

camh EDUCATION

GETTING TO KNOW THE CAMH EDUCATION EVALUATION TEAM

Our vision

CAMH is building a global reputation as a leader in evaluating education in mental health and addiction. CAMH Education Evaluation will collaborate to build a culture that values evaluation best practices and applies them broadly across CAMH and the community. We will advocate for evidence-informed program improvement and use evaluation results to improve the quality of care and experience of patients, their families, the community and other professionals.

Our mission

Our program will be rooted in collaborative, innovative and integrative approaches to evaluate processes, outcomes and impacts of education programs in mental health and addiction. Using an interdisciplinary approach, we will collect and analyze meaningful metrics, informing planning, continuous improvement and decision making to impact health outcomes and quality of care.

What is evaluation in education?

Evaluation is defined as “the systematic collection and analysis of information about program activities, characteristics, and outcomes to make judgments about the program, improve program effectiveness and/or inform decisions about future programming.”*

Evaluation in education provides the frameworks, tools and processes to assess if and how educational outcomes are achieved. Using the evaluation results, stakeholders can make more informed decisions about resourcing, curriculum, sustainability and program improvement.

* Patton, M.Q. (2008). *Utilization-Focused Evaluation*, 4th ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.



How does evaluation support education initiatives?

Evaluation at CAMH Education is an inclusive and collaborative process: **we want to work with you to meet your evaluation needs**. The evaluation team can provide support throughout the project cycle by helping teams to set measurable goals and indicators for their projects, by building evaluation plans into program designs, and by providing guidance on how best to measure outcomes.

What does the Evaluation team offer?

The Evaluation team is uniquely positioned to bring an objective perspective to your educational initiatives. We have expertise in many types of evaluation, including needs assessments, and process and outcome evaluations. Our team also conducts literature reviews and environmental scans; facilitates process mapping activities; and develops theories of change, evaluation frameworks, evaluation tools, and data collection and analysis methods. As well, we provide consultations and capacity building for program and evaluation planning, implementation and assessments.

What approaches do we implement?

Moore's Framework on continuing medical education outcomes is a key model that the evaluation team uses in their work to measure outcomes of education programs. Evaluation projects are often grounded in implementation science and have a utilization focus. When collaborating on projects, we focus on empowering stakeholders by increasing their sense of engagement and ownership over the project and building their capacity.

How can the evaluation team be engaged?

The Evaluation team can be most effective when engaged early in the project cycle, so as to determine the evaluation needs and requirements of the stakeholders and support them in developing proposals and grants, and in project planning and implementation.



To learn more on how to get evaluation support, contact the Manager of Evaluation, Erica McDiarmid, at erica.mcdiarmid@camh.ca.