

CURRENT INITIATIVES

School Boards continue to work in collaboration with community organizations to support evidence-based programming in the schools and community. Below are 3 examples of recent initiatives being implemented in partnership.

Mental Health First Aid



School boards have begun training staff as part of their goal to increase awareness and understanding through mental health literacy.

School-Based Programming: Al's Pals

Al's Pals is an evidence-based resiliency program delivered by classroom teachers to kindergarten aged students. The program develops social, emotional and behavioural skills through puppetry, song, creative play, movement and



role-playing. Studies have shown that early interventions of this type significantly promote strong mental health in children.

Youth Engagement Project: ABCD Action for Building a Community that is Drug-Free



A student-led community-based initiative focused on reducing drug use in our schools and communities. Key areas of focus for the leadership teams include: education, early intervention and community partnership.

STUDENT SUPPORT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE LEAD TEAM

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THE ALGOMA MODEL
STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS, SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH.
WWW.ALGOMAMODEL.CA



Algoma Region Community Partners
A Collaborative, School and Community-Based Approach
to Child and Youth Problem Behaviour and Mental Health Issues
that Promotes Positive Healthy Communities

STUDENT SUPPORT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

SSLI Provincial Focus

Launched in February 2008 by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the Student Support Leadership Initiative (SSLI) centers around promoting and enhancing collaboration and coordination across school boards and community agencies to support the healthy development of Ontario's children and youth.

SSLI Cluster 13- Algoma Region

As part of a Ministry mandate, the Algoma District School Board, Algoma Family Services and Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board were chosen to lead the initiative in Algoma. Over 40 community partners have since joined the initiative which is now referred to as *The Algoma Model*.

Our Objective

To promote and support the positive behaviour, well-being and mental health of all children and youth in order to maximize their full potential.

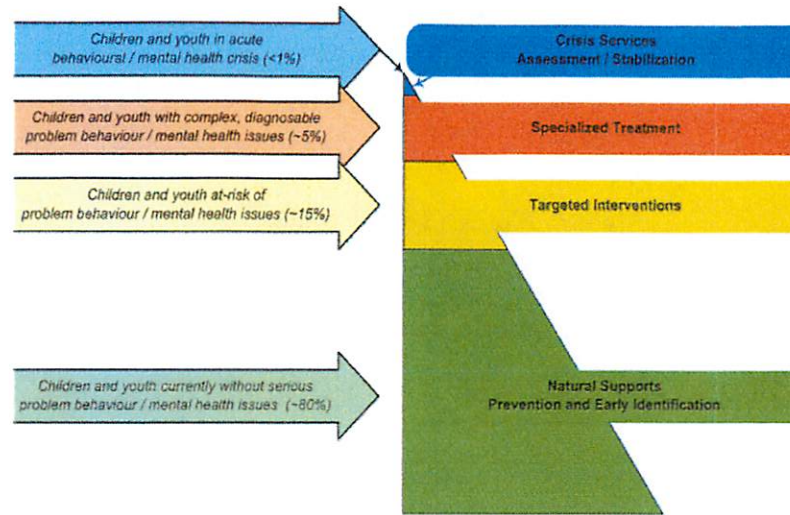
Our Goals

- Enhance the mental health of children and youth in our communities
- Develop a comprehensive and balanced range of services from prevention through to intensive intervention
- Deliver comprehensive, integrated services for children and youth through collaboration and partnership

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THE ALGOMA MODEL FRAMEWORK & PORTAL



The Algoma Model

The Algoma Model uses population based tiers of intervention and sees schools as “hubs of opportunities” to support the mental health of children and youth through a comprehensive range of natural supports, targeted interventions, specialized treatment and crisis services.

The model helps all partners in a community understand where their resources and expertise fit into an overall range of programs, supports and services for children and youth.

The Algoma Model Portal

A website-based portal has been developed as a tool for sharing programs and services currently provided by 40 community partners servicing communities in Algoma. The portal has been organized as a searchable web-based program and is a valuable tool for teachers, principals, community members, youth and their families looking for assistance and/or programs to support a mental health problem.

For more information on The Algoma Model Framework and the Portal please visit us at www.algomamodel.ca

Why A Focus On Mental Health and Partnerships?

- One in five children and youth, at any given time, experience a mental health issue
- Prevention, early identification and intervention lead to healthy communities
- Schools represent the single largest resource available to the children and youth in our communities and play a key role in positive child and youth mental health and well-being
- Collaboration, joint decision-making, and strong community partnerships maximize the available resources and expertise

