



**BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING AND
HEALTH: A CROSS SECTORAL COLLABORATIVE
APPROACH TO SUPPORTING OLDER ADULTS WITH
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.**

Health and Wellbeing in Developmental Disabilities
February 2022

PRESENTERS:

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DECLARATION

We declare no commercial or financial interests.

OBJECTIVES FOR TODAY:

This presentation will provide:

1. an overview of Central Region Partnership for Aging and Developmental Disabilities (CRPADD) and historical significance
2. a summary of membership and benefits
3. an overview of the purpose and goals of CRPADD
4. a review of the contributions made to the developmental services, health and long term care sectors to date
5. an overview of future directions

This presentation will highlight the model, partnerships and the wide range of innovative educational opportunities provided to increase the knowledge, skill and understanding to best support older adults with developmental disabilities.

CONNECTION TO HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

The work of CRPADD and today's presentation:

- discusses innovative, promising, and effective practices that contribute to positive physical and mental health outcomes, inter-professional collaboration, and strategic leadership;
- identifies possible solutions for core issues and challenges faced by the people being supported, their families, and community partners;
- discusses the role of community healthcare in maintaining and improving quality of life; and/or
- develops, maintains, and expands interprofessional partnerships in order to provide more effective supports.

OVERVIEW

CRPADD started with long term care and the developmental services sector acknowledging the need for conversation and collaboration.

After years of capacity building, CRPADD continues to engage in innovative and informal partnerships.

Dedicated service providers regularly come together on a bi-monthly basis (virtual during the pandemic) to enhance quality of life for older adults with developmental disabilities and those that support them.

This regional committee shares a common vision that all adults with developmental disabilities have the right to access timely supports and services as all Ontarians.

LIFESPAN AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Adults with developmental disabilities:

'represent one of the largest groups of people with lifelong disabilities', they struggle most with health disparities and can become frail earlier and sometimes at faster rates (Stringer, Ryan, Terry & Pike, 2019; Sullivan, Heng, Perry, Bach & Casson, 2019).

have a life expectancy that continues to increase and while they continue to experience the same age-related chronic diseases seen in the older general population.

have many of their health care needs unmet but with the efforts of dedicated, caring, and skilled family physicians and caregivers'—positive outcomes for health can be attributed to screening, preventative care testing and Health Checks across the lifespan (Durbin, Selick, Casson, Green, Perry, Abou Chacra & Lunsky, 2019; Pimlott, 2019; Sullivan, et al., 2019).

face aging and age related changes that can be further complicated by a variety of co-morbid conditions (often poorly managed) in addition to accelerated age and an increased risk for the development of certain conditions.

require preventive care to address developmental needs and associated health risks associated (Pimlott, 2019; Sullivan, et al., 2019).

OPADD (THE ONTARIO PARTNERSHIP ON AGING AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES)

OPADD was formed 20 years ago.

In 1999, OPADD received Health Canada funding to hold a symposium, which was followed in in 2004, with a five-year Ontario Trillium Foundation grant for Aging and Developmental Disability projects across the Province.

OPADD's key principle is the collaboration between the Developmental and Seniors/Long Term Care sectors to best provide the support for individuals with a developmental disability as they age.

OPADD also seeks to promote inclusion of individuals with a developmental disability as seniors – to have access to services and supports as citizens of Ontario.

OPADD does not have a formal membership or structure.

OPADD has always encouraged innovation “on the ground” and its projects have helped to develop and foster regional committees.

From this, the Central Region Partnership on Aging and Developmental Disabilities (CRPADD) has emerged and is reflective of OPADD values.

THE CENTRAL REGION PARTNERSHIP ON AGING AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (CRPADD) COMMITTEE IS COMMITTED TO:



- a) efficient and collective cross-sector communication
- b) cross sector community engagement
- c) building system capacity through sharing of information, knowledge and resources
- d) identifying and responding to service gaps, trends and needs

(CRPADD, 2017)

CRPADD'S MEMBERSHIP IS COMPRISED OF VOLUNTARY PARTICIPANTS FROM:

Developmental Services Ontario Central West Region

Lived Experience Family Member(s)

Community Living Dufferin

William Osler Health Services

Elmira Community Living

Central West Specialized Developmental Services
(Community Network of Specialized Care)

St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph & Knowledge Broker

Homewood Health

Central West LHIN

Parents for Community Living Kitchener Waterloo

Community Living Guelph Wellington

Alzheimer's Society Waterloo Wellington

Developmental Services Worker (DSW) Program,
Humber College

CRPADD'S PURPOSE AND GOALS

The group meets on a regular basis (bi-monthly, virtually during pandemic).

CRPADD demonstrates how *cross sectoral education can improve the health outcomes for people aging with developmental disabilities* while spotlighting the importance of interprofessional collaboration (IPC) and the development of community for all professional staff working with people with developmental disabilities.

