

PolicyWise for Children & Families exists to improve child, family, and community well-being by leading, creating, and mobilizing research and evaluation for evidence-informed policy and practice.

Lead Create Mobilize



PolicyWise
for Children & Families

Supporting Wise Decisions

To develop and integrate evidence to inform, identify, and promote effective public policy and service delivery to improve the well-being of children, families, and communities.

What's Inside

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Happy Summer from PolicyWise

A message from our President and CEO, Robyn Blackadar:

We hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather with their families and loved ones this summer! Our Open Houses in June were a great success and we would like to thank everyone who attended and shared their support - we are very grateful. It was wonderful to reconnect with so many familiar faces and meet new ones too!

*Our next event will be our 2018 Annual General Meeting on **September 28, 2018**. This will be a community event held in Edmonton to share the work PolicyWise has done this past year with our community members and stakeholders.*

You're invited to our...

2018 Community AGM!

September 28, 2018

2 PM - 4 PM • Matrix Hotel • Quartz Ballroom



Policy Wise
for Children & Families

[Click here to register](#)

Recipients of the 2018 SAGE Secondary Data Use Grant



We are very happy to announce that we have chosen seven recipients to receive the [2018 Secondary Data Use Grant](#).

We want to extend a big thank you to our anonymous donor and the grant reviewers who supported us during this competition.

Congratulations to Dr. Brae Anne McArthur, Kaylee Ramage, Dr. Maria Ospina, Melissa Mueller, Natalie Scime, Dr. Okan Bulut, and Dr. Rochelle Hentges.

In Case You Missed It...

- In June, Naomi Parker began her new role as Director, Projects in Calgary - congratulations Naomi!
- Our Chief Knowledge and Policy Offer, Cathie Scott, presented at this year's Substance Misuse Symposium in Calgary on June 4. You can access her presentation as well as many others from the event [here](#).
- PolicyWise partnered with the Alberta First Nations Information Governance Centre (AFNIGC) and held a 2-day workshop in June focusing on the basics of data analysis, storytelling, and visualization. Participants from First Nations communities and not-for-profit organizations attended.
- PolicyWise staff contributed to an article in SPUR Magazine - Calgary Foundation titled, "[Insight through Info Sharing](#)" (pages 25/26).
- Three new [Data Bytes](#) were released.
- We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest staff members who joined us in July - welcome to our PolicyWise family!
- We are also saying farewell to our hardworking summer students - we wish you all the

Youth Integrated Hubs

Community-based Mental Health Service Hubs for Youth (Integrated Hubs) are designed to integrate health and social services under one roof in a youth-friendly environment. The majority of mental health concerns emerge before the age of 24 and current systems of care are split between child and adult services. Integrated Hubs are an emerging practice to address service access issues that youth experience.

We are excited to share the project background and next steps of our Integrated Hubs project. Learn more on our [website](#).



From the Desks of the Data Lab

The Child and Youth Data Laboratory Longitudinal Project, Experiences of Albertan Children and Youth over Time, 2005/06 to 2010/11, focuses on understanding the experiences of Albertan children and youth as they develop. This project takes a multi-year, cumulative look at the service use of Albertan children and youth.

Four new reports have been produced as part of this project:

- A profile of service use patterns for Albertan children and youth (aged 0 to 17) receiving [Family Support for Children with Disabilities](#)
- A profile of service use patterns for Albertans with [Cerebral Palsy](#) (aged 0 to 25)
- A profile of service use patterns for Albertans with [Autism Spectrum Disorder](#) (aged 0 to 25)
- Transition experiences of clients moving between the Income Support program and the Income Support Learners program: [Income Support Transitions](#)



In addition, a [special report](#) was released. In collaboration with the Ministry of Community and Social Services, and the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Cross Ministry Committee, data were analyzed on how children and youth with FASD were served by provincial programs in Alberta. These results highlight opportunities for collaboration and integration in service delivery. In particular, almost half of the children and youth with FASD received a complex constellation of services that included Child Intervention and other disability

services. These results will serve as a baseline in evaluating Alberta's FASD 10-Year Strategic Plan.



Upcoming Events

The following are a list of upcoming events that are still open for registration:

[International Population Data Linkage Network 2018 Conference](#) **September 12 to 14, 2018 (Banff)**

- We look forward to meeting everyone and sharing what we've learned about the power of linked data to inform policy and practice.

[Contemporary Insights for Optimizing Health 2018 Conference](#) **October 18, 2018 (Edmonton)**

- Join the Institute of Integrative Health in sharing evidence related to integrative, traditional, and Indigenous health and wellness.

[Prairie Child Welfare Consortium - Future of Child Welfare in Canada Conference](#) **October 23 to 26, 2018 (Calgary)**

- The National Conference is an opportunity to gather together researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, and community members to focus on the future of child welfare in Canada.

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