

# COMMUNITY OF CAMPBELLTON AND SURROUNDING AREAS



## Overview of major initiatives implemented by Vitalité Health Network since 2014

Several initiatives have been implemented in the community of Campbellton and surrounding areas over the past two years to continuously better meet the public's primary health care needs. A brief overview of the major initiatives is presented below based on the five priority needs targeted by the community of Campbellton and surrounding areas Community Advisory Committee.

### PRIORITY NEEDS

#### 1 Health promotion, prevention and health education

- Policy on healthy dietary environments in all Network facilities to promote and encourage environments fostering healthy diets.
- Smoking Cessation Program for inpatients, Extra-Mural Program patients, and health care system employees.
- Addition of a nurse practitioner providing sexual health services for youth in the region's schools.
- Increased Public Health promotion of the Sexual Health Program aimed at reducing the number of unwanted teen pregnancies and preventing and reducing the number of sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections.

#### 2 Mental, emotional and social health, and emotional intelligence

- Opening of a Pain Management Clinic staffed by a medical specialist, a nurse practitioner, and other health professionals.
- Establishment of a narcotic use monitoring system in collaboration with the province's pharmacies. The system allows participating pharmacists and physicians to monitor narcotics between pharmacies.
- Establishment of two child-youth teams (Francophone and Anglophone) as part of the integrated service delivery model through which young people will be able to receive the appropriate services, at the right time, and at the required intensity, thereby contributing to healthy child and youth development.
- Addition of social work human resources to implement mobile mental health crisis intervention services. This initiative is improving access to services and delivering a range of crisis intervention services quickly and effectively.
- Establishment of a FACT (Flexible Active Community Treatment) team to provide services to clients dealing with severe and persistent illness, with the intensity of the services being adjusted as needed.
- Addition of a mental health crisis bed.



### 3 Food insecurity, poverty and social inequality

- Telehealth services for diabetics, particularly young diabetics.
- Collaboration with a private enterprise allowing the Network's health facilities to promote a service providing transportation to medical appointments outside the region. Unfortunately, the company has since stopped offering this service.

### 4 Management and control of chronic illnesses

- Addition of specialized human resources to the Diabetes Clinic (nurse practitioner, social worker, dietitian, nurse educator) to expand service delivery.
- New clinic assessing chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
- Additional services for people with heart failure in Campbellton and Dalhousie.
- Additional anticoagulation therapy services to follow people taking blood thinners (e.g. Coumadin).

### 5 Strengthening primary care

- Process for paramedical workers to refer at-risk seniors for Extra-Mural Program assessment of their home health care needs.
- Implementation of a new triage system and the addition of a nurse navigator to improve the operation of the Diabetes Clinic.
- Improved care for hospitalized diabetic patients through the implementation of new insulin protocols.

In addition, the Network factored the needs resulting from evaluations into its strategic planning. In fact, while reading the [Strategic Plan 2017-2020](#), you will note the high level of importance placed on improving primary health care services and on tailoring health care services to people's varied needs and realities.