

Organization: The Greater Hamilton Health Network

Project: Evaluation of Women's Health Days and Outreach Team Asset Mapping

Contact: Megan Lynch

Email: megan.lynch@ghhn.ca

Phone: 519-546-9163

Context:

The Greater Hamilton Health Network (GHHN) is one of the first Ontario Health Teams across the province, with a purpose of transforming healthcare in partnership with patients, families, care partners, primary care, local organizations and the community. A collaboration of local health and social service partners, the GHHN includes representation from more than 30 organizations. We we are a dedicated group of professionals, organizations and people with lived experience working to co-design a patient-centred, health system grounded in engagement, health equity and the local needs of the communities we serve.

As the manager of Priority Populations, Megan leads on service delivery to vulnerable groups, including houseless people, with a special focus on women, trans, and gender-diverse individuals. One of the ways services are provided to this identified group is through outreach teams, who circle locations across the city where vulnerable populations reside, including shelters and encampments. Another initiative is a free drop-in health and wellness service to women, trans, and gender diverse persons experiencing homelessness in Hamilton ("Women's Health Days"). Women's health days feature safe, quality care, food, and giveaways. The goal has been to offer accessible services to those who may not access traditional models of healthcare, creating a more responsive and equitable healthcare system. The Research Shop worked with GHHN in the Summer semester of 2022 and helped them evaluate a Women's Health Days event, and they would like to continue their working relationship with us.

The Request:

The objectives for this project are twofold:

- 1) Conduct a process and outcomes evaluation of the Women's Health Days event in October 2022. The evaluation will be structured by the evaluation questions, indicators, and methods used in the previous evaluation with modifications to the approach based on recommendations from the previous research team.
- 2) Create an asset of the healthcare outreach teams to understand what each team does (i.e., the services they offer), as well as where, when, and how often they conduct outreach. Based on the asset map, create recommendations for efficiencies and communicate strategies amongst outreach teams.

Research Activities:

- 1) Women's Health Days Evaluation: volunteers will lead on the development/revision of data collection tools that will be administered at the event. Volunteers may attend the event to collect data and/or provide tools and training to staff to administer. Volunteers will interview service providers. Volunteers will compile, analyze, and report on the evaluation data and provide conclusions and recommendations based on the data.

- 2) Asset mapping: volunteers will develop and administer a standardized survey or interview to collect relevant details for the asset map.

Audience:

This research will be used by the GHHN and its partners to make service improvements and report on outcomes to their stakeholders.

Deliverable:

Plain language report with the outcome of each research activity (e.g., part 1 evaluation findings, part 2 asset map).

Timeline:

This research will occur over the Fall 2022 semester (September to December) with the Women's Health Day event occurring in October.

Community Partner Role:

The community partner will assist with project scoping where needed. They will meet with the Research Team, at minimum, once at the beginning, middle, and end of the semester, and beyond that be available by email (or some other mutually-agreed medium) to help the Team with questions or challenges they might have. Where necessary, the community partner will assist with recruiting participants for data collection and help to facilitate data collection where appropriate (e.g., with program participants).

Interest for Students:

Volunteers will be a good fit for this project if their interests include: community health interventions, asset mapping/service coordination, health equity, and program evaluation.