters will have the opportunity to speak with viewers and provide a short summary of their work.
Abstract Outline

1. Introduction/Problem that your policy/innovative practice/research is addressing or will address

2. How you collaborated with others (including youth, young adults, families) to come up with your innovative practice/research/policy

3. What your innovative practice/research/policy is, its successes, any challenges that you overcame.

4. Final words and next steps including lessons learned or implications for future direction

Please Note: Presenters will be responsible for their own travel, accommodation and registration costs. ALL presenters must register for the conference.

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Alberta Health Services (Alberta Children’s Hospital, Addiction and Mental Health Strategic Clinical Network, Child & Adolescent Addiction, Mental Health & Psychiatry Program, Maternal Newborn Child and Youth Strategic Clinical Network)
- Alberta Mentoring Partnership
- Bow River Regional Collaborative Service Delivery
- Calgary and Area Regional Collaborative Service Delivery
- Canadian Mental Health Association – Calgary Region
- Children’s Link Society
- Enhancing Systems Collaboration for Youth Transitions to Adulthood Research Project
- Government of Alberta (Children’s Services, Community and Social Services, Education)
- I Heart Home
- PolicyWise for Children & Families
- Calgary Regional Post-Secondary Mental Health Network
- Sinneave Family Foundation
- United Way of Calgary and Area

For more information on the conference, please visit https://tinyurl.com/YTA2020