

# SUPPORTING YOUTH TRANSITIONS

## RESPECTING DIGNITY, FULFILLING DREAMS

Since the inception of the Integrated Transitional Planning Protocol in 2013, developmental service agencies in Ontario have been supporting 'Crown Ward' youth with dual diagnoses of both developmental and mental health disabilities as they transition to Adult Developmental Services. Developmental service agencies have identified a number of barriers to the human rights and self-determination of these youth.

**We recommend seven strategies to effectively support this unique population of youth.**

### The Problem

Late transition planning causes youth to fall through the cracks in the system.



### 1 Early Transition Planning

Begin transition planning before youth reach age 14 and include Adult Developmental Services in the development of the Transition Plan.



### The Problem

Fragmentation of community and health services and supports puts youth at further risk.



### 2 Collaborative Community Teams

Ensure consistent and effective support within collaborative multi-sector community teams.



### The Problem

The Support Intensity Scale® assessment does not fully consider the realities of transition-aged youth.



### 3 Increase Resources to Support Youth

Increase the resources allocated to support 'Crown Ward' youth with a dual diagnosis, based on a revised Support Intensity Scale® assessment.



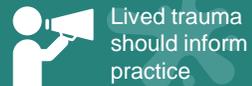
### The Problem

For youth, reconnecting with family may lead to re-traumatization.



### 4 Mandate Trauma-Informed Practice

Mandate and ensure trauma-informed practice across all Adult Developmental Services.



### The Problem

Current policies and funding models inadequately resource Adult Developmental Services to support the goals and dreams of youth.



### 5 Evaluate, Mitigate, Implement

Evaluate the impacts and effectiveness of the Integrated Transition Planning Protocol, mitigate negative consequences and implement changes.



### 6 Conduct Further Research

Resource Community Living to conduct a province-wide Phase 2 of this pilot research and become a learning organization.



### 7 Individualized Services

Ensure individualized Adult Development Services that recognize and address the complex realities of youth.

