How it works

The first step is to call 416 535-8501 ext. 3985 so we can assess your specific needs. Clients will either be admitted to Aboriginal Services or referred to an appropriate service to meet their needs. Once clients are admitted to Aboriginal Services, a treatment course is recommended. Clients work together with staff to establish personal goals and commitments. Treatment plans may include traditional Aboriginal forms of healing, non-Aboriginal therapeutic modalities or combinations of both, according to clients’ needs.

Admission criteria for clinical services

- aged 16 or older
- a desire to access an Aboriginal service.

Educational opportunities can be discussed with the program manager at 416 535-8501 ext. 3987.

For information on addiction and mental health issues or other resources, please visit our website:
www.camh.net

To make a donation, please contact the CAMH Foundation:
Tel.: 416 979-6909
E-mail: foundation@camh.net

If you have questions, concerns or compliments about services at CAMH, please call the Client Relations Service:
Tel.: 416 535-8501 ext. 2028 or 2078

Disponible en français

HOW TO REACH US

Aboriginal Services Program
60 White Squirrel Way
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M6J 1H4

Phone: 416 535-8501 ext. 3987 (for information)
416 535-8501 ext. 3988 (for individual and outpatient intake)
416 535-8501 ext. 3985 (for inpatient intake)

Fax: 416 583-1219

Our hours are Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., by appointment only.
What we value

• a client-centred approach
• meaningful and consistent access to the determinants of health
• the strengths and capacities of clients, students and volunteers
• the integral role of families and culture in supporting Aboriginal clients
• ongoing professional development and training for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal mental health professionals throughout Canada
• partnerships and collaboration with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal agencies and programs
• an appreciation of the diverse abilities, ages, cultures, races and sexual orientations of the people we serve
• a respectful, safe and supportive environment for clients, families, students, volunteers and staff
• ongoing development, learning and education for clients, families, students, volunteers and staff
• ethical clinical, educational and research practice

Who we serve

The Aboriginal Services Program provides clinical services to Aboriginal people of differing backgrounds, and their families. We recognize that each person has a unique set of needs, and we aim to meet those needs in a culturally appropriate way. We provide mental health and addiction services from a holistic perspective that includes emotional, physical, mental and spiritual aspects. We respect the need for Aboriginal cultural approaches to healing, as well as for supplementary medical and non-Aboriginal therapeutic resources.

We also provide clinical training to Aboriginal mental health professionals, and to non-Aboriginal mental health professionals serving Aboriginal people.

Our vision

The vision of Aboriginal Services is to provide mental health and addiction services to Aboriginal peoples living in Ontario in a manner that embraces Aboriginal values, respects Aboriginal spirituality and promotes self-determination in service design and delivery. We aim to provide best practices in addressing the diversity of issues that have affected Aboriginal people.

Our mandate

Aboriginal Services provides culturally appropriate clinical and educational services in partnership with the Aboriginal community and other stakeholders, using a holistic approach that is based on Aboriginal values, beliefs and tradition.

What we offer

• intake and assessment
• individual, couple and family counselling
• talking circles and group work
• telephone counselling
• training, consultation and capacity building
• traditional and Western healing interventions, which include healing circles, sweat lodge ceremonies, consultation with Elders, and one-to-one counselling and therapy
• inpatient and outpatient treatment programs
• referrals (where appropriate, we offer community-based links to inpatient or outpatient treatment at CAMH and other programs)

Did you know?

Canada’s Aboriginal population is growing, representing 3.8 per cent of Canada’s population, according to the 2006 Census. More than 80,000 Aboriginal people are thought to live in Toronto alone. Historical events have left a deeply traumatic legacy for Canada’s Aboriginal Peoples. Many mental health and addiction issues are left untreated, or are treated in a way that does not take into consideration the impact of historical events. Aboriginal people have a unique set of needs that often go unmet. CAMH Aboriginal Services understands the importance of addressing the various underlying causes of addiction and mental health problems, rather than just treating the symptoms alone.