

March 20, 2023

THE SUMMIT: CENTRE FOR YOUTH RESILIENCE OPEN'S IT'S DOORS



Art Created by: **Tommy Akinnawonu**, Mental Health Research 4 Kids Youth Advisory Research Partner.

On Monday, March 13, [The Summit: Marian & Jim Sinneave Centre for Youth Resilience](#) opened its doors to children, teenagers and families. Healthcare teams will offer three mental health services under one roof for young people up to and including 18 years of age, with the goal of reducing mental health crises through early intervention and effective treatment.

The Summit was built in partnership between Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation (ACHF).

Integrated into The Summit is the innovative [Mental Health Research 4 Kids \(MHR4K\)](#) program, which places researchers in the clinic settings alongside families and their care providers. Led by [Dr. Susan Graham](#) and [Dr. Paul Arnold](#), MHR4K is supported by the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation. [Read more.](#)

Young adults with lived experience in the mental health system are playing a vital role in shaping research goals. An advisory council of 17 passionate youth from 14 to 26 years of age have come together to help guide MHR4K's research at The Summit.

As research partners these young people are providing their perspectives to inform research and, ultimately, improve care. Researchers will seek input from the council at various stages of projects to gain input on the best tools and most meaningful engagement for youth and families. [Read more.](#)

PUBLICATION: YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH & EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS



ACHRI members, [Dr. Sheri Madigan](#), lead author, and [Dr. Sheila McDonald](#) published [Comparison of paediatric emergency department visits for attempted suicide, self-harm, and suicidal ideation before and during the COVID-19 pandemic: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#) in Lancet Psychiatry. It is a meta-analysis of 42 studies representing over 11 million paediatric emergency department visits across 18 countries, comparing the data on visits prior to the pandemic with those that took place during the pandemic, up to July 2021.

The numbers show that while there was a 32 per cent reduction in paediatric ED visits for any health-related reasons during the pandemic, there was still a 22 per cent increase in children and adolescents going to emergency departments for suicide attempts, and an eight per cent increase in visits for suicide ideation.

During COVID-19 proven risk factors for mental illness for children and adolescents increased dramatically. Children's screen time rose greatly during the pandemic as physical activity levels dwindled. Many families were in turmoil as jobs were lost, family violence increased, and the mental health of parents deteriorated. "These are all accelerants to mental distress," says Madigan.

"We can't ignore that the mental health of children and adolescents is in crisis," Madigan says. "We need to prioritize the creation of mental health resources, supports, and services now, to help children shift from languishing to flourishing." [Read more.](#)

[Read Conversation Canada Story](#)

Thanks to: Heath McCoy, Faculty of Arts

NEW ACHRI MEMBERS



Welcome to [Dr. Gavin McCormack](#) who joins the [Healthy Children, Families & Communities Program](#).

Dr. McCormack's research focuses on the social and physical environmental determinants of physical activity in adults and children. He has led and collaborated on studies exploring the relationships between the built environment and social environment on children's physical activity, play, active transport, independent mobility, and cycling injuries. [Read more.](#)



Welcome to [Dr. Ethan MacDonald](#) who joins the [Child Health Data Science Program](#).

Dr. MacDonald's research includes a breadth of experiments involving the use of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), and endovascular catheter tracking, quantitative cerebrovascular imaging, imaging of brain aging and development physiology. Currently his research focuses on big data and machine learning for MRI applications. [Read more.](#)

INVESTING IN OUR YOUTH



Congratulations to **Drs. Sheri Madigan** (PI) and **Gina Dimitropoulos** (Co-PI) who were awarded a **CIHR Catalyst Grant on Standards for Children and Youth Mental Health Services** titled "Building National Standards for the Provision of Psychoeducation for Youth Depression". They will be supported on this project by **Drs. Brae Ann McArthur** (Psychology) and **Joanne Park** (postdoctoral fellow, Psychology), as well as their national collaborators.

Dr. Dimitropoulos (PI) and colleagues also received funding for **LEAPS-IYS: Learning to Equitably Adapt Peer Support for Integrated Youth Services**.

These projects will provide a better understanding of what is currently in place across Canada, and how care providers and organizations use standards to deliver and improve care.

