

Overview of the Benefits of Community-Based, Wraparound, Multi-service Programs Webinar

September 17, 2020 11am PT

The learning objectives for this webinar were:

1. Present research findings from the Co-Creating Evidence Project, a national evaluation of multi-service community-based programs
2. Illustrate the ways in which wraparound, multi-service, community programs are structured and funded to support women with substance use and interrelated concerns
3. Describe aspects of wraparound, multi-service community programs that have been found to best support women with substance use and interrelated concerns
4. Share how the voices of women with lived and living experience have been central to the Co-Creating Evidence Project's findings

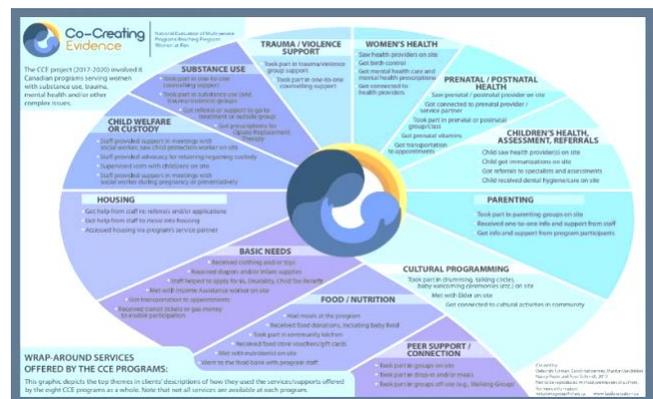
Background:

Deb Rutman, Carol Hubberstey, and Marilyn Van Bibber ([Nota Bene Consulting](#)) and Nancy Poole ([Centre of Excellence for Women's Health](#)) are co-leading the Co-Creating Evidence Project, a national evaluation of eight holistic, multi-service programs with FASD prevention and related goals. The evaluation seeks to identify promising approaches, evaluate the efficacy of multi-service programs serving women with substance use and complex health and social concerns, and identify characteristics that make these programs successful.

What was covered in this webinar:

The presenters described how the eight multiservice programs all employ non-judgmental, relational, women-centered, harm reduction oriented, culturally grounded, trauma-informed, and kindness/compassion-oriented approaches. Within programs, these approaches have been integrated in different ways, and services are offered in various combinations, to meet the needs of women and their children in each locale (pictured right).

The common approaches and the range of wraparound service offerings have resulted in: increased trust and safety, improved access to health and social services, increased self-confidence and esteem, increased mother-child connections, and women keeping their children in care - as well as reduction in substance use.



The panelists, Deborah Klassen and Geri Pauls ([Karis Support Society](#)) and Denise Penazola ([Maxxine Wright Community Health Centre](#)) offered how these approaches have been integrated into their programs and emphasized the need for expanded action to address service gaps, long-term and sustainable funding, and offer support to women's increasingly complex needs.