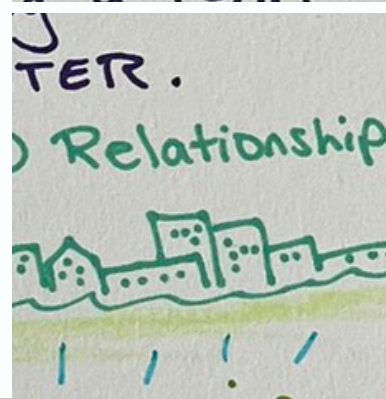
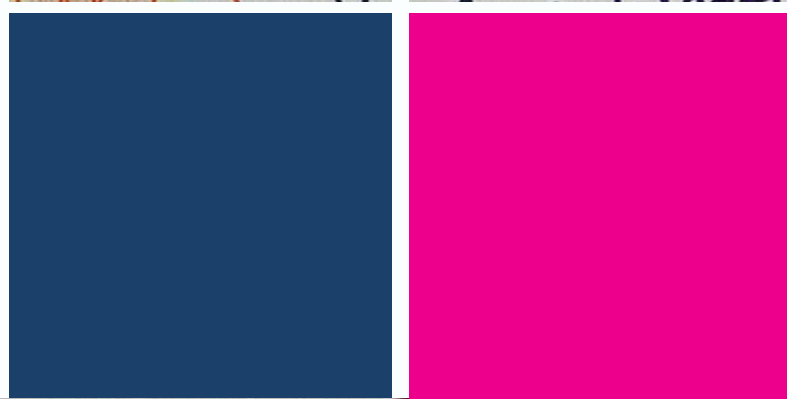
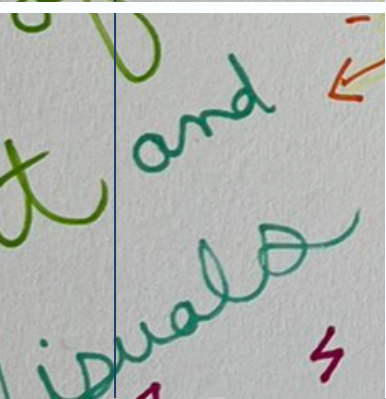
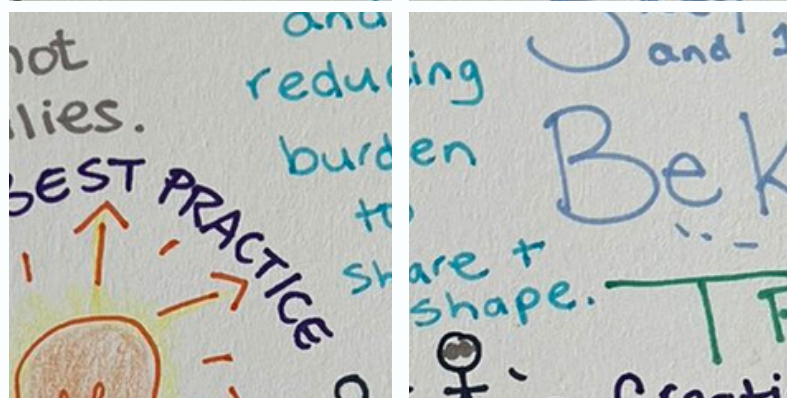
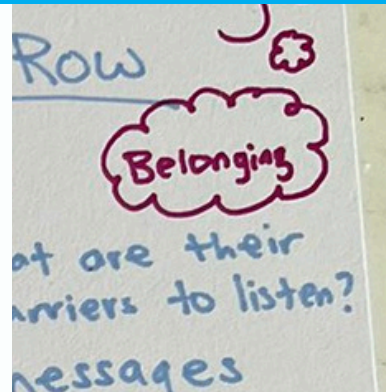




# Research & Innovation

*Every child and youth living at their full potential.*



# A message from the Executive Lead

In its inaugural year, the Research, Innovation and Knowledge Mobilization team aimed to *explore* the potential for bolstering evidence-informed care at Grandview Kids. We identified a sense of confidence in evidence-informed decision-making and a yearning to participate in research studies. As such, we shifted our focus to *building* the portfolio.