[Read more.](#)

TRAINEE PROFILE: LEADERS IN MEDICINE



Trainee Profile: **Katarina Laketic**, Leaders in Medicine

While pursuing her MSc in Biomedical Engineering, Katarina Laketic always knew she wanted to go to medical school, but also knew she wanted to continue being part of a collaborative research team. These joint interests led her to apply to UCalgary's **Leaders in Medicine Program**.

Laketic's Master's thesis explored prenatal mental health with a biological lens, leading to a **Maternal Metabolites Indicative of Mental Health Status during Pregnancy** publication cover story in Metabolites Journal.

By comparing maternal blood samples and mental health surveys for symptoms of anxiety and depression, the study identified metabolites that may help assess mental health during pregnancy. “Using biomarkers to determine mental health outcomes can not only support a health care practitioner in decision making, but it can also validate an expecting parent’s feelings and emotions. If we can identify these factors early on into a pregnancy, we can start a conversation to ensure individuals are provided with the support they need,” says Laketic.

Approximately 1 in 4 individuals report poor mental health during pregnancy or postpartum, which has implications for birth outcomes, maternal behaviours and early child development. “Being able to look for these signs early on will be very beneficial for everyone,” says Laketic.

WOMEN'S RESOURCE AWARDS

Congratulations to **Dr. Erin Brennand**, recipient of the Women's Resource Centre Distinguished Alumna Award. The award recognizes outstanding achievements and leadership making our communities a better place for all. Dr. Brennand is a practicing urogynecologist in Calgary, a clinician-scientist and an associate professor within the CSM.

Through her work in leadership roles within and outside Calgary, she has successfully gained the attention of leaders to draw awareness to issues which disproportionately affect women in the hopes of creating positive and meaningful change.

[Read more.](#)



ADVANCING HEALTH THROUGH CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

Advancing health and health care through citizen engagement

2023 Gairdner Symposium

Join the 2022 Gairdner Wightman Award winner, Dr. Deborah J. Cook, MD, from McMaster University and Dr. Verna Yiu, MD, Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic) from the University of Alberta for a discussion on how health and health care can be improved through citizen engagement.

April 4, 2023, 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.
Theatre Four, Foothills Medical Centre

Postdoctoral scholars are invited to submit abstracts by Feb. 24.



[Register Here.](#)

GRADSNACKS NEEDS YOUR HELP



A survey of graduate students on Foothills campus showed 50 per cent of respondents struggled with food insecurity, and 80 per cent said they can't bring enough food to get through their day.

With these results, ACHRI graduate student volunteers Taylor Scheidl and Jessica Wager contacted the Graduate Students' Association and were awarded a Quality Money grant to start the GradSnacks program. Operating out of the ZenDen in HSC G214, it is available to all Foothills campus graduate students. [View feedback.](#)

Although GradSnacks has received significant support from the community, demand for the program outweighs the current funding. GradSnacks is seeking your support

to sustain the program.

To donate to GradSnacks: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=9PJXYSBYWNPCC.

[Read the UToday story.](#)

Questions? Contact Taylor at taylor.scheidl@ucalgary.ca or Jessica at jessica.wager@ucalgary.ca

CSM STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOPS



CSM is embarking on a collaborative process to develop a new strategic plan. CSM students, faculty and staff can support this process by registering for an upcoming workshop:

Tuesday, April 4, 2023, 3 - 5 pm

OR

Thursday, April 20, 2023, 12 - 2 pm

HRIC atrium

Snacks and beverages available.

When [registering](#), please select your preferred date.

ACHRITA RESEARCH IN PROGRESS SEMINARS

All researchers and trainees are welcome to join the **ACHRITA Research in Progress Seminars**

When: First Tuesday of each month, 12 - 1 pm

Where: HSC Theatre 4 or join via [Zoom](#)

If you are interested in presenting please sign-up here: [RIP Sign-Up](#)

Questions? Email ACHRITA@ucalgary.ca

ACHRI TRAINEES

ACHRITA SPRING SOCIAL



Trainees and Postdocs,

Join ACHRITA for the 1st spring social event! Come connect with ACHRITA members alike and enjoy free appetizers!

