

The following information has been collated to provide the Northern Capacity Building Advisory Committees with updates relevant to each of the opportunities and goals developed to support capacity building across the North Region. The information included in this report is not intended to be exhaustive, as it is anticipated that additional data will be made available as the project progresses.

The information below is gathered and reported upon as per the *Progress Monitoring and Evaluation Matrix* included in the Northern Capacity Building Project overview.

### Regional Opportunities (1)

To enhance capacity and knowledge of Autism Spectrum Disorder and available service options within a First Nations Community.

#### Updates

Metric	Updates
First Nations' Participant Feedback Survey collects feedback from community Elders and caregivers (collected by facilitators), indicates enhanced knowledge and access to resources within the First Nations' Community	TBD - Community (Survey(s) to be developed in collaboration with Nishnawbe Aski Nation based on intended outcomes of training – once selected).

## Regional Opportunities (2)

To work with the Minister of Children Community and Social Services (Todd Smith), the Minister of Colleges, Training and Universities (Ross Romano), and representatives from northern colleges and universities to develop a northern strategy to attract new professionals and support existing professionals in the field.

To engage academic institutions throughout the province to inform the strategy, partner and mentor where possible.

### Updates

First meeting with Chairs scheduled for November 10. No funding attached to this goal.

Metric	Updates
Progress towards achievement of individual activities and timelines is tracked regularly using the Goal Tracking Worksheet.	TBD
Commitment from the Ministry to re-establish the Northern Grant for Professionals.	TBD – Anecdotal
Commitment from one college and/or one university to develop/deliver curriculum.	TBD – Anecdotal

### Regional Opportunities (3)

To increase accessibility to Autism services in rural or remote communities.

#### Updates

A callout to Northern Collaborative partners regarding Access Funds was sent October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Since that time, there have been two inquiries, and one approved proposal.

A total of \$130,000 is available to support providers with the following travel-related costs:

- Mileage (at \$0.54/km) – minimum of 50 km return trip
- Travel expenses such as:
  - o Car rental
  - o Fuel costs (if renting a vehicle)
  - o Airfare (e.g. for fly-in communities)
- Accommodations
- Meals (maximum of \$60/day)
- Staffing costs for travel only (i.e. costs associated with the time the staff is travelling to / from the rural community)

Metric	Updates
Remote Communities Access Funds, Data Collection and Reporting Template captures evidence to support enhanced capacity in rural or remote communities, such as: <i>Note: data reflects <b>projections</b></i>	
Number of 'new' children, youth, or families served	Creative Therapy Associates – 5
Number of direct/indirect hours of service delivery	Creative Therapy Associates – 4
Cost to deliver service in rural or remote community	Creative Therapy Associates – \$523.61 (\$129,476.39 remaining)
Describe the barriers and successes associated with travelling to remote / rural communities	TBD – Anecdotal – to be provided near end of initiative

## Regional Opportunities (4)

To establish a formal strategy to support families in the area of navigation / coordination, access to diagnostic assessments, and to create a formal linkage to connect families to parent advocates and mentors.

### Updates

Working group confirmed, first meeting in process of being scheduled.

Metric	Updates
Families report they are adequately supported in making informed decisions regarding Foundational Family Services for their child, youth, or family.	<p>Anecdotal Feedback to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Families have expressed their appreciation for receiving contact within twenty-four hours of the initial contact, and the flexibility for the review of service call to occur at a time convenient for them, including evenings.</li> <li>The Regional Family Service Coordinator has completed outreach to discuss Foundational Family Services with the Child Development and Service Coordination Team in Thunder Bay.</li> <li>The Regional Family Service Coordinator has organized a presentation for the EarlyON and Special Needs Resources teams at CCR with Michelle Bascom from Autism Ontario regarding One-Time Interim Funding.</li> </ul>
The Regional Family Service Coordinator will track calls and contacts to assess demand for services associated with role.	<p>Total contacts from families since implementation of role (September 11<sup>th</sup>): <b>211</b>            Total contacts from providers: <b>101</b></p> <p><i>Types of contacts from families (multiple topics may be discussed on same call):</i></p> <p>System Navigation (Diagnostic Hub, OAP): <b>14</b>            Foundational Services: <b>201</b>            Linkages with parent advocates: <b>37</b> (AO, Coordination, other services)            Consultative Support: <b>85</b>            Request for case coordination: <b>13</b></p>
The Regional Family Service Coordinator tracks the number of referrals to service providers from families requesting a 1-hour consult.	Total number of individual families who have expressed a need to speak with a clinician for a consultation due to multiple complex needs or a gap since the previous assessment: <b>6</b>
Referrals to relevant services or community partners indicate the Regional Family Service Coordinator has supported families with system navigation.	<p>See above:</p> <p>Requests for Case Coordination: <b>13</b>            System Navigation: <b>14</b></p>