The notion of build aligns with the Grandview Kids 2018-23 strategic plan, *Building on Excellence*, where the commitment to expanding the role of research in the centre took shape. As I reflect on the strategic priorities of this plan, I am proud to share that we have met or exceeded all that our past colleagues set before us. We have clinician-led research projects underway, trialled innovative technologies in clinical practice, partnered with prestigious institutions to co-lead research, built internal capacity to foster a culture of inquiry, and shared our promising practices broadly within and across the sector.

Knowledge mobilization is collaborative by nature. As such, I extend my deep gratitude to the Board of Trustees, leadership team, discipline leads, clinicians, community partners, and Research Coordinators for an incredible year.

May you find a shared sense of excitement through the pages of the 2023-24 Research & Innovation Portfolio.

## Taryn Eickmeier, Ph.D.

*Executive Lead  
Research, Innovation and  
Knowledge Mobilization*



# Research & Innovation at Grandview Kids

 <https://grandviewkids.ca/research/>

## Collaborate with Grandview Kids

If you would like Grandview Kids to promote your research project, please complete the [Grandview Kids Application for Approval of a Research Study](#). Please ensure you have received approval from your local Research Ethics Board prior to submitting your request. Requests are reviewed monthly by the Research and Innovation Committee. Questions can be directed to [research@grandviewkids.ca](mailto:research@grandviewkids.ca).

## Share your research and innovation with Team Grandview

Team Grandview hosts a monthly *Lunch and Learn* or *Journal Club*. If you are interested in presenting your research to our interdisciplinary clinical and medical teams, please get in touch with [research@grandviewkids.ca](mailto:research@grandviewkids.ca).

## Promote your innovation to Team Grandview

If you are a start-up or vendor looking to share your invention, innovation or product with members of our clinical and medical teams, please complete the [Innovation Application form](#). Requests are reviewed monthly by the Research and Innovation Team, with demonstrations available in-person or virtually.



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# Strategic goals 2018-23

## Advance research and evidence-based practice

1. Increase the availability of research evidence and its disciplined use to inform point-of-care decision making
2. Identify, trial and assess innovations and new practices
3. Partner with research institutions and others to undertake research, support learning and drive improvement
4. Increase internal capacity to support research and accelerate the adoption of evidence-based quality improvements
5. Share knowledge and innovative ideas externally through multiple channels



Caring and commitment

Whole-child and family- centred



Trust and respect

Accountability

Excellence



Innovation and continuous learning



# Defining our purpose

## Research:

An undertaking intended to extend knowledge through a disciplined inquiry and or systematic investigation.

## Innovation:

Including inventions and diffusion of innovation. Novel devices processes conceived de novo or derived from a pre-existing model. The broad dissemination of new ideas, procedures, techniques, materials and devices and the degree to which these are accepted and used.

## Knowledge mobilization:

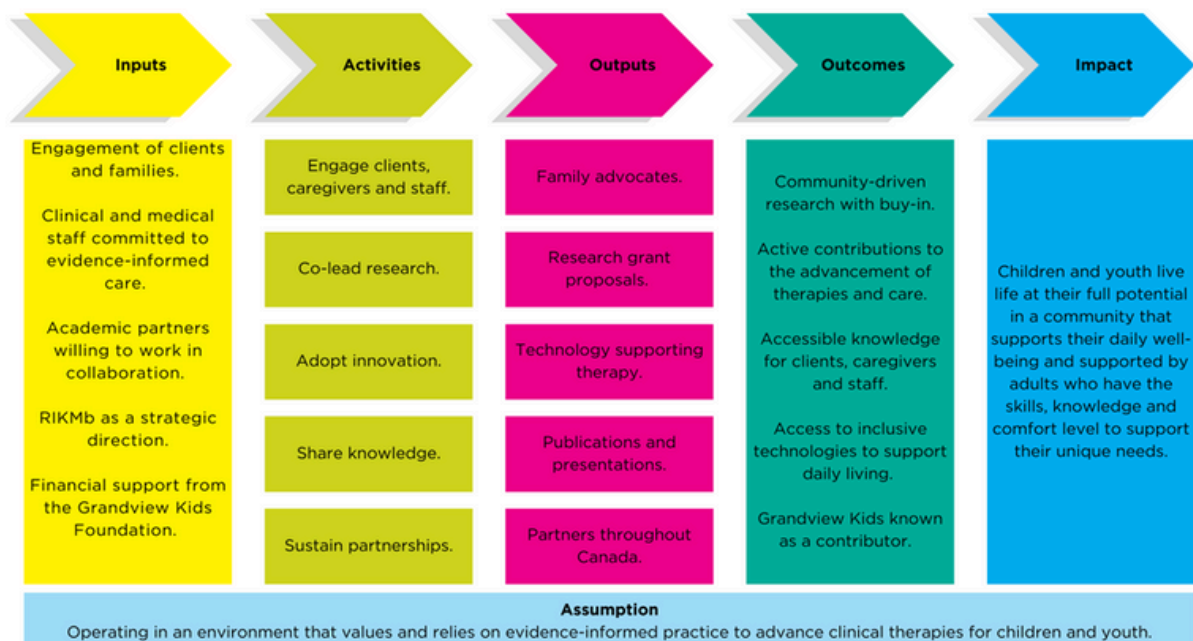
An umbrella term encompassing a wide range of activities relating to the production and use of research results, including knowledge synthesis dissemination, transfer exchange and co-creation or co-production by researchers and knowledge users.

