

# Waterloo Region Special Needs Strategy Planning Table

## Work to Date – Issue #3



April 2015

### Special Needs Strategy

#### Vision:

A Waterloo Region where children and youth with special needs get the timely and effective services they need to participate fully at home, at school, in the community, and as they prepare to achieve their goals for adulthood.

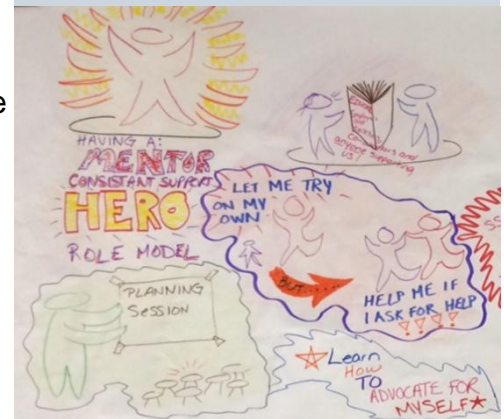
### Thank you for sharing your vision!

A transformation to the system of special needs supports in Waterloo Region is exciting yet tough work! Thankfully we have many voices coming forward in our community to help along the way.

soon also have input from the medical community as well as some cultural interest groups. Thank you so much for sharing your ideas for the future and daring to imagine what could be possible for children and families.

Over the past couple of months we have heard from a variety of folks including parents, youth, Aboriginal peoples, front line staff, community partners, the Francophone community and various interest groups. We will

Have more to say? We would love to hear from you. Please click the hyperlinks for our on-line [values survey](#) or draft Coordinated Service Planning [model survey](#).



The words and drawings of our parents and youth

## Draft 1 – Coordinated Service Planning

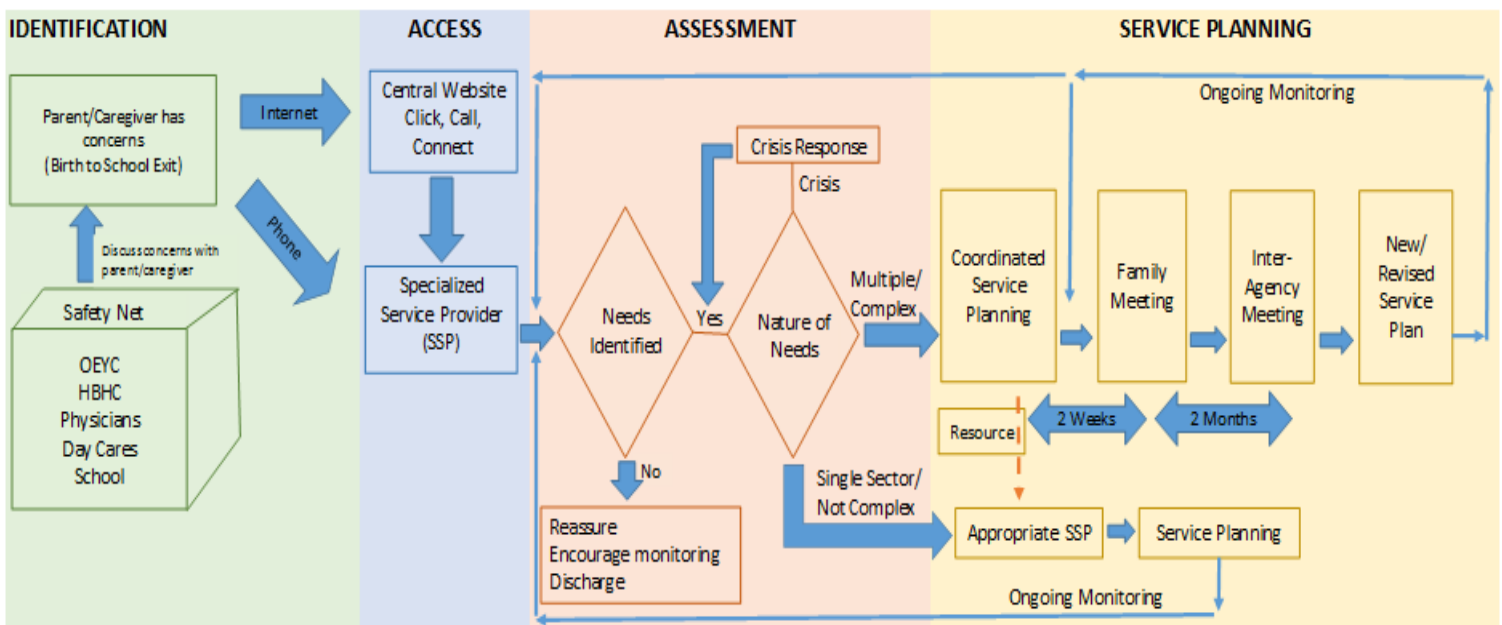
So what has the Waterloo Region Special Needs Planning Table done with all of the valuable insights you have shared? Well for starters, we turned the pages and pages of notes into a summary document for our use (along with others in the community who want to better understand the needs of children and families). It is GREAT reading, thanks to all our contributors. We encourage anyone who is interested in the report to please visit our [website](#) to find the summary.

