



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
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Canada 

Preventing and Addressing Family Violence: The Health Perspective

Highlights from the 2022-23 annual reports

Prepared by:

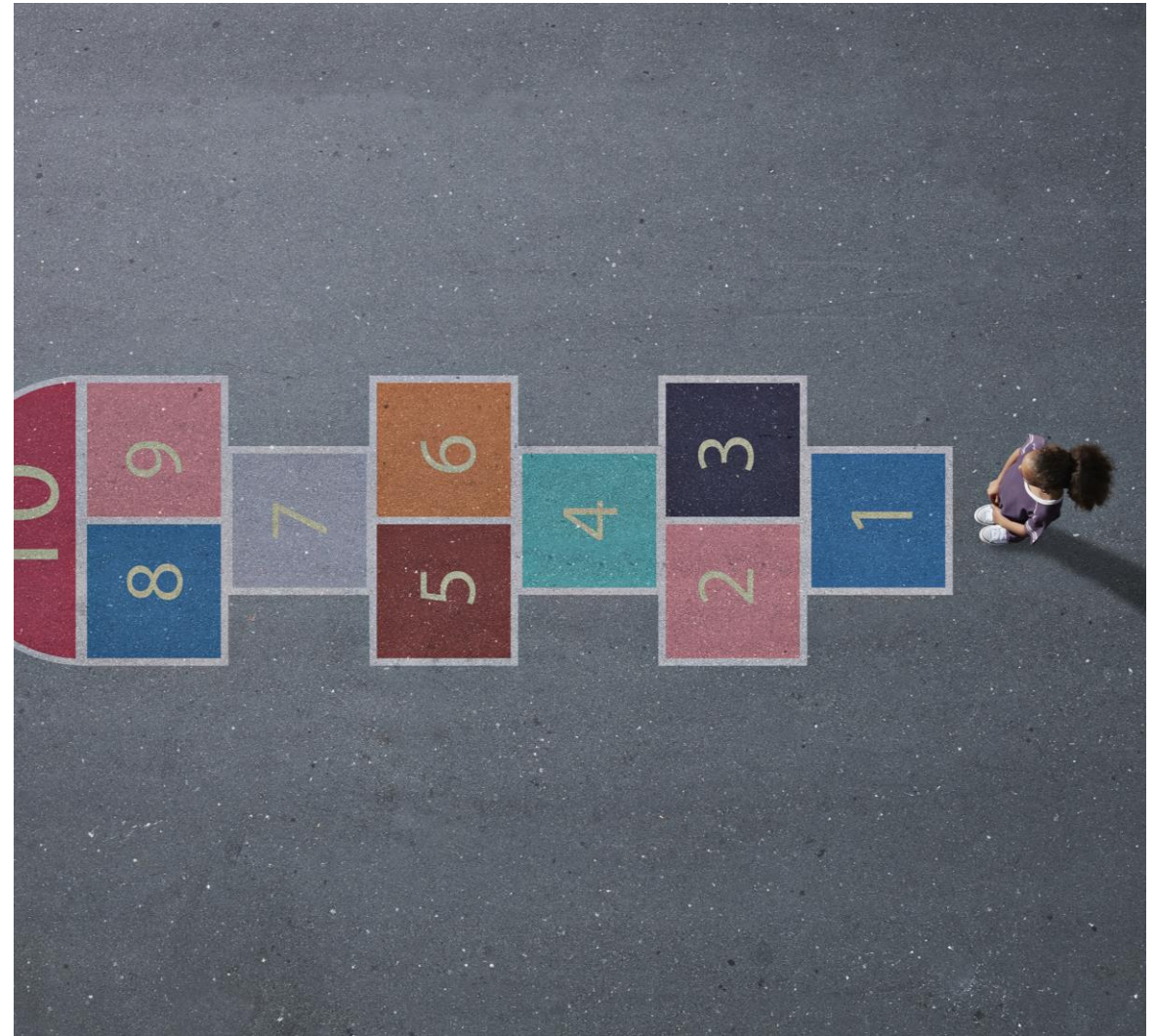
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Presentation outline

- Background
- Overview & quantitative data
- The first year: Cross-cutting themes
- Preliminary learnings
- Looking forward
- Discussion period



Preventing and Addressing Family Violence: The Health Perspective

This investment supports diverse projects, with the aim to **building the evidence base** and increase the uptake of **health promotion interventions** that are effective in preventing and addressing family violence and supporting survivors.