# A logical approach

A logic model is a visual representation of the process by which change occurs. Grandview Kids has adopted a logic model to demonstrate the transformation of the Research and Innovation portfolio between 2022 and 2027.

The input begins with the resources we have available to make the portfolio successful. Thereafter, the activities look to engage clients, caregivers and staff, co-lead research, adopt innovation, share knowledge, and sustain partnerships. Within this year-in-review, we aim to highlight the outputs achieved in the last year. The outputs are a direct result of our activities and include engaged family advocates, research grant proposals, technology supporting therapy, publications and presentations, and partners throughout Canada.

Collectively, when our activities are successful, we aim to meet the outcomes that have a deep meaning related to the vision of Grandview Kids. Ultimately, as we continue to produce significant outputs and meaningful outcomes, we create an impact. We hope this work will influence a world where children and youth live life at their full potential in a community that supports their daily well-being and is supported by adults who have the skills, knowledge and comfort level to support their unique needs. All of these actions and outcomes are subjected to a working assumption that we operate in an environment that values and relies on evidence-informed practice to advance clinical therapies for children and youth.



# The team



**Taryn Eickmeier, Ph.D.**  
*Executive Lead  
Research, Innovation and Knowledge Mobilization*



**Maritza Basaran**  
*Research Coordinator and Knowledge Broker*



**Janicka Auguste**  
*Research Coordinator and Communicative Disorders Assistant*



**Mahsa Assadabadi**  
*Research Coordinator, CP-NET*



**Sumen Waraich**  
*Research Coordinator, Extensive Needs*

Student volunteers

**Aditya Pandya**  
**Karen Bolesa**  
**Ariani Jagan**



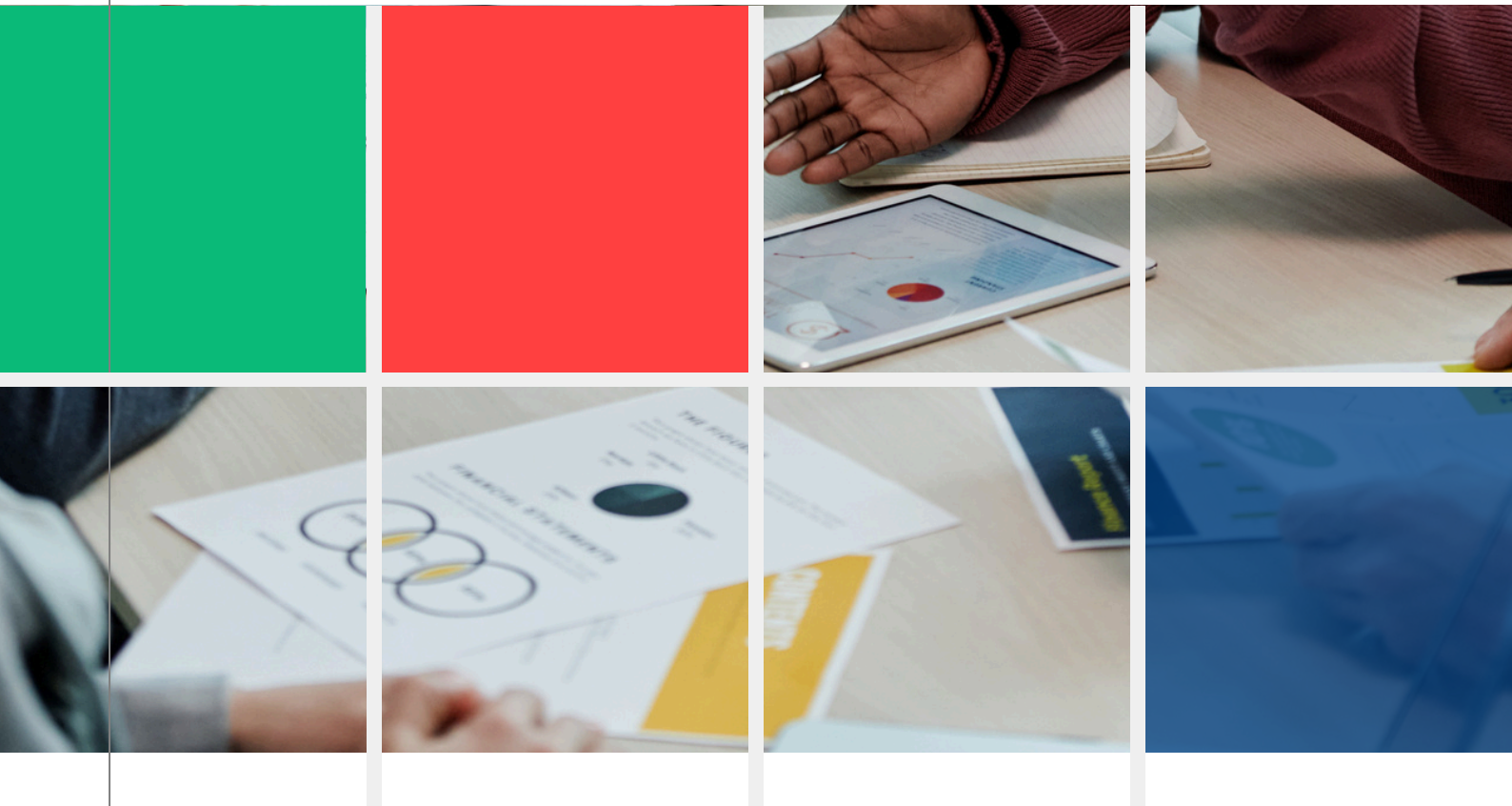


# Family advocates

A Family Advocate is defined as...

The Research and Innovation team is grateful to have partnered with six Family Advocates on projects and committees in the past year. Some of this work has included participation in consultations to support collecting race and disability data from Grandview Kids clients and caregivers as part of a larger federally-funded research project.

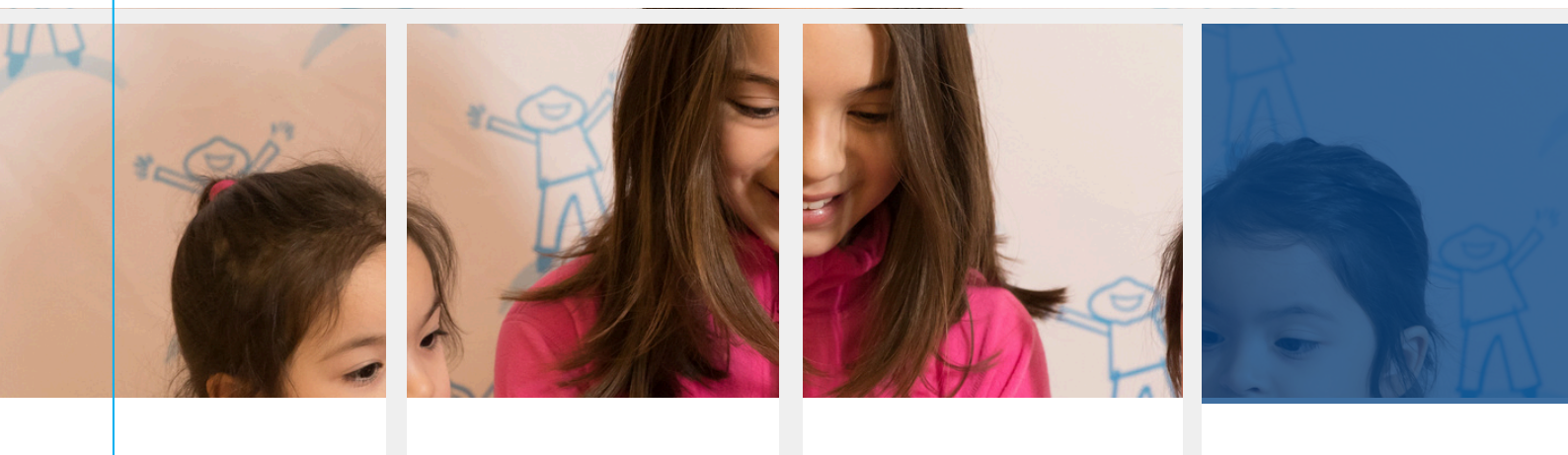
All family advocates are compensated for their time and participation in a while that is meaningful for them. This includes a gift card to the store of their choice, a necessities basket of equal value, or a donation to the charity of their choice.



