

— VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM —

Responding to Complex Needs among Children & Youth in Ontario:
Catalyzing System Solutions

Date: October 18th, 2024, 10am-12pm EST

Location: Online via Zoom (link to be provided upon registration)

Registration: Please [register in advance online](#)

The Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development Policy Bench invites you to join a **solutions-oriented, online panel discussion** around the need to **transform system responses to children and youth with complex behavioural and mental health needs** that intersect multiple service sectors.



This symposium will bring together experts from the domains of child welfare, health and medicine, and education to offer different perspectives on the issue of how systems can better respond to complex needs through an integrated approach. Panelists will present the latest evidence and observations on the challenges experienced by children and families with multiple complex needs in Ontario as well as findings from promising clinical, provincial, and community-based programs that aim to provide support to this population.

Panelists will explore:

- Understanding complex behavioural and mental health needs and the current context in Ontario
- Existing models, programs and approaches to address complex needs
- Evidence around remaining gaps and barriers to accessing needed services
- Opportunities to better support children and families through coordinated system level responses

Speakers:

1. **Amber Crowe** - Executive Director at Dnaagdawenmag Binnoojiiyag Child & Family Services
2. **Joelene Huber & Nicole Staples-Dorey** - ABILITY Program; The Hospital for Sick Children
3. **Kathryn Decker & Irene Drmic** - Extensive Needs Service; Holland Bloorview, McMaster Children's Hospital & Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO)
4. **Deanna Swift & Heather Carter** - School Mental Health Ontario

Moderator: Jama Maxie - Clinical psychology graduate student and lived experience expert

Questions?

Please contact Genevieve Sansone (genevieve.sansone@sickkids.ca) for any inquiries.