

## DECEMBER 2016 STAKEHOLDER UPDATE

**We wish you a safe and refreshing holiday season. All the best for 2017!**

On behalf of SWAHN, thank you for your support and ongoing interest in the Network's activities throughout 2016. Your questions and comments regarding SWAHN are always appreciated. Please feel free to contact us for more information, to share ideas, or to learn about how you may participate in SWAHN's work.

### Highlights of 2016

**March 2016 – Online events module.** [www.swahn.ca/event](http://www.swahn.ca/event) Upcoming events have been posted on this page through a simple submission form that is managed by The Healthline.ca. Once submitted, events are posted to SWAHN's site as well as to the South West and Erie St. Clair Healthline sites as appropriate. The administration of this page is efficient as events are removed from the listing once the dates have passed. Since the launch of the module, 52 events have been posted from several organizations across the SWAHN region.

**March 28, 2016 – IPE Day.** This event engaged almost 400 first-year medical, dental, pharmacy, and optometry students at University Hospital in London representing the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University and the University of Waterloo's School of Pharmacy and School of Optometry & Vision Science. In Windsor, the same event involved 100 medical, nursing, human kinetics, and social work students. Both events allowed students to explore, and later debunk, stereotypes that surround health care professions. Participants were also engaged in facilitated case discussions where they learned about the varying roles and expertise that each health care provider offers to patients within an interprofessional team environment. Planning for the 2017 event is underway for both London and Windsor sites. The second annual event will be held during the afternoon of Monday, April 3, 2017.

**April 22, 2016 – Choosing Wisely Working Group launch.** The Working Group is planning a health service provider forum to highlight the challenges and achievements of organizations that have successfully implemented various Choosing Wisely projects. This event will be held in the first quarter of 2017

**April 28, 2016 – SWAHN Retreat.** In the spring, 52 individuals representing SWAHN's Committee and Working Groups convened to discuss key projects for the network and to draft its value proposition.

**May 2, 2016 – SWAHN Research and Innovation Symposium.** *Evaluation, Resilience and Sustainability in Family Mental Health & Addiction Peer Support* was SWAHN's first event to be held in Windsor, Ontario. It was attended by more than 50 educators and service providers from both the South West (SW) and Erie St. Clair (ESC) Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) regions. Through presentations and breakout discussions, the group explored the challenges associated with family peer support, the lack of research conducted on this topic, and the importance of addressing the needs of family members as separate than those of individual service users. Discussions with the mental health leads of both the SW and ESC LHIN leads are currently underway to determine how SWAHN can support information needs of systems and families across the region. The event proceedings have been completed and have been submitted to Archives Canada for the assignment of an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN). This document will be shared with SWAHN's stakeholders as soon as the ISSN has been assigned.

**June 10, 2016 – First anniversary of [www.swahn.ca](http://www.swahn.ca).** Since its launch, SWAHN's website has been visited by 1,654 unique users for a total of 2,901 sessions. 43% of these visitors returned to the site after the first viewing. The average visit is 4.4 pages per session which is a good indicator of quality and indicates that people are staying on the site to view multiple pages. There is also good diversity in the sources of traffic to the website: 50% direct (typing the URL directly into a browser), 22% referral (linking from another website), 22% organic search (from search engines), and 6% through social media. Overall, the site is trending towards increasing traffic with a 30% increase in the second half of the first year.

**October 27 & 28, 2016 – Association of Academic Health Centers International (AAHCI) Regional Meeting.** Sixty leaders representing academic and health care organizations in Canada, the United States,

the United Kingdom, and Hungary joined AAHCI's first Canadian meeting. Held at the Ivey Spencer Leadership Centre in London, Ontario, participants offered presentations on recent health care innovations and new technologies. A debrief of the event can be found on [www.swahn.ca](http://www.swahn.ca)'s homepage.

**November 10, 2016 – Clinical Trials Ontario webinar.** One of the projects that was highlighted at the spring retreat included the exploration of a harmonized research ethics approval process for the SWAHN region. SWAHN's Research Ethics Harmonization Working Group has connected with Clinical Trials Ontario (CTO) over the last several months and hosted a webinar to review CTO's online coordinated process for clinical and non-clinical multi-site studies. The webinar was led by Erin Bell and Matthew D'Ascanio, CTO's Program Managers. A report from this Working Group on its findings is expected in January 2017.

**Fall 2016 – Publication of SWAHN documents.** The Community Health Profile for Southwestern Ontario was updated in 2016 by its primary author, Dr. Marya Haq. The new version was published by SWAHN and sent to both Archives Canada and Western Libraries for inclusion in their respective collections. SWAHN's nutrition and mental health/addiction symposium proceedings have also been submitted to Archives Canada for the approved assignment of International Standard Serial Numbers. Western University's institutional repository (Scholarship@Western) has expressed interest in adding SWAHN documents to its open source collection to ensure that the materials are accessible to researchers worldwide.

**November 2016 – Environmental scan re: nutrition assessments.** Based on the recent findings from the Canadian Malnutrition Task Force indicating that ~45% of patients entering the hospital and 67% are leaving the hospital are malnourished, the Working Group believes that an organized approach is necessary to create awareness and educate health professionals about the rationale for an interprofessional focus on prevention, detection and treatment of malnutrition. This fall, SWAHN's Nutrition Working Group initiated an environmental scan to identify what nutrition assessment tools are currently in use in health care organizations across the SWAHN region. Once its findings have been assessed, the Working Group will consider its approach to expanding the use of subjective global assessments and other similar tools, possibly through a knowledge translation workshop for health professionals. Generally speaking, conducting subjective global assessment is accepted as a 'gold standard' for assessing nutritional status. However, many health care professionals have indicated that they have not conducted this assessment in practice, due to time and lack of resources and are therefore lacking a level of confidence in using the tool.

**November/December 2016 – Simulation survey.** An inventory survey was released in November 2016 to collect information about simulation centres and programs across the SWAHN region. Analysis of the results will lead the group to its next steps in 2017.

**December 2016 – Value proposition.** A draft of SWAHN's value proposition was reviewed at the spring retreat and a revised version was presented with a questionnaire to SWAHN's financial contributors in November 2016. The statement will be finalized and shared publicly in 2017.

**Plans for 2017 – Palliative Care Working Group focus groups and surveys.** The Working Group held a mini-retreat of its members in November 2016 to identify an action plan for the first six months of 2017. The intention is to reach out to each of the professions involved on a core palliative care team to validate the Working Group's analysis of the existing curricula and competencies identified by the professions at the entry to practice level. Focus groups and a survey will be developed for this purpose in early 2017.

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