# Research & Innovation Committee

Our Research and Innovation Committee is a collaboration of internal experts, a Family Advocate and our Grandview Kids Research Associates. Our Committee conducts critical appraisals of research support requests, provides updates on current research studies, and reviews upcoming research, innovation and knowledge mobilization events.

- **Dr. Taryn Eickmeier**, Executive Lead of Research, Innovation and Knowledge Mobilization (Chair)
- **Janicka Auguste**, Research Assistant and Speech-Language Therapy Assistant (Recorder)
- **Dr. Shannon Knights**, Developmental Pediatrician
- **Dr. Heather Shearer**, Family Advisory Committee Member
- **Dr. Meghann Lloyd**, Grandview Kids Senior Research Associate, Ontario Tech University
- **Dr. Fiona Moola**, Grandview Kids Research Associate, Toronto Metropolitan University
- **Heather-Ann Burrell**, Registered Dietitian
- **Lindsay Gurr**, Physiotherapist
- **Mahsa Assadabadi**, Research Coordinator
- **Maritza Basaran**, Research Coordinator and Knowledge Broker
- **Nicole Jones**, Autism Therapy Assistant
- **Nivatha Hathamby**, HEART Lab Coordinator, Toronto Metropolitan University
- **Sumen Waraich**, Research Coordinator
- **Vareesha Khan**, Speech-Language Therapy Assistant





# 2023-24 in review

**2 Research Associates**  
**3 new grants**  
**5 team members**  
**5 innovations trialed**  
**7 KMb events**  
**7 conference presentations**  
**11 studies supported**  
**\$277,000 in funded research collaborations**



# Joint Research Ethics Board

In the fall of 2023, the partnership between Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences and the Abilities Centre was expanded to include Grandview Kids to the Joint Research Ethics Board. This new connection established a commitment of Grandview Kids to ensure research conducted with and for our clients, caregivers and staff meets the highest ethical standards.

The JREB meets monthly throughout the year to review studies that are submitted from any partner organization or external research team. Education sessions are offered to JREB members to strengthen their knowledge and skills in clinical research.

The 2023-24 members of Team Grandview represented on the Joint Research Ethics Board include:

- **Janicka Auguste**, Research Coordinator, Knowledge Mobilization
- **Heather-Ann Burrell**, Registered Dietitian, Complex Care and Feeding Clinic
- **Mahsa Assadabadi**, Research Coordinator, CP-Net
- **Sumen Waraich**, Research Coordinator, Extensive Needs
- **Taryn Eickmeier**, Executive Lead, Research Innovation and Knowledge Mobilization
- **Tina Slaunwhite**, Clinical Manager, Extensive Needs

Read more from the November 8, 2023, joint news release on the next page.



## Ontario Shores and Abilities Centre Announce Expansion of Joint Research Ethics Board, Welcoming Grandview Kids

Durham Region shines as a beacon of research excellence, a vibrant “hub” where innovation melds seamlessly with ambition, sparking a transformative journey poised to reshape the very essence of healthcare’s future. Amidst this ever-evolving landscape, Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences (Ontario Shores) and Abilities Centre welcome Grandview Kids into their Joint Research Ethics Board (REB). The grand unveiling of this expansion occurred on November 3, marking a milestone in the extraordinary journey of these visionary institutions. This expansion is not merely a partnership; it stands as a resounding testament to the unwavering dedication of each partner to propel research forward, transcending not only the boundaries of Durham Region but reaching far and wide.

