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Health foundation has plans for \$10,000

Provided by DiscoveryAirdrie.com, by Keith Leask, Sunday July 22, 2018

One of the reasons the 100 Men Who Give A Damn in Airdrie gave for awarding \$10,000 to the Airdrie Health Foundation (AHF) at their meeting last week was the

fact the Foundation had a clear vision of how to use the money.

In fact, according to AHF Board Chair and Founder Michelle Bates, they know exactly where the funds are going.

"The money is going to be used for one of the programs we're funding and that's the Alberta Health Services / RCMP Mental Health Liaison Team. That is a team of RCMP officers and Health Nurse Clinicians that will form a team and when there's a 9-1-1 call and there's a mental health component to that call, that team will be dispatched."

Right now, Bates says, if the RCMP receive that type of call, an officer must decide on what to do with the person, whether they're taken to jail, to the hospital or are sent home without receiving a lot of help. The team will be able to go to the call and follow up, not only helping the person in need but also assisting the family with a situation that's ongoing.

Bates says a similar program is accomplishing great things in Grande Prairie. "They've been able to de-escalate about 60 percent of the situations that they respond to so that's huge, it's immense,"

The RCMP and the Airdrie office of Mental Health are seeing a growing number of calls. Last fall alone, Airdrie Mental Health received 507 calls. The RCMP also report an increase in mental health-related calls, climbing from 306 to a staggering 444 in the last year. Tragically, eight of those calls include suspected or confirmed suicides. A suspected suicide is one where no note is left behind.

Bates explains that even on their downtime, the AHS/RCMP Mental Health Team can go through 9-1-1 calls and see if there is a pattern that's developing.

"One of our doctors gave an example. They had a patient that, unknowing to them, had called the RCMP 15 times in a matter of a couple of months worried that someone was following them or coming down the back alley to do harm to them. They just kept making those calls. This team can go through and see if there's a pattern and then they can reach out to these people and get them the resources needed too. So that will save on the RCMP and it will save on our mental health

clinics as well. It's huge that we're funding this and the RCMP and the City of Airdrie are taking action to help with this program as well."

AHF has committed to raising \$120,000 for the program over two years. Bates says receiving the \$10,000 now allows them to work with Alberta Health Services and get the Nurse Clinician part of the program up and running, something she hopes to have done by September.

To raise more money for the Mental Health Program as well as a program called Pregnancy and Beyond, AHF is hosting their 5th Annual Light Up The Night Gala at Genesis Place on September 29th. The evening is a black-tie affair with a sit-down meal and cirque aerialist performers. Bates says they've set a goal of raising \$160,000 for the two programs. AHF is also looking for monthly or one time donors and silent auction items for the gala.

Tickets to the Light Up The Night Gala are on sale now for \$150 each. They're available on the Foundation's website.

AHF acts as a champion for enhancing essential health care initiatives in Airdrie. They were integral in helping to get 24-Hour Urgent Health Care for the city in 2017.

Highland PCN staffing changes

We would like to welcome Serena Shane to the Highland PCN team as our new Communications Specialist.

Serena comes with several years of experience in media, communications, and community engagement. She has worked in a variety of positions with the City of Calgary, Global Television and the Calgary Real Estate Board, to name a few. She is a communications generalist with experience in media relations, writing, graphic design and marketing (I'm sure I am missing something!).

We look forward to welcoming Serena to our team.

We would also like to thank Cory Leyte for all of his hard work since 2013. Cory was Highland PCN's first communications professional and has been a valuable member of our leadership team. We wish Cory all the best in his new adventure as he moves to Saskatoon for family.

Respiratory Shared Care Project

Submitted by Cathy Good, Study Manager of the Respiratory Shared Care Project

What is the project about?

Can respiratory patients be referred to a specialist who will see them in their family practice office? Help us determine if a Shared Care Model - having a respirologist come to your practice - improves the health care experience for patients, family practice physicians, and specialists.

We need your help!

Would you like to be part of this innovative new way to share care between family practice and respirologists? We are now in the pilot phase and are arranging for family practice physicians and respiratory specialists to trial this Shared Care Model in a few primary care clinics.

Get involved!

Pilot the Respiratory Shared Care Project in your family practice:

1. Book respiratory specialists into your clinic between April-September 2018
2. Participate in an end-of-day case conference with a respiratory specialist and bill for your time (~\$200)
3. Provide your feedback in regards to the respiratory shared care project through interviews and surveys

We will:

1. Provide a CRE for the clinic day

2. Cover your overhead costs (\$200)
3. Provide lunch during an educational CME with the topic of your choice

If you have questions or would like to participate, please contact:
Cathy Good, Study Manager, (403) 244-4998 | cathy@goodinnovations.ca

Matthew Mancuso, Study Coordinator, (403) 210-7453 |
matthew.mancuso@ucalgary.ca

Research study opportunity

Physician and clinical health team members who have experience/interest in caring for adolescents/young adults with chronic conditions, please take a look at this research opportunity.

[Click here](#) to view the recruitment poster

[Click here](#) to view our progress of work to date

To learn more about this research study please contact Dr. Kyleigh Schraeder (Postdoctoral Fellow) by email at kyleigh.schraeder@ucalgary.ca or Dr. Gina Dimitropoulos (PI) by phone at 403-220-7332.

Department of Family Medicine

[Click here](#) to view the latest newsletter from the Department of Family Medicine.

Additional Resources

PCN resources for physicians

We have created this section in our bi-weekly Thursday newsletter and on our website under hpcn.ca/resources for physician members as a tool to access frequently used Highland PCN forms.

[Health Improvement Program \(HIP\) - Online Referral Form](#)

[Health Improvement Program \(HIP\) - Print Referral Form](#)

[Chronic Pain Referral Form](#)

[Physician Service Invoice](#)

Connect with us

Feedback regarding our Thursday newsletter can be directed to our communications team at communication@hpcn.ca.



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