## Regional Opportunities (5)

To work in collaboration with advisory committee members, specifically parents that are currently experiencing the lack of services and supports for their youth; and to work in collaboration with regional and provincial providers to explore service options and supports that are available to address this need.

### Updates

Participants confirmed, first of two roundtables scheduled. Round table discussions will inform the types of specialty clinics parents are interested in – goal to have 2-3 delivered before March 31, 21.

Some families have expressed to the Regional Family Service Coordinator that there is a need for services covering the following topics. A callout will be sent to Northern Collaborative partners to determine feasibility of offering one or more sessions covering:

- Support groups for families whose child has received a new diagnosis of ASD as a youth or teen
- Opportunities are required for newly diagnosed youth and teens to learn about ASD and cope with the new diagnosis

Metric	Updates
Foundational Family Services data collection indicates attendance from youth.	59 registrations to date for services tailored to youth age group: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Anxiety in Children and Youth with ASD: 4</li> <li>2. Become A Social Superhero: 1</li> <li>3. Cooking Groups: 1</li> <li>4. Daily Living Skills Workshop: 4</li> <li>5. Enhancing Independent Behaviours: 5</li> <li>6. Family Life and Sexual Health: 0</li> <li>7. Job P.R.E.P.: 4</li> <li>8. Life Transitions and Autism Spectrum Disorder: 5</li> <li>9. Mental Health 101 for Adolescents on the Spectrum: 4</li> <li>10. Mental Health Clinics for Youth with ASD: 2</li> <li>11. Mindfulness Group for Adolescents: 1</li> <li>12. Navigating Through Adolescence (Boys and Girls): 0</li> <li>13. Pre-Vocational &amp; Vocational Skills Workshop: 0</li> <li>14. Puberty Series: Live Virtual Sessions: Boys and Girls: 1</li> <li>15. Supporting Youth with Aggressive Behaviour: 10</li> <li>16. Supporting Youth with Anxiety: 9</li> <li>17. Supporting Youth with ASD: Sexual Health and Wellness: 5</li> <li>18. Teaching Your Teen About Sexuality: 0</li> <li>19. Vocational Training: 3</li> <li>20. Vocational Training - Part 2: Community Project: TBD</li> </ol>

Metric	Updates
Number of hours of service.	TBD – Data collection to commence following completion of services.
Feedback from families and youth indicates they are satisfied with the services they have received.	<p>Anecdotal Feedback to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families have communicated that they are happy with the number and variety of services offered through the Northern Collaborative.</li> <li>• Families have indicated that they like being able to choose services based on what they require within the home environment rather than on what is required for school or childcare.</li> <li>• Families have provided positive feedback regarding the quality of services received, and have expressed interest in receiving the same or similar services in the future. There has been no negative communication to date regarding a service delivered through Foundational Family Services</li> </ul>
Feedback from mental health training attendees, indicates enhanced capacity and knowledge related to mental health system navigation.	TBD – Survey to be developed once specialty clinics selected.

## Regional Opportunities (6)

To enhance the capacity of parents and caregivers in the North Region, to better support their child or youth's development and manage behaviours, as parents and caregivers are better equipped to address the needs of their child or youth.

### Updates

CCR is actively collection both a waitlist for past or full sessions, as well as feedback from families on services that were not available as part of Foundational Family Services. This information is being used to determine interest in future sessions, as well as to offer additional, new services to families.

CCR has recently launched our new homepage and programs and services filter, based on feedback from families. The goal is to make it easier for families to find the services they need.

Metric	Updates
Foundational Family Services are available and delivered to families throughout the region	16 providers across the North Region delivering 122 unique Foundational Family Services until March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2021.
Number of youth and families served.	159 unique families have registered for 472 sessions.
Number of hours.	TBD – Data collection to commence following completion of services.
Feedback from mental health training attendees, indicates enhanced capacity and knowledge related to mental health system navigation.	TBD – Survey to be developed once specialty clinics selected.
Feedback from families as indicated on Foundational Family Services Feedback Survey indicates they are satisfied with the services they have received, and that they have increased capacity to support their child or youth due to services received	TBD – Survey officially launched to all families registered for Foundational Family Services on November 12 <sup>th</sup> . All families have been emailed the survey in both French and English. The survey will be sent monthly.

