



Enhancing Addiction Services for Youth through Collaborative Learning & Practice

Addiction Services of Thames Valley (ADSTV) is delighted to take a lead role in collaboration with five local children's Mental Health partners: Craigwood Youth Services, Anago (Non) Residential Resources Inc., WAYS (Western Area Youth Services), Vanier Children's Services, and the Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System. Together we will benefit from a one year grant of \$50,000 from the United Way Strategic Initiatives Funding Project 2014/15.

Some key goals of the project include:

- facilitation of two levels of training and skill development for the staff of the agencies (at no direct cost to the agencies)
- review and development of consistent, evidence-based group materials that may be endorsed and shared across agencies
- fostering Champions from each agency and creating a sustainable community of practice to carry on at the conclusion of the grant period

These goals will contribute toward achieving two long term outcomes the United Way has set as their objectives:

- Stigma and discrimination related to mental illness is reduced.
- All individuals dealing with a mental health issue, addiction, or violence-related trauma will be able to seek support and access assistance at their point of need.

