

AN EVALUATION OF THE CENTRAL EAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE EVENT

The Central East Dual Diagnosis Education Committee has hosted an annual education conference for Central East Region of the Community Network of Specialized Care (CNSC) since 2010. The purpose of this evaluation was to explore the outcomes that were achieved by those that attended one or more of the conferences in the past four years (since 2013). This poster summarizes the results of the evaluation, using information from the end-of-conference evaluations (n=384), a follow-up survey (n=35), and phone interviews (n=8). The four conferences included in this evaluation were:

2013 **THE SOCIAL INCLUSION REVOLUTION**



2014 **THE ROAD TO RESILIENCE**



2015 **ME, MYSELF, AND US**



2016 **MOVING THROUGH THE LAYERS OF LOSS**



STRENGTHS

1 CONTENT
(focusing on themes that are innovative, practical, and relevant)

2 SPEAKERS
(choosing people who are engaging, knowledgeable, and willing to share personal experiences)

3 FORMAT
(a mix of presentations, interactive activities, and multi-media content)

4 ACCESS
(affordable and convenient rotating venues)

5 RESOURCES
(take-home packages that can be shared widely)

EVALUATION OUTCOMES



**NEW
KNOWLEDGE**



**CHANGED
ATTITUDES**



**NEW
SKILLS**



**INCREASED ACCESS TO
RESOURCES AND OTHER
PROFESSIONALS**



**FEELING INSPIRED
TO ACT**

RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE CONFERENCE

While participants spoke very positively about all four conferences, they also provided a few suggestions on how to improve them. Below are the ten recommendations that they provided.

CONFERENCE SET-UP
-Be mindful of venue choices
-Consider lowering participant numbers

CONTENT
-Continue to utilize an interactive, sharing-based format
-Ensure all content relates back to the main theme of the conference
-Continue to consult with network members to determine future content
-Consider making the conference longer

SPEAKERS
-Continue to recruit speakers that committee members have heard

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
-Provide more opportunities to meet other professionals in the field

RECRUITMENT
-Develop posters that clearly articulate conference themes and objectives
-Consider ways to recruit people who have not previously attended