## Thunder Bay and Sudbury-Manitoulin District Opportunity

To provide Capacity Building Grants to providers within the Thunder Bay and Sudbury-Manitoulin Districts, to enhance professional capacity and serve more children, youth and families with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

### Updates

Capacity-Building grants have been approved for the following providers:

- Creative Therapy Associates (\$70,800)
- Ignite Behaviour Consulting (\$57,739.66)
- Roots and Wings (\$30,000)
- Behaviour Analysis North (\$30,000)

Recruitment support being provided as requested to Ignite Behaviour Consulting to hire a staff to work in the district (targeting Manitouwadge, Terrace Bay, Marathon, Geraldton, Wawa, Loglac, Heron Bay, Schriber). Support consists of creating job advertisement and sharing amongst CCR's wide network via social media.

Metric	Updates
Capacity Building Grant Data Collection and Reporting Template captures evidence to support enhanced capacity, such as:	
<i>Note: data reflects <b>projections</b></i>	
Number of newly trained staff	Creative Therapy Associates – 3 staff Ignite Behaviour Consulting – 3 staff (1 'district' + 1 BCBA initial coursework) Behaviour Analysis North – 2 staff
Number of direct training hours	Creative Therapy Associates – 254.5 hours Ignite Behaviour Consulting – TBD Behaviour Analysis North – 80 hours
Number of 'new' children, youth, or families served	Creative Therapy Associates – 9 children Ignite Behaviour Consulting – multiple children (TBD) Behaviour Analysis North – 3 children Roots and Wings – 6 to 10 children
Number of direct/indirect hours of service delivery	Creative Therapy Associates – 750 hours Ignite Behaviour Consulting – 360 hours Behaviour Analysis North – 546 hours Roots and Wings – 550 hours
Number of hours of supervision	Creative Therapy Associates – 113 hours Behaviour Analysis North – 26.45 hours Roots and Wings – 145 hours



### Kenora-Rainy River District Opportunity

To establish a formal strategy to enhance the existing respite program at a local service provider and to support the recruitment, training, deployment, and retention of respite workers. Special attention will be dedicated to supporting families in rural and remote areas.

#### Updates

A purchase of service agreement was formed with FIREFLY, which outlines the responsibilities and data collection requirements associated with this goal and funding (\$130,000).

Metric	Updates
Needs assessment conducted to identify key areas of improvement for Respite Services.	TBD
Plan of Action to address key areas of improvement.	TBD
Evidence to support enhancement of recruitment model (e.g. use of social networks).	TBD
Type, description and implementation plan for free, quality training opportunities, and subsequent number of trainings provided, individuals trained, and overall satisfaction of training.	TBD - Survey to be developed / distributed based on intended outcomes of training – once identified / selected.
Strategy implemented to address service gaps in remote or rural communities and subsequent number of additional families served due to strategy.	TBD
Evidence to support enhancement of virtual respite services.	TBD
Strategy design and implementation plan to support future professional development opportunities.	TBD

## Algoma District Opportunity

To enhance and support system-wide capacity of providers in the Algoma District to support children, youth, and families with Autism Spectrum Disorder. **Strategy to be piloted with Respite Services prior to broader system-wide capacity building.**

### Updates

A purchase of service agreement was formed with THRIVE Child Development Centre, which outlines the responsibilities and data collection requirements associated with this goal and funding (\$130,000).

Metric	Updates
Needs assessment conducted to identify key areas of improvement for Respite Services.	TBD
Plan of Action to address key areas of improvement.	TBD
Evidence to support enhancement of recruitment model (e.g. use of social networks).	TBD
Type, description and implementation plan for free, quality training opportunities, and subsequent number of trainings provided, individuals trained, and overall satisfaction of training.	TBD - Survey to be developed / distributed based on intended outcomes of training – once identified / selected.
Strategy implemented to address service gaps in remote or rural communities and subsequent number of additional families served due to strategy.	TBD
Evidence to support enhancement of virtual respite services.	TBD
Strategy design and implementation plan to support future professional development opportunities.	TBD