

ADSTV's Role in Data Quality in Addictions and Mental Health

Addiction Services has been actively involved in two data quality projects in fiscal 2012/13. The data quality working group was formed as a sub group from the Southwest Addiction and Mental Health Coalition. There was an identified need for a project to ensure that there is consistent and standardized reporting of client activity across Health Service Providers (HSPs), specifically the CMH&A sector, within the South West Region. The outcome would result in improved data quality for decision-making and system development, coordination, and integration.

This year, the group developed 5 key training modules that will be available for HSPs. The modules will be used for consistent training of middle managers to interpret data and for front line workers to familiarize themselves with OHRs standards that are required for funded agencies in Ontario. Addiction Services has been able to offer expertise to this working group and adhere to the consistency of data quality.

ADSTV's second involvement in data quality is with the Drug Treatment Funding Project, specifically the costing project. This initiative, funded by Health Canada, is for the development and implementation of a province-wide program to assess and benchmark the cost of addictions treatment services. The goal of the project is to develop a protocol for producing reliable and valid cost-based performance measures for substance use treatment services in Ontario. ADSTV was one of a small group of pilot sites involved in this project. From our data submissions, the project researchers compare the data to other agencies in the province. This project will help lead the way to develop recommendations for a methodology for cost comparisons across functional centres within the Ontario specialized substance use treatment system.

Respectfully submitted by

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