



CTC Highlight Report, 2021

The Communities That Care (CTC) process consists of five phases: community readiness, mobilization, assessment, priorities, implementation and evaluation. We have cycled through these phases twice since CTC 2008. In 2020/2021, CTC focused on the assessment phase, as we analyzed and shared data from the last Prevention Needs Assessment Survey (PNAS). CTC was fortunate to receive funding this year from the City of Williams Lake, the CRD and the Forfeiture Grant, and we are in good financial shape to move into the next phase of mobilizing around a new set of priorities.

CTC continued with regular activities such as hosting monthly zoom network meetings, only breaking for summer. Topics of discussion included regular updates on the PNAS, youth trends in the community and, how we can stay connected and support each other as a network. The feedback was clear; meeting and sharing at our round table are essential for staying connected. We had guest speakers from the Legal Advocate program, the Foundry and Jordan's Principle. By November, Anne Burrill began reporting on the PNSA data and gathering feedback for the following CTC community profile. Seventy-four attendees and eleven new community partners attended meetings. I sent 789 emails sharing community information on programs and activities and linking community partners with each other. I continued to participate in Thrive, SPC, and ECDN community meetings and face-to-face with community partners when and where possible. A data group came together over the summer to review the BACH Harrison data reports on the PNAS. After the initial review, Anne gave data presentations to the school district, the CTC Network, and the Denisiqi Social Table.



The Red Cross granted an extension for the Youth Engagement project, and it continued throughout the 2021 school year. Youth volunteers used the Youth Engagement Tool kit to share information about risk and protective factors and depression. The engagement from the youth volunteers was inspiring, and the workshops well received by their peers. We wrapped up the project with gifts and an opportunity for the youth volunteers to give feedback on the experience of working with CTC. The youth volunteers gave three presentations

to 69 grade 10 students.

Classroom evaluations included comments such as:



- I will try and help people that have depression and if I ever feel depressed, I know how to reach out for help.
- I will be more considerate with people around me because IDK what they're going through.
- Watch ourselves and observe others (not in a creepy way) and look for dangerous signs in them and myself.

The TRU Nursing program enquired about opportunities for students to meet their program's community mental health component. I connected them to BC211 and proposed the students update the BC211 database, a need identified in the Thrive project to increase awareness and access to community services. It provided an opportunity for students to learn about local support services and update our community's information on the BC211 database. This opportunity will be available for future cohorts of students.

Free training opportunities I took part in included online seminars through Charity Village such as Creating Safety On-line, The Art of Effective Digital Workplaces, Tech Tips for Communicating Online and Leading a Virtual Team. I also participated in Mobilizing Around Youth Futures and the End of Poverty online summits.

I am excited about for this year as we implement the next set of priorities and wanted to express my gratitude and appreciation to Anne Burrill and the Social Planning Council for all their support. Also, a massive shout out to all the fantastic people in our community that have poured their hearts and souls to supporting children and families, as well as manage their personal challenges of navigating the trials of a pandemic. It is inspiring to me to work along with such amazing people, and it gives me hope that we will emerge from this interesting time stronger than more connected than ever.

Barb Jones

Facilitator, Communities That Care