

Together for Safety Initiative
Training Session 2 Survey Results (n=7)

CONFIDENTIAL

Submitted to:

Collyn Lovelace
Yukon Women's Transition Home Society
Box 31392
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 6K8

Submitted by:

Paul Kishchuk, MA

Vector Research

203 – 301 Hawkins Street
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1X5
www.vectorresearch.ca
paul@vectorresearch.ca
867.668.3164

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A\ Was there a particular concept or example introduced at the *Best Practices When Working With People With Mental Health Issues* training session that you have found to be especially useful or relevant in your work? Please explain.

- There was no particular concept that I found useful.
- The concept that stuck with me most in my work was the presentation that began with a woman explaining how she thought she was helping someone in need by giving them everything they needed when they randomly met, and then she changed her thinking and actions to truly help the person struggling. Working with youth, I find myself often trying to solve everything for them and am reminded to help them help themselves so they can succeed in the long run.
- Community resources, and presentations and discussions between agencies.
- Thoroughly enjoyed the nurse from Taiga that spoke. Thought her information was very relevant and informative.
- No, the course was not relevant or productive. RCMP members present questions on staffing procedures and called racists.

B\ Are there any concepts or ideas you learned at the *Best Practices When Working With People With Mental Health Issues* training session that you have you been able to apply in your work? Please provide an example or two below.

- There has been no one thing that I could put to practice in my work.
- Similar to my last response, the idea that you have to help people help themselves instead of solving their problems for them and enabling further vulnerability and struggles as they don't have the knowledge or means to help themselves. I have used this approach a few times in dealing with young women who repeatedly express vulnerability and have been working with them to give them all the tools they need to safely get themselves out of situations and improve their living situations.
- Different interpretations/definitions of how to understand mental health. An awareness that mental health is approached differently. Domestic violence, as an underlining environmental cause was not prominent and challenging to bring to surface, in light of the theories brought forward.

C\ Are there any northern-specific ideas you feel were missing from the *Best Practices When Working With People With Mental Health Issues* training session that would be useful to you? Please explain.

- I was hoping that with our small community we could come up with a way we could ensure our woman got the proper medical help when we took them to the hospital for assistance so that the resident could possibly come back to the home afterwards
- remoteness, first nation traditional knowledge inclusion of mental health, cultural sensitivity, gender differences, a scope of mental health multi-discipline understanding (mental health 101). Varied cultural understanding of mental health.
- It would have been useful to have someone speak who has MH issues and the experiences that they have encountered. Would have also liked to hear of the other services that are available out there besides Adult Protection and Taiga for people with mental health issues.
- Mental health is not specific to a region.

D\ Were there any aspects of the *Best Practices When Working With People With Mental Health Issues* training session that were not helpful for you? Please explain.

- A lot of the information really was not useful for what I felt I needed to assist our residents ... again thought that we would hear how to get doctors to listen when we present a resident and tell what we witnessed in behaviors of the person.
- I had a really hard time hearing the speakers.
- Some of the information presented was not useful to me as I have already studied some of the concepts in Psychology and Sociology throughout university. I'm sure they were helpful to those without that background though.
- Interagency discussions may have been better, if more participation by all.
- With a couple of the speakers was wondering when they were going to start talking about mental health issues as they seemed to be talking about homelessness and everything but the topic at hand.
- Yes, the majority of the course was not useful.
- As a police officer, I found this training to be challenging to be a part of. There were negative attitudes from other participants that I had to absorb throughout the entire session. It was an opportunity for others to give their concerns and negative comments regarding police and it was done in a group setting and difficult to respond to. I find this often to be the case with interagency workshops and I have come to the decision not to take part in these sessions in the future.

E\ What would you like to see included in future Together for Safety training opportunities?

- Would like to see some case planning and collaboration with the hospital when we bring a woman in and tell them what we see happening and have them possibly keep the woman overnight at least to stabilize her so that eventually she could come back to the home and live communally with no issues.
- More approaches and best practices for general situations.
- More interagency discussions. It was a challenging component, but very essential.
- More group discussions as there seemed to be a lot of good material come out of the group discussions especially with the RCMP.
- Course outline relevant to police. Facilitators not telling the police how to do their job.

F\ Do you have any other thoughts about the *Best Practices When Working With People With Mental Health Issues* training session you would like to share?

- It was really great to hear some discussions between members, especially the issue brought up of the history of racist RCMP/police officers and the distrust this has created in the community. It was a conversation I don't think could safely or respectfully be held in many places, and it was great to hear people's thoughts and reactions.
- Overall it was very informative. More community, all of them, inclusion, might spark more discussion. Domestic violence as a forefront theme might direct the discussion
- That it's important to direct them to the right resources that are available out there. Such as OFI, the mental health nurse, Kim McDougall, Taiga, etc.