Thursday, March 30, 2023
5 - 8 pm
FREE HOUSE | Craft Beer Hall
1153 Kensington Crescent NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1X7

Register by Wednesday, March 22, 2023
Questions? Contact ACHRITA@ucalgary.ca

TRAINEE EVENTS

ACHRITA Workshop Series
How to Give a Dynamic Presentation
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
12 - 1 pm
Dr. Quentin Pittman
Clara Christie Theatre, Health Sciences Centre
Register

TRAINEE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Brain Canada Foundation: 2023 Master's Personnel Awards for Black Scholars

The objective of the competition is to increase the number of highly qualified Black trainees across Canada committed to working in the fields of heart and brain research.

Deadline: Monday, May 1, 2023

[Details](#)

Brain Canada Foundation: 2023 Doctoral Personnel Awards for Black Scholars

This competition aim to to increase the number of highly qualified Black trainees across Canada committed to working in the fields of heart and brain research.

Deadline: Monday, May 1, 2023

[Details](#)

Please visit the ACHRI trainee [funding page](#) for page funding opportunities.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY



Attention Trainees: Join NeurAlbertaTech!

If you are passionate about neuroscience and technology and have great teamwork and leadership skills, NeurAlbertaTech is expanding its executive team. If you are interested in an executive role with NAT UCalgary, fill out the application by **Tuesday, March 21, 2023**.

[Application](#)

TRAINEE REGISTRATION

In order to receive the ACHRI newsletter, updates and access to ACHRI trainee funding and workshops please [register](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Arthritis Society Canada Strategic Operating Grant

This program provides funding to support research proposals aligned with Arthritis Society Canada's priorities.

Deadline: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 (LOI)

[Details](#)

2023 THRIVE Grant

THRIVE offers funding for basic science, clinical, and translational research that enhances our ability to predict when and how adverse effects may occur in patients who have received cancer treatment and supports the development of approaches to avoid or lessen these effects.

Deadline: Wednesday, April 5, 2023 (RSO Internal)

[Details](#)

2023 Alex's Lemonade Stand REACH Grant

The Reach Grant provides support for important preclinical hypothesis-driven research projects that are necessary to move a study from the pre-clinical arena into a clinical trial. The goal of this award is to support translational studies that will result in a phase 1 and/or 2 clinical trial, two to three years from the project start date.

Deadline: Thursday, April 6, 2023 (RSO Internal)

[Details](#)

Cystinosis Research Foundation (CRF)

CRF has \$5 Million available for new research grants and fellowships with the goal of funding the best and most promising research in the world in an effort to find better treatments and a cure for cystinosis.

Deadline: Tuesday, April 11, 2023

[Details](#)

Sick Kids New Investigator Research Grant

These grants enable early-career researchers to make a meaningful contribution to the fight for children's health. They are jointly sponsored by SickKids Foundation and the CIHR Institute of Human Development, Child and Youth Health. Grant recipients may obtain up to three years of support for research in the biomedical, clinical, health systems and services, population and public health sectors.

Deadline: Monday, April 17, 2023

[Details](#)

Alberta Innovates Accelerating Innovations into CarE (AICE) - Validate Program

This program supports Alberta innovators to advance their Product-Market Fit, Business Readiness, Regulatory Compliance, and Product Development of their health innovations during the committing and early validation phases of their commercialization journey.

Deadline: Tuesday, April 25, 2023

[Details](#)

SSHRC Connection Grant May 2023

Connection Grants support events and outreach activities geared toward short-term, targeted knowledge mobilization initiatives. These events and activities represent opportunities to exchange knowledge and to engage with participants on research issues of value to them.

Deadline: Wednesday, April 26, 2023

[Details](#)

Barb Ibbotson Chair in Pediatric Hematology

This opportunity supports research relevant to Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, Transplant, Immunology. Projects should be hypothesis generating, other types of studies will be considered, such as quality improvement projects or translational research. Projects may be clinical, translational, or basic science in nature. Residents, clinical assistants, research assistants and allied health practitioners are eligible.

Deadline: Monday, May 1, 2023

Please contact [Dr. Nicola Wright](#) with questions.

2023 Alex's Lemonade Stand 'R' Accelerated Grant

The R Accelerated Award Grant is to advance ALSF's mission to find cures and better treatments for childhood cancers by providing support to scientists focused on pediatric oncology research.

Deadline: Monday, May 8, 2023 (RSO Internal)

[Details](#)

2023 Alex's Lemonade Stand 'A' Award Grant

The 'A' Award Grant is to advance ALSF's mission to find cures and better treatments for childhood cancers by providing support to early career scientists who want to establish a career in pediatric oncology research.

