

RESULTS OF 2017 BC COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE SECTOR SURVEY



85% of organizations provide services in **more than one geographic community**

Just over half of organizations (54%) operate with **annual revenues**



Services and supports are typically focused on the **most prevalent conditions** including

- anxiety
- depression
- medium to high-risk alcohol consumption



Participating organizations reported employing and engaging



3,275
full-time employees



7,202
volunteers

A staffing complement of **counsellors, educators, trainers and case managers** to provide a range of services and supports for their clients

Most commonly reported **mental health and substance use specific services** provided by the sector include



education and information
(76%)



referral support
(75%)



community events and public awareness
(66%)



harm reduction
(59%)

BACKGROUND AND INSIGHTS FROM THE 2016 AND 2017 SECTOR SURVEYS

First undertaken in 2016, the BC Community Mental Health and Substance Use Sector Survey, administered by the Community Action Initiative (CAI), aims to provide a snapshot of the nature and characteristics of **non-government organizations that provide mental health and substance use services in BC**. The results of the 2017 survey represent responses from 136 non-government organizations across BC.

In BC, the sector is comprised of **well-established organizations** (including not-for-profit, charitable and Indigenous organizations) providing mental health and substance use services and supports outside of the hospital setting. It includes services and supports such as health promotion, illness prevention, harm reduction,

treatment and recovery. In 2016, 71% of organizations (N=280) surveyed had been in operation for 21 years or more.

Organizations **rely on funding from a variety of sources**. Nearly half of organizations surveyed in 2016 received funding from donations and fundraising (48%) and regional health authorities (47%) while close to a third receive funding through foundations (36%) and the Ministry of Children and Family Development (33%).

To learn more, visit communityactioninitiative.ca