The Joint REB, now expanded to include Grandview Kids, exemplifies Ontario Shores’ leadership in fostering community research initiatives. This collaborative effort introduces a new era of streamlined and efficient ethical research review processes while opening doors to broader research collaboration. It symbolizes the region’s resolve to lead in the pursuit of innovative healthcare solutions, shaping the future of healthcare not just for its residents but for the world. With Grandview Kids joining our collaborative effort, we are building upon the sturdy foundation of Durham Region’s ongoing journey in research and innovation, propelling it even further. The ripple effect of this expansion will resonate widely, amplifying the forward-thinking purpose that defines our rapidly expanding ‘hub’ of research excellence.

### Key Messages:

- **Strategic partnership:** The Joint REB expansion demonstrates Ontario Shores’ dedication to purposeful partnerships that advance equitable access to care across the healthcare continuum.
- **Supporting research collaboration:** This expansion directly supports the “Research Collaboration” pillar outlined in the Abilities Centre–Ontario Shores MOU, enhancing the research landscape in Durham Region.
- **Facilitating research:** The Joint REB facilitates research collaboration among its partners. It provides a structured framework for onboarding potential research partners in the future.
- **Exploring new research avenues:** With Grandview Kids now part of this collaborative effort, the expanded Joint Research Ethics Board (REB) signifies our shared commitment to advancing the field of childhood disability research. This expansion streamlines ethical research review processes and creates exciting opportunities for Ontario Shores, Abilities Centre, and Grandview Kids to explore new research avenues, pursuing innovative areas that extend beyond traditional boundaries.



The partnership expansion marks a significant milestone in the pursuit of excellence in research, and its application to improve the mental health and well-being of individuals within the Region of Durham.

### Quotes:

*“We are delighted to welcome Grandview Kids into our Joint REB partnership. This expansion exemplifies our commitment to fostering research collaboration and promoting equitable access to mental health care.”*

**- Karim Mamdani, President and CEO, Ontario Shores**

*“The Joint REB expansion underscores our shared commitment to research and its pivotal role in enhancing mental health services. We look forward to the opportunities that this collaboration will bring.”*

**- Pinder DaSilva, VP-Programs, Partnerships & Impact, Abilities Centre**

*“Grandview Kids is excited to join forces with Ontario Shores and Abilities Centre in this Joint REB partnership. Together, we aim to explore new research avenues that benefit our community.”*

**- Tom McHugh, CEO, Grandview Kids**



### **Distinguished leaders and key figures in the Joint Research Ethics Board expansion ceremony (from left to right):**

Emilie Michalovic - Director, Research - Abilities Centre

Tim Pauley - Director, Research & Academics - Ontario Shores

Karim Mamdani - President & CEO - Ontario Shores

Tom McHugh - CEO - Grandview Kids

Ross Ste. Croix - General Manager and COO - Abilities Centre

Taryn Eickmeier - Executive Lead, Research, Innovation, and Knowledge Mobilization - Grandview Kids

Emma Markoff - Joint Research Ethics Board Coordinator & Research Coordinator - Ontario Shores

Shilpa Dogra - Joint Research Ethics Board Chair - Ontario Shores (and Associate Professor, Ontario Tech)

# Research

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, Grandview Kids received nine requests to support research and approved six. The three that were not included did not meet the expectations of the Research & Innovation Committee for methodological rigour, Grandview Kids did not have the correct patient population to support the research question, and one study is still in progress.

As of September 2024, any new studies under review by the Research & Innovation Committee must also receive approval from the Discipline Leads and Clinical Directors to confirm the feasibility of our participation. Thereafter, researchers are required to complete a Multi-Jurisdiction Review Form with the JREB for formal ethics approval.

**Calling parents of children with disabilities across Canada for a research study**

MPOC 2.0: Field-testing the new MPOC

**WHAT IS THE PROJECT ABOUT?**

- Researchers at McMaster University have developed a new questionnaire to measure parents' experiences with healthcare services for their children with disabilities. Now we would like to have parents test it out!

**WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**

- Parents of a child/youth who has been receiving developmental, medical, or behavioural services for at least 6 months in the past 5 years.
- Parents who have not previously participated in another phase of the MPOC 2.0 study.

