



The Power of Collaboration

Maternal, Child and Family

Health

Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey VI

Oct. 23, 2013



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Collaborative Activity

GROUP JUGGLE



Maternal, Child and Family Health Strategy Area Reflections:

Opportunities and benefits of collaborative work

- Working towards consistent and shared priorities
- Increasing First Nations and Aboriginal community input
- Pooling of staff, time and resources
- Building of positive, long-term relationships across organizations
- Bringing together of a variety of expertise areas
- Increased awareness of partner initiatives



Maternal Child and Family Health Strategy Area

(Formed in 2008)

Membership:

- First Nations Health Authority
- BC Ministry of Health
- Health Director & Health Centre representation
- BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
- Metis Nation BC
- Regional Health Authorities
- PHSA Agencies: Child Health BC & Perinatal Services BC



Tripartite First Nations Health Plan (2007)

Maternal Child Health Actions Items:

- # 10 – “Aboriginal children under six (on and off reserve) will receive hearing, dental and vision screening”
- # 11 - Follow up and address the results of the BC Coroners Service Child Death Review Report
- # 21 - Improve access to maternity services for Aboriginal women, bringing birth “closer to home and back into the hands of women”



Expanded Aims of Collaborative Work to Date:



- To improve access to all relevant health services
- To increase quality and safety of care
- To ensure services are culturally appropriate and safe
- To promote health and prevent disease and injury with a holistic and wellness-centered approach
- To improve the continuity and coordination of care
- To increase First Nations driven and delivered health services

(Source: http://www.fnhc.ca/index.php/health_actions/maternal_and_child/)



Returning Home Demonstration Project

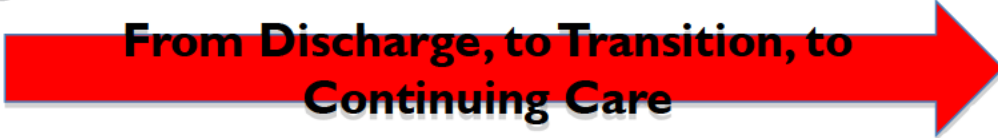
The goal of the project is to improve the discharge planning process for Aboriginal children with complex health care needs from the **central and north Vancouver Island**. Leaving the hospital with a child who has complex health care needs can be stressful. Island Health's new Returning Home – a demonstration project – supports Aboriginal families and helps coordinate the child's care needs in their home community. **The project development began in January 2013 and has been accepting patients since July 2013.**

Returning Home supports families by:

- 1. Identifying a Team Lead**
- 2. Coordinating the discharge planning process**
- 3. Providing transition support**
- 4. On-going care**



Demonstration Project Model

From Discharge, to Transition, to Continuing Care 


- Hospital Specialist & Treatment Process
- Child, Family & community
- Aboriginal Liaison
- Other Hospital Staff/Support Teams

Hospital Discharge Planning process

- Coordinates Documentation of Medical Discharge Plan
- Identify Primary Care Provider in Community
- Nurse Practitioner at closest hospital
- Most Responsible Physician or GP (MRP)

Project Coordinator

- Identifies and works with the **Team Lead**
- Coordinates the discharge/transition/on-going care plan
- Oversees the follow-up
- Communicates the plan to the following people



- Community Health Director/Nurse **Social Support**
- Homecare Medical Services Provider/Nurse **Home Nursing Services**
- First Nations Health Benefits **Medical Supplies & Equipment/Patient Travel/etc**
- Nanaimo Ambulatory/Outreach Clinics **Assess Child Needs with Caregivers/Family**
- 24/7 Support Line Emergency Plan **Contact Team as Required**
- Nursing Support Services/At Home program/etc. **Family support or Respite if eligible**
- Most Responsible Primary Care Provider **Continuing Care Treatment/Referral**
- Community Pediatrics
- VIP-Emergency Flagging
- Subspecialist



Honouring Our Babies: Aboriginal Safe Sleep Discussion Cards and Guide





Tripartite Working Group: Promising Practices in Maternal and Child Health

Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2013
Time: 11:15 to 11:45 am (5 minutes)
Presenter: Joan Geber, Executive Director
Healthy Development and Women's Health Branch,
Ministry of Health





Goal of Promising Practices



- To explore maternal child health programs available in First Nations and Aboriginal communities and gather key recommendations for providing effective, culturally safe maternal child health programs.
- Through collaboration and consultation, help determine the need, feasibility, and acceptability for the Nurse-Family Partnership Program with first-time expectant, low income, young mothers living in First Nations communities to inform the BC Healthy Connections Project.






Promising Practices Project

Activities

- ✓ Working group struck
- ✓ Knowledge exchange
- ✓ Stakeholder consultation
- ✓ Literature search
- ✓ Interviews: BC & USA
- ✓ Report development



Nuggets Learned: MCH Programs

- Building relationships is at the heart of the work 
- Requires respect, patience, and takes time
- Meet women where they are at in their own process
- Focus on the positive / focus on strengths
- Take a harm reduction approach
- Celebrate every step along the way
- Need good training and support
- Need tools, common language



How Promising Practices Project Demonstrates Collaborative Practice

- Participation of multidisciplinary team members
 - Health team (CHN, MCH Coordinators)
 - Inclusive of practitioners/leaders/researchers/policy makers
- Passionate about working with families and believe/trust that women are the experts on their own lives
- Good training and support important
- Good tools, common language, and holistic approach
- Culturally respectful/safe approach
- Flexibility/willingness to change the scope of the project
- Building relationships is key





Thank you!
Questions

**(Please visit the Maternal, Child
and Family Health Booth for more
information and resources!)**