We have also done our best thinking to turn your words and advice into a 'roughly right' first draft model for coordinated service planning (see below). From identification through to service planning, we have tried to create a model that provides an easier, more supportive experience for children and families. We knew that our first attempt at a model would not be our final product, and have very much appreciated our community's further input and feedback into the draft over the month of March. You have shared valuable questions and concerns and we are eager to put our heads back together and start work on Draft #2 in April.

Haven't had a chance yet to give feedback into Draft #1 of the Coordinated Service Planning model? There is still time via our on-line draft Coordinated Service Planning [model survey](#) and we would love to hear from you.

- ### Planning Table Members
- Carizon/Lutherwood
  - Children's Planning Table
  - Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud (CSDCCS)
  - Conseil scolaire Viamonde
  - Erinoakkids
  - Family and Children's Services
  - Kerry's Place
  - KidsAbility Centre for Child Development
  - KidsAbility School Authority
  - KW Habilitation
  - Region of Waterloo
  - Sunbeam
  - Waterloo Catholic District School Board
  - Waterloo Region District School Board
  - Waterloo Region Family Network
  - Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre (CCAC)
  - Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)

## Draft #1 – Coordinated Service Planning Model



### Key Principles

No Wrong Door

Warm Transitions

Family/Youth/Service Provider Partnership

## What's Next?

### Coordinated Service Planning

- ✓ We have an on-line [survey](#) specifically asking for input into the draft Coordinated Service Planning model. Please tell us your thoughts. Even if you attended one of our in person sessions, we still would like to hear from you. Follow the hyperlink above to the quick, 10 minute survey.
- ✓ The Planning Table is in the process of determining some of the specific Coordinated Service Planning steps. Stay tuned for further details on:
  - Which agency in Waterloo Region will assume responsibility for Coordinated Service Planning across the system.
  - The specific way we will work with the Lead Agency for Moving on Mental Health (child and youth mental health transformation initiative).
  - The target population for our new model.
- ✓ We have partnered with the Children's Planning Table Navigation Action Team to help conceptualize the proposed central website in the Draft Coordinated Service Planning Model. We are looking forward to the recommendations from this group and the potential to align our shared work at a system-level.
- ✓ On April 27<sup>th</sup> we will hold an open input session on the proposal for Waterloo Region. We will welcome families/caregivers, youth, staff, community partners...anyone with an interest. Please visit our [website](#) for time and location and to register for the session.
- ✓ By mid May we will have completed our final draft for the proposal and each of our Table partners will be seeking organizational support for the plan.
- ✓ By June 15<sup>th</sup> we will have submitted our proposal to the Ontario Government and will begin discussions with them for implementation.

### Integrated Rehabilitation Services

But our work doesn't stop there! We are also developing a proposal to make Speech, Language, Occupational and Physical Therapies more streamlined and integrated. We have held one focus group with staff and will meet with families on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Following that, we will be outlining a full engagement plan to ensure that we have a "made in Waterloo" solution ready to submit to the Government by October 30<sup>th</sup>!

These are exciting times! Thank you for having an interest as we all move toward a Waterloo Region where children and youth with special needs get the timely and effective services they need to participate fully at home, at school, in the community, and as they prepare to achieve their goals for adulthood.

## Looking for More Information?

For the most up-to-date information, you can also visit our dedicated webpage at <http://waterlooregionspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com/> or the Provincial webpage at <http://specialneedsstrategy.children.gov.on.ca>

For more information on the Waterloo Region Special Needs Strategy please contact one of our Chairs or visit <http://waterlooregionspecialneedsstrategy.weebly.com/>. This document is available in alternative formats upon request and questions in French can be answered via our Chairs.

#### Coordinated Service Planning

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#### Rehabilitation Services

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Please note, at any point in the process, **any individual or group can provide input directly** to one of the Chairs of the Waterloo Region Special Needs Planning Table (see contact information at bottom of page), and we will ensure it is incorporated into the collection of feedback.

