

Youth Addiction Service Suite of Services

Youth Addiction Services (YAS) offers a wide array of services to Calgary and the surrounding areas that range from providing information, to non-voluntary inpatient client care. For decades, YAS has prided itself on being responsive to the needs of the community as they fall along this continuum. As a result, the work of the unit is complex and diverse. Our clinical services work with high risk, high needs clients, (age 12 – 17), and their families, who are often involved in multiple systems requiring collaborative and coordinated care. Our community based teams work in settings where they not only provide clinical care to clients, but also support partnered agencies to become more informed in their approach to addiction treatment and prevention. The health promotion team at YAS works with community agencies and stakeholders to build capacity to recognize issues that place families at risk, encourage mental wellness, and prevent and respond to substance abuse. This work is directed by an ongoing assessment of emerging issues and a desire to be responsive to the needs of the larger community.

Complexity

- The range of services provided by YAS is diverse and complex. The primary complexity arises from the need to be responsive to the needs of communities and families on many different levels. Issues such as video gaming, social media, bullying, and shifting social beliefs regarding marijuana all highlight the need for services to evolve and be responsive in an evidence based manner to the treatment and prevention needs of the community.
- YAS delivers an extensive scope of services to a number of target populations, each with a significant range of needs. Services are offered to communities, professionals, and clients who present very complex and concurrent issues. In contrast to most CAAMHP services, YAS extends an interwoven continuum of prevention and treatment services through a menu of seven programs.
- YAS builds and maintains relationships by engaging with various partners and stakeholders who may have unique agendas and working cultures.
- Working with youth necessitates working collaboratively with all collaterals involved with the youth, including parents, teachers, social workers, probation officers, physicians, and other professionals.
- Working within contractual relationships requires sensitivity and tact ensuring the needs of the contracted agency are met while the integrity of programs are maintained.

Core Programs

1. **Out Patient Youth and Family Counselling**

Provides screening, information, assessment, counselling, aftercare and referral services for adolescents and their families. Parents or significant adults are encouraged to accompany their adolescent. Schools, agencies or other professionals can also make referrals and may accompany the youth to assist in engagement and treatment planning. Walk in intake Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 am to 10:00 am.

2. **Day Treatment Program**

The ACTION Program provides individual, group and family counselling, a therapeutic recreation program, and an onsite school. This six to twelve week program can be modified to suit individual client needs based on the results of assessment.

3. **Wilderness Residential Program**

This three month program, located at Ghost River Valley two hours from Calgary, provides youth with an experiential approach to addiction treatment. The Wilderness program provides a comprehensive treatment experience including individual, group and family counselling, wilderness tripping and an onsite school program. Aftercare support is provided. This program is contracted with Enviros.

4. **Youth Detoxification and Stabilization Program**

This 10 day program focuses on supporting safe withdrawal from drugs or alcohol, client engagement and introduction to intensive treatment. Family is involved in the treatment process and transition planning. Youth Detoxification and Stabilization is contracted with Hull Child and Family Services.

5. **Community Health Promotion Services**

This team works with youth, parents and other significant adults, educators and schools, health professionals, agencies, and any interested stakeholders in the community. They support and promote approaches and strategies that increase protective factors and reduce those risk factors associated with alcohol, other drug use and problem gambling in youth and families. Consultation is provided to any agency or organization concerned with the health of youth and families.

6. **Partnerships Team (Mobile Team)**

The Partnerships Team provides information, prevention, consultation, and treatment services in various community sites:

- William Taylor Learning Centre
- Ave 15
- Secure Services (Hull)
- Discovering Choices
- Youth Assessment Team – Child and Family Services
- Fresh Start, CSSD Outreach School
- Foothills Hospital (FMC): Unit 23 & Unit 26 (YAP)

- Alberta Children’s Hospital (ACH) – MH Unit
- South Calgary Health Centre (SCHC)
- East Calgary Health Centre (EHC)
- Junior & Senior High School sites in proximity to SCHC and EHC
- Youth Probation Offices: Centre 89 & Bowness
- Calgary Youth Attendance Centre
- Calgary Young Offender Centre
- Excel Discovery Treatment Program
- The ALEX
- Exit Youth Shelter

7. Protection of Children Abusing Drugs program (PChAD)

PChAD is a 10-day, involuntary, parent initiated program for youth who are abusing alcohol and/or other drugs and would benefit from detoxification and assessment in a protective setting. Youth in this program receive a detailed addiction assessment and family is actively involved. Admission to this program is available through the Provincial Court of Alberta. PChAD is contracted with Hull Child and Family Services - 2266 Woodpark Avenue SW

Weekly Evening Group Programming:

- Parent Skill Shop Group
- EPIC Parent Group
- Youth Aftercare Support Group

Collaborative Partnerships:

- Calgary Child and Family Services
- Calgary Police Services
- Calgary Young Offender Center
- City of Calgary Probation
- Calgary Board of Education, Calgary Catholic School District, Rockyview School District
- AHS Child and Adolescent Addiction and Mental Health Programs
- AHS Community Health Nurses
- AHS Foothills Addiction Center
- Various Community Agencies

Youth Addiction Services
1005 17th St. NW Calgary
403 297 4664