- Investment was initially launched in 2015
- First set of projects 2015-2022 (with some exceptions)
- Second set of projects 2022-2026

To build the evidence base, projects are integrating intervention research to measure changes in knowledge, skills, wellbeing, behaviours, and health outcomes.

In 2022-23, PHAC was supporting 33 projects addressing the mental and physical health of those who have experienced, are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing violence.

- 24 of these projects are members of this community of practice, of which 23 submitted an annual report in 2022-23.

Community of Practice - Projects overview

- **23 active intervention research projects** (2022-23) designed to prevent and address family violence & its health impacts
 - » Note: Intervention research projects can include capacity-building components
- Projects focus on a variety of family violence issues, including **child maltreatment, intimate partner violence, and elder abuse.**
 - Some projects focus on prevention (primary, secondary); others on supporting survivors of family violence.
- **Underserved and/or marginalized populations** reached by projects: immigrants/newcomers, older adults, 2SLGBTQIA+ youth, and Indigenous populations.

Why do we collect performance information?

Government-wide reporting to Canadians

- Information from your reports is rolled up into Department-wide and government-wide reporting (e.g. [PHAC's Departmental Results Report](#))
- These reports demonstrate to Parliament and to Canadians how public funds are being used
- They indicate how and whether PHAC is advancing its mandate

This is the reason we ask you to report quantitative data

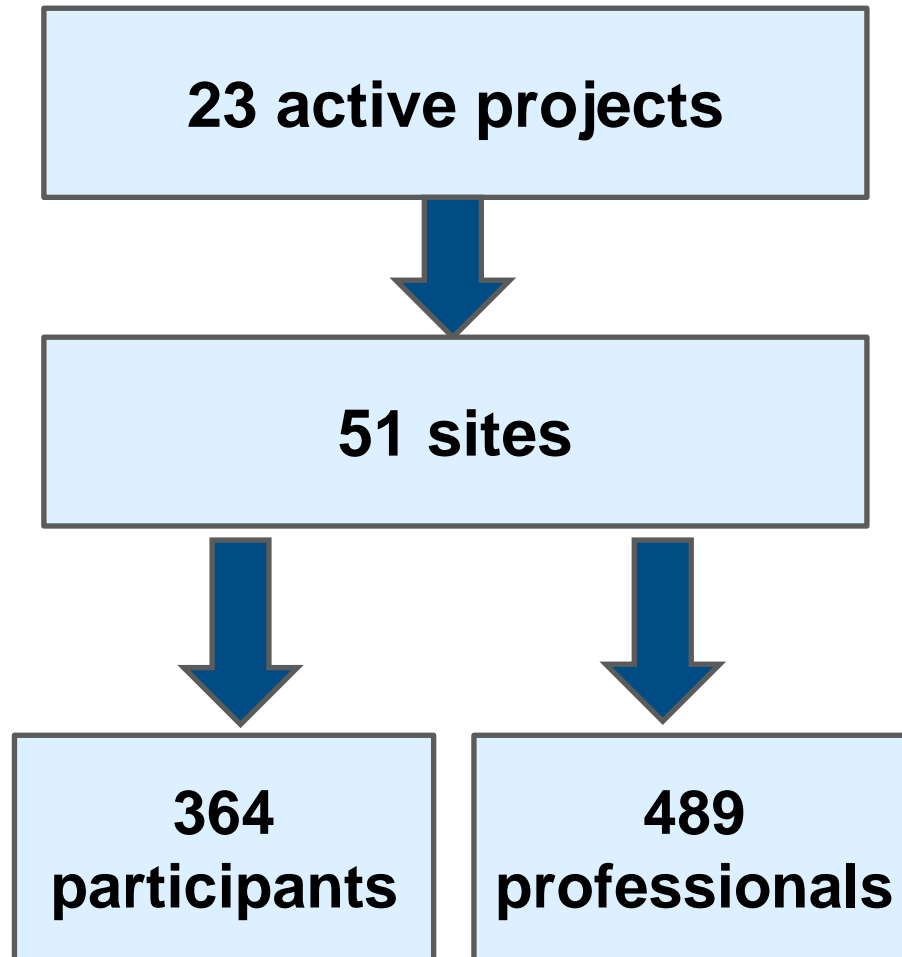
Department/Program Management

- Your reports help us identify issues with program design, and learn from effective practices
- They allow us to respond to concerns and lessons learned at the individual project level
- They help us communicate the value, importance, and impact of the investment

This is the reason we ask you to tell us about challenges, successes, stories and things you are learning

