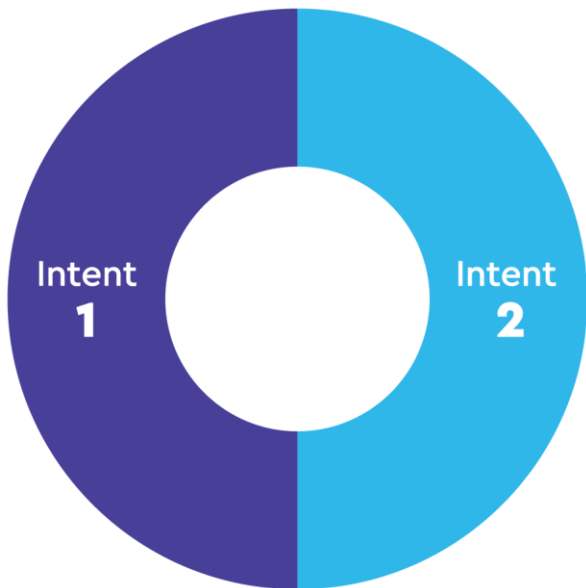


COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Matthew – Recommendation 7

Recommendation Summary: Publicly Release a framework for child and youth mental health and addictions health system transformation.

Primary Public Body: Manitoba Mental Health and Community Wellness



Intent 1.

Develop a consultation strategy that will inform the development of a mental health and addictions framework.

Intent 2.

Publicly release the consultation strategy, and subsequently, the mental health and addictions framework, detailing the plan for transforming the youth mental health and addictions system.

COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

50%

Partially Compliant

Recommendation Compliance Summary



This form details the assessment of compliance with recommendations made under Section 27 and Section 31 of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*. MACY assesses recommendations for compliance once a year but receives updates from the public bodies every six months.

| 1. Recommendation Information | |
|---|--|
| Report Name: | The Slow Disappearance of Matthew: A Family's Fight for Youth Mental Health Care in the Wake of Bullying and Mental Illness |
| Date Released: | 2/27/2020 |
| Full Recommendation: (including details) | Recommendation Seven: A transparent framework for child and youth mental health and addictions health system transformation. The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that in a commitment to transparency and accountability, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living publicly release its framework and plan for transforming the youth mental health and addictions system in Manitoba so recent and anticipated investments and announcements can be understood by Manitobans not as one-off announcements, but as part of an overall tiered strategy for improving access, coordination, content, and capacity of the child and youth health care system in the province. |
| Intent(s) of Recommendation: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a consultation strategy that will inform the development of a mental health and addictions framework. 2. Publicly release the consultation strategy, and subsequently, the mental health and addictions framework, detailing the plan for transforming the youth mental health and addictions system. |
| Issue: | Mental Health and Addictions |
| Public Body | Manitoba Mental Health and Community Wellness |
| Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body: | September 6, 2023 |
| | July 21, 2023 |
| | June 30, 2022 |
| | July 13, 2021 |
| 2. Compliance Determination | |
| Partially Compliant 0.50 | Actions taken only implement part of the recommendation. Important requirements have been met and the recommendation is acted upon, however, deficiencies remain. |
| Self-Assessment | Partially Compliant |
| Previous Compliance Determination | Partially Compliant |
| 3. Rationale for Determination | |
| <i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i> | |
| | |

Intent 1: Develop a consultation strategy that will inform the development of a mental health and addictions framework.

2023

- Mental Health referred to the broad consultations it undertook to inform the five year "Roadmap for Manitoba", and explained that this represents a framework for all Manitobans, including children and youth.
- No new steps have been taken towards fulfilling this intent.
- Previous analysis by MACY relating to the ambiguity around how the Roadmap will transform the youth mental health and addictions system and improve access, coordination, content, and capacity of the child and youth health care system in Manitoba remain relevant.
- Mental Health presumably recognized this issue and reported that an alternate solution is currently being explored.

2022

- In response to our request for more information, Manitoba Mental Health provided a list of focus groups, interviews, and tours that were held as part of the consultation for the development of the roadmap.
- The list included a wide range of stakeholders: 12% identified as Indigenous and one of the focus groups was a Children and Youth Focus Group representing approximately 2% of the total number of focus groups.
- It is necessary to note that this consultation was for the roadmap, and not a youth-specific mental health and addictions framework.

2021

- According to Manitoba Health and Seniors Care (MHSC), discussions and planning are underway with national leaders regarding the development of a child and youth Needs Based Planning (NBP) framework.
- The new Department of Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery is currently preparing to undertake broad consultation to develop an integrated, whole-of-government action plan for mental health, substance use, wellness, and health promotion services in Manitoba. The consultation and development of an action plan indicate that early actions are being taken to develop a plan to ensure a continuum of services for children and youth who are at imminent risk due to life-threatening addictions.
- MHWR is leading an engagement process, including a series of consultations, to inform an integrated, whole of government five-year roadmap. MACY participated in the recent consultation for the MHWR Departmental Roadmap held on August 23, 2021. MHWR's engagement process will guide the work of the department, and is aligned with the department's mission to provide access to mental health and addictions support and treatment to improve the life outcomes for Manitobans in

their journey through recovery and healing. This will include services and systems for children and youth.

Intent 2: Publicly release the consultation strategy, and subsequently, the mental health and addictions framework, detailing the plan for transforming the youth mental health and addictions system.

2023

- Mental Health reported that Optimus SBR has been contracted to oversee the Roadmap process and assessment. They have ongoing reporting duties to leadership on Roadmap initiatives.
- No new steps have been taken towards fulfilling this intent.

2022

- Manitoba Mental Health reported the release of A Path to Mental Health and Community Wellness: A Roadmap for Manitoba along with a \$17 million investment to support the plan.
- While this roadmap is helpful in defining the overall framework for mental health services in Manitoba, it does not contain any specific or detailed plan designed for youth mental health and addiction. It is unclear how this general framework will transform the youth mental health and addictions system and improve access, coordination, content, and capacity of the child and youth health care system in Manitoba.

2021

- The Department of Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery reported that consultations will be concluded by the end of 2021 and that a plan is expected to be implemented in 2022-23. No information was provided as to whether this plan will be public.

Analysis Summary: While the Roadmap signifies an important step in the right direction, it continues to fall short of meeting the spirit and intents of this recommendation. Compliance with this recommendation requires the collaborative development of a transparent framework and plan for transforming the mental health and addictions system that is specific to children and youth, because they have distinct needs and rights. Until concrete steps are taken in this regard, or until an adequate alternate solution is identified, this recommendation will remain Partially Compliant.