

CYPT Data, Research and Evaluation Team

Location: Virtual – Zoom
Date: Wednesday, April 13th 2022
Time: 2:30-4:00PM

Present: Mohamed Billie Hassan (Co-Chair), Amanda Franceschini, Greta James, Amber Robertson, Silviu Kondan (SPA), Evan Risko, Fiona Ellison, Bobby Soosaar, Katharine MacDuff, Saba Oji
Regrets: Dave Whiteside, Jill Stoddart, Leyco Wilson, Jillian Welk, Kelly Roberts, Ryan Pogrzeba & Dana Liebermann

Agenda & Notes

Agenda Item	Notes
Welcome	<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>Given the detailed agenda, Mohamed (Chair) and Silviu (SPA) moved straight into CYPT Updates.</p>
CYPT Updates	<p><u>Youth Impact Survey:</u></p> <p>Silviu reminded the group that the 2021 databriefs are available online, which included input from the 1,074 children and youth between the ages of 9-18 who responded to the Youth Impact Survey. Silviu also shared the plans to release a number of Snapshot Reports disaggregated by identity and experience-based dimensions (Geographic Snapshot now available). He noted the strong motivation of community stakeholders in accessing and making use of the Geographic Snapshot report. For example, there has been strong interest at the city and township levels and across members of the Region of Waterloo Council.</p> <p>Silviu discussed how there were some minor challenges and important considerations with how the information is presented in media (e.g., importance of highlighting key limitations and the methodology of survey implementation and data analysis). To mitigate certain constraints on the Backbone team, the team is currently in the process of consulting specific community organizations, groups and individuals to support with the drafting of future Snapshot reports, which will be released throughout 2022.</p> <p>Silviu also informed the group that Sense-Making Sessions have wrapped up and that the team is now working to draft a Community Action Report based on the input of young people who attended the sessions. He also shared that there will be three new Youth Connectors starting this May and that the team anticipates to launch another Youth Impact Survey data collection cycle in 2023.</p>

Most Pressing Needs:

Silviu shared the Most Pressing Needs data collection tool and how it has supported the work of the Pandemic Working Group. He highlighted changes to a number of prominent response items:

- Organizational Needs:
 - Employee well-being;
 - Employee vacancies and/or retention;
 - Trauma-informed supports.
- Client Needs:
 - Feelings of prolonged isolation;
 - Housing affordability;
 - Need for food-related assistance.

Based on the group's discussion, it was noted that these same changes to priority response items were reflective within DRE member's organizations. For example, there is consensus that housing and food assistance related needs are a continuous challenge for those in the community. The group also discussed existing and new methods of examining these trends, particularly on employee well-being and staffing. For example, Marillac Place has begun assessing burnout within their organization, as well as building practices from other communities and using standardized questions to do so (including questions from YMCA WorkWell).

Well-Being Shared Measurement Database Task Group:

Greta provided a summary of major updates with the program-level belonging project. Major updates include:

- Ongoing conversations to assess capacity and research interest with the approximately 10 organizations that will pilot the tool;
- The group receiving the Mitacs Accelerator Grant to partner with the University of Waterloo (with direct support from a PhD student for 6 months);
- The group is working with University of Waterloo Faculty partners to validate aspects of the survey tool pre-trial with programs;
- They are currently undergoing a process of identifying a data sharing platform vis-à-vis their engagement with Communitech and the Ontario Trillium Foundation;
- There is strong interest amongst community partners to support the work of the WBSMD;
- The group also discussed the role that the DRE team can take in terms of supporting this initiative (e.g., the development of 1-page guides and case studies to support skill building for organizations, envisioned through a toolbox or repository of best practices)

For context, the Well-Being Shared Measurement Database (WBSMD) emerged as a community-led initiative to address and solve challenges related to capturing and making use of program-level data with a specific focus on sense of belonging. The group envisions a community of organizations supporting each other in collecting and understanding data, sharing insights and innovations to build a set of programs that can affect and adapt to changes in well-being in Waterloo Region. Critical to this vision is the capacity for collecting data on belonging at the level of individual programs, such that we have the capacity to identify techniques for improving belonging.

Data Portal(s) Discussion

Silviu briefly mentioned how the DRE's shared measurement work to identify key datasets and local indicators will continue to shape the development of a community data portal. Silviu also mentioned how he has been working with Smart Waterloo Region, Wellbeing Waterloo and a GIS class at University of Waterloo to build a geographic storymap based on the data from the Youth Impact Survey and Wellbeing Waterloo's 2018 community well-being survey.

Annual Survey; Demand for CYPT Backbone Support

Silviu shared a number of key findings from the 2021 Annual Survey. Most striking is the increase in challenges for organizations' engagement and execution of work as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, findings suggest a positive and consistent perception of CYPT's work:

- 61 percent have expressed that the pandemic has affected their organization's involvement in the CYPT (a 27 percentage point increase from 2020 survey)
- 53 percent have expressed that the pandemic has affected their organization's ability to execute their missions (a 18 percentage point increase from 2020 survey)
 - 90 percent feel well informed about the vision and mission of the CYPT
 - 89 percent of respondents have indicated that the CYPT has made moderate to excellent progress towards its collective mission
 - 87 percent feel that the CYPT is a trusting environment
 - 60 percent have all the information they need to be engaged
 - 51 percent feel engaged in the work of the CYPT

The group briefly discussed how these are common challenges across other networks and collaboratives, as well as within the scope of internal engagement across organizations.

Member Updates

Mohamed led a roundtable discussion with members on what their priority areas of work are and if they are engaging with any emergent data, research or evaluation resources. There were several themes discussed:

- Success in using multilingual survey options at Carizon – *a potential best practices case study to highlight*;
- Sense of belonging has been used by a number of organizations assessing client and staff well-being;
- Food Bank of Waterloo Region & House of Friendship survey focused on food hampers: received approximately 1,400 responses (high response rate) – *a potential best practices case study to highlight*;
- Region of Waterloo (Planning, Development and Legislative Services) will begin the process of providing analyzed visuals from Population Census 2021 (likely vis-à-vis PowerBI);
- Region of Waterloo (Corporate Services: GIS Unit) has been supporting with various GIS projects (e.g., Children's Services) and noted that, depending on capacities and strategic alignment, they have supported and will continue to support external organizations as well;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty at the University of Waterloo are assisting the WBSMD project but are very open to supporting other groups in the community; • Community Engagement Unit at Police Services has drafted a youth-focused strategy (sees alignment to the work of the CYPT/YIS) and encourages university partners to connect if interested in making use of internal datasets; • Region of Waterloo (Community Services) working through reports and updates on the National Child Care announcements: examining implications locally; • Kinbridge Community Association has begun standardizing their survey with a focus on awareness of programs, sense of community belonging and needs. Making direct use of the YIS data.
Scheduling	<p>Frequency & Duration of Meetings</p> <p>Mohamed inquired about member’s availability and format of future meetings. It was agreed that the remaining meetings of the year will likely remain virtual. Mohamed also shared that the Co-Chair position is still vacant and that if anyone is interested, they should reach out.</p> <p>There was insufficient time to go over DRE priorities for 2022 in detail. However, members briefly spoke about having a small number of objectives (1-2 max) and prioritizing easy forms of engagement due to continuing constraints (e.g., email response asks, advisory support, etc).</p> <p><u>Action Plan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mohamed and Silviu will schedule the remaining meetings of the year to reflect people’s availability. ➤ Silviu and Mohamed will follow up with the group to define 2022 objectives.