Quantitative data

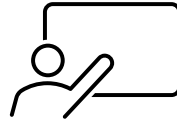
Direct reach (2022-23)



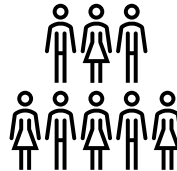
Knowledge mobilization



59 new knowledge products (KP)



31 new knowledge events (E)



8,534 total reach of KPE



The first year: Cross-cutting themes

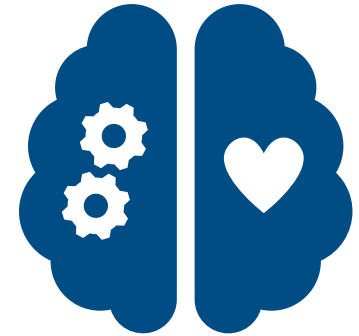
Importance of relationships

- Relationships cited as key to success
 - with collaborators & collaborating organizations
 - between facilitators and participants
 - between participants themselves
- Relationships take time to build; “go slow to go far”
- Honoring relationships can mean diverging from plan, adapting to priorities of others
- Relationships get disrupted all the time
- How to proceed when different collaborators disagree or work differently?



Integrating issues

- Several projects integrating issues and approaches
 - addressing both violence and substance use
 - engaging families rather than individuals
 - combining traditional approaches with technology
- Perceived as having transformative potential
- High participant appreciation
- Challenges:
 - literature & best practices tend to divide up issues
 - not always easy to "find a home" for findings
 - can require diverse sets of skills, making hiring more complex

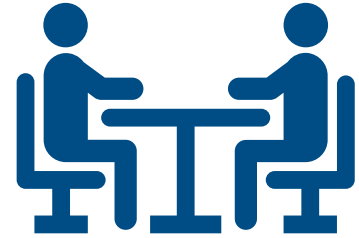


Top challenges



Reconciliation

- Projects report various types of actions to advance reconciliation, including:
 - Ensuring staff takes appropriate trainings
 - Establishing formal or informal advisory roles
 - Mentorship with similar organizations that integrate Indigenous practices
 - Adapting program content and delivery, including language



Inclusion, accessibility, and anti-racism

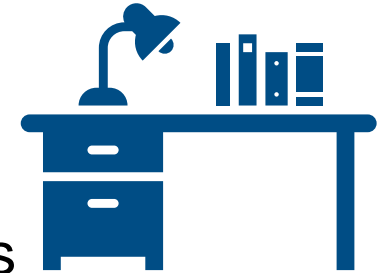
- Many projects are working with diverse communities, individuals and families. Efforts are deployed to ensure programming is safe and accessible.
- Examples include:
 - Ensuring diversity within project leadership and staff
 - Selecting facilitators to ensure a good fit in terms of relevant experience, linguistic and cultural competencies
 - Creating designated spaces for certain groups to promote open discussions and safety
 - Drawing on external support (organizations, consultants) to review practices and materials
 - Taking into account the needs of neurodivergent children when offering interventions and services to families



Preliminary research findings

Promising early findings

- First year of funding, no expectations of results yet
- Some preliminary learnings from the early stages of the intervention:
 - Hiring a liaison officer to ensure that all intervention sites implement programming faithfully, including research components
 - Receiving both positive & constructive feedback, informally and through evaluations – from both participants and partner organizations
 - Incorporating mixed results from previous evaluations into new adaptation
 - Using creative strategies to work with more "dominant" groups
 - Reporting pre/post improvement in validated scales with initial cohorts



Looking forward

Mandatory indicators: A refresher

Participants



% participants reporting changes in knowledge and/or skills



% participants reporting changes in behaviour



% participants reporting improved health outcomes

Professionals



% of professionals/service providers report satisfaction with the training/resources/ supports



% professionals/service providers reporting changes in knowledge and/or skills



% professionals/service providers reporting changes in behaviour

Tips for annual reports

- SGBA+ table
- Knowledge Mobilization
 - What do we mean by knowledge products and events?
 - Why do we ask projects to report on reach?
- Indicators
 - Numerator **and** Denominator
 - Single measure – you get to decide!
 - Description of measure in the follow-up question
- Readability
 - Don't hesitate to use light formatting (paragraphs, bullet points)
 - Quotes from participants always welcome!



Conclusion and discussion

- Do you have questions for us?
- Are there ways this presentation missed some key progress and successes?
- Could the annual report better capture some of your project's achievements and learnings?
- Do you want to share impressions of your first annual report?