Deadline: Monday, May 8, 2023 (RSO Internal)

[Details](#)

Team Grant: THINC Knowledge Mobilization & Impact Hub

Operating as a single coordinating centre, the THINC Impact Hub will build and support a vibrant pan-Canadian learning community involving all THINC grantees and knowledge user communities towards advancing evidence-informed integrated care transformation and catalyze progress towards achieving the Quadruple Aim and health equity.

Deadline: Thursday, May 11, 2023

[Details](#)

CIHR New Investigator Salary Award: Health System Impact Embedded Early Career Researcher (ECR) Award

This award supports embedded ECRs, increase their potential for impact and contribution as embedded scholars, and increase the probability that they will secure an embedded scientist position with a Canadian health system organization and/or a faculty position in a Canadian academic institution. This program will generate additional research capacity within health system organizations for learning and improvement, helping to further advance learning health systems across Canada.

Deadline: Friday, May 12, 2023

[Details](#)

Arthritis Society Canada Ignite Innovation Grant

This salary award and research funding supports research programs aligned with Arthritis Society Canada's 2020-2025 Research Strategy.

Deadline: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 (Registration Deadline)

[Details](#)

Arthritis Society 2023 Stars Career Development Awards

This program supports the development and testing of transformative, paradigm-shifting, concepts and approaches to address critical barriers to progress in arthritis research, challenge our understanding of arthritis and its management, and generate novel approaches to confront the challenges we face in defeating arthritis and delivering the best evidence-informed care possible.

Deadline: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 (Registration Deadline)

[Details](#)

Pre-Announcement: CIHR National Women's Health Research Initiative: Biomedical Discovery Grant

This funding opportunity supports high risk, high reward research in high-priority areas of women's health research. This opportunity supports basic science and/or other types of preclinical studies that have the potential to make significant advancements in women's health.

Registration Deadline: June 2023

[Details](#)

Visit ACHRI [website](#) for funding opportunities.

EVENTS AND SEMINARS

Neonatal Grand Rounds

Your DNA is not a Destiny: Changing the Outcomes of Outborns Through Outreach and Transport Innovation

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

4 - 5 pm

Dr. Khorshid Mohammad

[Register](#)

Paediatric Grand Rounds

How Can We Use Outcomes Research to Advance Care for Children? Pediatric Liver Transplantation is an Example

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

8:30 - 9:30 am

Dr. Simone Kortbeek

[Register](#)

Developmental Genetics Research in Progress

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

1 - 2 pm

Xiao Zheng (Jiami Guo lab)

Katelyn Shewchuk (Sarah McFarlane lab)

[HSC1405A](#)

Medical Genetics Seminar Series

Implicit Bias in Medicine

Friday, March 24, 2023 & Friday, March 31, 2023

9 - 10 am

Kenna Kelly-Turner

[Zoom Link](#), Passcode: 603693

Child Health and Wellness Seminar

Increasing Capacity for Maternal and Pediatric Clinical Trials in Canada

Monday, March 27, 2023

8:30 - 9:30 am

Dr. Lauren Kelly

[Register](#)

UCalgary Knowledge Engagement Team

Navigating Dora Webinar - Stop Using the H-Index: Educating Researchers about Scholarly Metrics

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

12 - 1 pm

Dr. Stefanie Haustein

[Register](#)

Owerko Neurodevelopmental Clinical Rounds

Looking at the Forest and the Tree

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

12 - 1 pm

Drs. Ping-Yee Billie Au & Pamela Veale

[Register](#)

11th Annual Dr. Harvey B. Sarnat Lectureship and Mini-Symposium in Developmental Neuroanatomy and Neuropathology

The Role of the Corpus Callosum in Developmental Disorders

Monday, May 8, 2023

8:30 am - 2:00 pm

Theatre 3, Health Sciences Centre, Foothills Campus

[Register](#) by Friday, April 28

2023 Knowledge Translation Canada Summer Institute

Wednesday, June 14 - Friday, June 16, 2023

[Register](#)

For all events visit the [ACHRI calendar](#).

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Please send discoveries, research publications, and grants to Fiona Mackenzie at r4k@ucalgary.ca

Visit us:
research4kids.ucalgary.ca

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