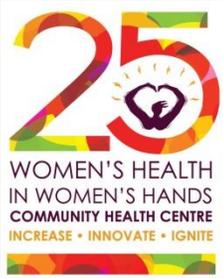


HEALTH EQUITY PROJECT PROFILE:

Women's Health In Women's Hands CHC



ABOUT THE CENTRE

Women's Health in Women's Hands is committed to working from an inclusive feminist, pro-choice, anti-racist, anti-oppression, and multilingual participatory framework in addressing the issue of access to healthcare for our mandated priority populations encompassing gender, gender identity, race, class, violence, sexual orientation, religion, culture, language, disability, immigration status and socio-economic circumstances.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

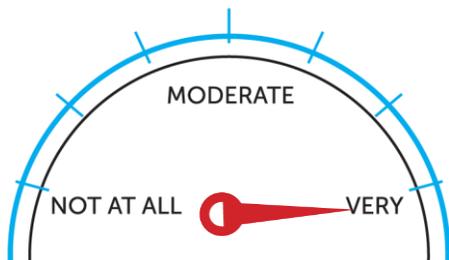
This is a profile of one of seven champion Community Health Centres of the Health Equity Project, an initiative led by Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services. The project aims to build knowledge, commitment, and capacity at the champion organizational level to routinely use a health equity framework and evidence to overcome systemic inequities in healthcare access, healthcare quality, and health outcomes. This profile was built from a survey conducted at the start of the project, and presents the baseline capacity, unique needs, and opportunities around health equity work that exist with each champion.

WHERE THE CENTRE STARTED

Our Definition of Health Equity

Equal access to primary healthcare for racialized women.

Familiarity with Health Equity



Which indicators do we collect?

WHIWH collects all mandatory and required indicators. Missing data is highest for disabilities, gender, sexual orientation, and number of persons supported by income.

Indicators

Required Indicators (must collect):

- Sex
- Gender
- Insurance status
- Spoken language
- Preferred language

Mandatory Indicators (should collect):

- Country of origin
- Date of arrival to Canada
- Disabilities
- Education
- Household composition
- Household income
- # of persons supported by income
- Racial / ethnic group
- Sexual orientation
- Type of housing

Key Facts About Women's Health In Women's Hands



1 site



3,000 active clients



41-60 staff



Strengths

- The majority of staff have received training on health equity in the past three years
- Staff and management have expert level of knowledge on health equity and social determinants of health
- The organization always considers health equity when making decisions on programs and services
- The centre has policies on human rights, anti-harassment, anti-racism, accommodation and accessibility
- The centre has a dedicated staff or other positions that promote, lead or address health equity objectives
- The current staff composition strongly reflects the populations served



Challenges

- Challenges collecting socio-demographic data due to time constraints and limited human resources
- Inability to refer to external services affects the ability to provide equitable programs and services to patients and clients, as well as a lack of funding, support and commitment to equity and access on a system and societal level
- There are currently no health equity policy and practice guidelines
- Health Equity Impact Assessment (HEIA) tool is not used for planning and evaluation purposes



What We Want To Learn

Looking for tools and training to:

- Standardize the practice of incorporating health equity indicators at all levels of organization and across the sector
- Develop policies that routinize equity frameworks for planning and evaluation of programs and services
- Train the board on how to govern as decision-makers of the organization, using a health equity lens
- Acquire more access to available tools and resources on health equity

Which Inequities Do We Discuss Often?

MOST OFTEN

Poverty, economic inequality, gender, racism, sexual orientation



LEAST OFTEN

Disabilities



Where we're headed: Our Unique Health Equity Work

We propose to work with a coach around analyze data to understand and decrease health disparities among our priority populations. We are developing a model that links all Health Equity indicators (i.e. income, ethnicity, gender, etc.) to health outcomes, specifically among clients with diabetes, to understand the key measures of success, as well as areas of action and priority. We will also develop continuous training programs for staff/primary care service providers around linking health indicators to health outcomes.

WHAT'S NEXT

At the Champion level, this work contributes to building organizational level knowledge, commitment and capacity to routinely use a health equity framework and evidence geared at overcoming systemic inequities in healthcare access, healthcare quality and health outcomes.

And beyond...

Mobilizing a community of practice within the CHC sector and across sectors (e.g. settlement) to inspire shared visions and actions for advancing health equity.

To learn more about WHIWH's equity work, contact [Sandra Godoy at sandara@whiwh.com](mailto:sandra@whiwh.com)