

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

Karen Petticrew
Research Coordinator
Mach-Gaensslen Foundation of Canada

RE: 2012 Report - Mach Gaensslen Foundation Grants – CHEO

Development and Evaluation of a Brief Group Intervention for Youth Presenting to the ED with Mild to Moderate Suicidal Ideation

Dear Ms. Petticrew,

Mental Health Research at CHEO is grateful for the financial support provided by the Mach-Gaensslen Foundation and is pleased to provide you with a summary of our progress so far.

Activities for the Grant Period September 2012 to October 2012:

- Hired a research assistant.

A part-time research assistant provides stable infrastructure and support to help compile and organize the literature review, co-ordinate interested collaborators, and write applications for additional sources of funding.

- Conducted a literature review.

A review of evidence-based treatments for adolescents with suicidal ideation was conducted and is nearing completion. An in depth knowledge of the risk factors associated with suicidality, as well as current effective and ineffective treatments will allow our team to design the best possible intervention.

- Initiated funding application.

Additional funding is being pursued from the AHSC AFP Innovation Fund. This funding source provides support to innovative projects. Given the novel format of delivery, population being serviced and short timeline we feel we will be able to put forth a strong application for this competition.

Future Initiatives:

- Conduct a focus group with interested clinicians, social workers, and managerial staff.

Input from these three groups will be instrumental in the design of an excellent intervention. By incorporating input from multiple disciplines our intervention will not only be effective and evidence-based, but hopefully will be easily integrated into the existing healthcare dynamic.

- Manualize treatment for standard and scientifically rigorous application.

- Implement & analyze pilot study.

We have found the support of the Mach-Gaensslen Foundation to be invaluable. We look forward to sharing the results of our innovative intervention with you in the future.

Sincerely,

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Mental Health PSU

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