With more than 7 years of capacity building and cross sectoral collaboration, CRPADD continues to work to provide direct service professionals across sectors with additional, unique educational opportunities to:

- *increase knowledge*
- *develop skills*
- *create networks in order to support adults with developmental disabilities to age successfully*

Additionally, CRPADD continues to highlight the role of the Developmental Services Worker (DSW) and direct support professionals working in a variety of settings and connects to the achievement and delivery of many of the outcomes outlined in the current developmental services sector reform plan.

(CRPADD, 2017)

THE IMPORTANCE OF CROSS-SECTORAL/INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION



CRPADD demonstrates:

engaging in cross sectoral education can improve the health outcomes for people with developmental disabilities

the importance of interprofessional collaboration (IPC) and the development of community for all professional staff working with people aging with developmental disabilities.

CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

CRPADD's work has:

highlighted the role of the Developmental Services Worker (DSW) and direct support professionals working in a variety of settings and the importance of appropriate and timely care and supports required by all people aging with developmental disabilities

illustrated the important of work needed to support the development and advancement of several key areas outlined in the current developmental services sector reform plan that include:

- Putting People First (changing needs across lifespan and supports should reflect this)
- Improving Service Experience (adopting best practices and supporting innovation)
- Improving Quality and Accountability (planning for a skilled workforce including core competencies)

*more information on this Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/journey-belonging-choice-and-inclusion>

CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH EDUCATION AND EVENTS

June 2021

Understanding Developmental Disabilities (4 part virtual series)

October 18th, 2016

Presenters/Topics included:

Dr. Yona Lunsky Ph.D. & Andrea Perry:

H-CARDD, an over-view of the Health Care Access

Research & Developmental Disabilities tools;

Dr. Helene Ouellette-Kuntz PH D. & Katherine McKenzie:
H-CARDD Aging Project leads;

Brian Woodman, Angela Gonzales & Violet Atkinson:

The Regulated Health Professions Act

May 14th, 2015

Aging and Developmental Disabilities

Presenters: Dr. Ron Lucchino, MD, PhD &

Dr. Nancy Jokinen, MSW, PhD

March 22nd, 2013

Aging and Developmental Disabilities

Presenter: Dr. Lillian Thorpe MD, PhD Geriatric
Psychiatrist, University of Saskatchewan

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS SERIES – PRACTICAL SKILLS FOR PROFESSIONALS

Use What, When – a training day the focused on teaching people how to use the NTG tool as well as the Health Considerations book which was created by our committee members Eleanor Whitelock and Violet Atkinson. It also featured some training based on the work of Teepa Snow.

This was presented at 3 sessions in the fall of **2018** in the central region, including Oakville, Guelph, Orangeville. Approximately 60 front line staff were trained from both health care and the developmental service sector.

This series also presented at Bob Rumball Centre All the staff were Deaf and we had the entire day translated through a sign language interpreter.

We also took the book information and created an online version for front line workers to use:
<https://sites.google.com/pclcap.ca/healthconsiderationsguidelines>

Let's Talk about Dementia – its more than just behaviour. This training featured the Dementia Experience and Hands on Techniques developed by Teepa Snow.

This was presented at two sessions in the fall of **2019**, one in Orangeville and the other in Waterloo. Approximately 45 front line staff were trained from both the health care and developmental services sector.

The 2022 Education Committee consists of:

Paula Frappier – Occupational Therapist Homewood Health

Catherine Ryan – Community Living Dufferin

Brenda Van Houtven – Parents for Community Living KW

Andrea Rutherford – Program Coordinator, DSW Program, Humber College

LESSONS LEARNED AND CHALLENGES FACED

Equal membership representation across all sectors that is sustainable

Need for education across all sectors

COVID-19 and global pandemic changes everything

Created opportunities to meet and connect in various ways

There is still so much that isn't known across all sectors (e.g. difference between DSO and BSO)

Acronyms and language – new and used in each sector – creating common understanding

We can have an impact on how information is shared and how people are assessed, and guided to the right services and resources

Promote roles, resources or community contacts (Psycho-geriatric Resource Consultant)

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Increasing and diversifying membership

Reconnecting with OPADD and other regional groups

Outreach across sectors

Information sharing and leveraging access to resources and partnership

Education and events with a focus on mental health and wellness across all sectors

Supporting Canadian 'Without Walls' programs and virtual groups

Getting back to in-person opportunities for meeting and learning

Connection with research – monitor effectiveness and trends

Compassion/Care giving fatigue, self-care for those that provide care in all systems

Post-pandemic--What does the future hold?

YouTube channel (you can view some of CRPADD's past educational events)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnEMRV0Ot2jGOSNYFxN9h7g>



CONTACT INFORMATION

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THANK YOU



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Minister of Children, Community and Social Services. (2021). Journey to Belonging: Choice and Inclusion. Retrieved from: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/journey-belonging-choice-and-inclusion>

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Pimlott, N. (2019). Aging with intellectual and developmental disabilities: Family physicians can make a difference. Editorial. *Canadian Family Physician*. Vol 65(4). Suppl 1.

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