**WHAT WILL YOU BE ASKED TO DO?**

- Complete a set of questions to tell us about your experiences with healthcare services.

Interested in participating? Want more information?

Contact us at [mpoc2@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mpoc2@mcmaster.ca)

McMaster University  
CanChild

This study has been reviewed by the Hamilton Integrated Research Ethics Board under project #15702 Version #2, Jan 17 2023

**Name of study:** Measurement of Processes of Care 2.0 – Towards the new gold standard in measuring family-centred services: Field-testing the new MPOC 2.0

**Institution/Organization:** McMaster University

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Peter Rosenbam and Sarah Earl

**Role:** Recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funding to Grandview Kids

**Study focus:** Family-centred service (FCS) is an approach to delivering health services to children and their families that recognizes that each family is unique, that parents are the experts on their children, and that treatments need to consider the needs of the entire family. There is strong evidence that families who experience 'better' FCS report better mental health, higher levels of satisfaction, and lower levels of stress in respect of their child's services. We have developed an up-to-date questionnaire that will reflect, and measure, parents' and caregivers' experiences of the delivery of healthcare services and now we want to test it out.

## Innovative language assessment for children with low motor and speech function: Engaging end users to understand the necessary conditions for implementing in Canada

**Institution/Organization:** University of Western Ontario and Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. BJ Cunningham (University of Western Ontario) and Dr. Tom Chau (Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital)

**Role:** Dr. Taryn Eickmeier (Local Principal Investigator at Grandview Kids) and recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funding to Grandview Kids

**Study focus:** Some children with Cerebral Palsy (CP) have significant motor impairments and cannot speak. This does not mean they cannot understand what is being said to them, though it is difficult to assess their comprehension. This new assessment tool, the Computer-based Instrument for Low-motor Language Testing (C-BiLLT) assesses children’s comprehension of language. The current study aims to (1) understand Canadian clinicians’ and families’ access needs and perceived barriers to using the C-BiLLT; (2) incorporate and test additional C-BiLLT access methods for children in Canada; and (3) develop and test an online training to support Canadian clinicians in learning to use the C-BiLLT in practice.

### Participate in a new research study!

**Who can participate?**

Families of children up to age 18 who have Cerebral Palsy and complex communication needs.

**What is involved in the study?**

Participants will be introduced to the Computer-Based Instrument for Low Motor Language Testing (C-BiLLT), a new tool that uses alternative access methods to assess children’s language comprehension.

Participants will then be asked to share their ideas about the barriers and facilitators to using the C-BiLLT in a 2-hour virtual focus group.

**\*\*Participants will be compensated**



Scan the QR code to read more

Interested in participating? Please contact: [hopmans@mcmaster.ca](mailto:hopmans@mcmaster.ca)



## Building capacity in occupational therapy delivery: Supporting interprofessional collaboration preparation

Attention - Canadian Occupational Therapists (OTs), Occupational Therapist Assistants (OTAs), Occupational Therapist Assistant/physiotherapist assistant (OTA/PTAs) practitioners, students, educators, employers and related stakeholders.



**Are you a Canadian OT, OTA or OTA/PTA practitioner, student, educator, employer or another relevant stakeholder in Canada?**

You are invited to participate in a research study entitled:  
**Building Capacity in Occupational Therapy Delivery: Supporting Intra-professional Collaboration Preparation**

**WHAT?**  
Complete a 1-1.5-hour online education program, followed by a 10-minute survey.



**WHY?**  
To evaluate an online educational resource designed to support OT-OTA collaboration in the Canadian context.

**WHEN**  
May 10-June 30, 2023

**Study Questions?**  
Teresa Avvampato, DSc (RHL) Candidate  
Principal Investigator  
[ttraa@queensu.ca](mailto:ttraa@queensu.ca)  
Dr. Marcia Finlayson,  
Research Supervisor  
[marcia.finlayson@queensu.ca](mailto:marcia.finlayson@queensu.ca)

This study has been reviewed for ethical compliance by the Queen's University Health Sciences and Affiliated Teaching Hospitals Research Ethics Board

**Interested?**

1. Complete the online education program:  
<https://working-together-for-optimal-ot-outcomes.tiny.co>
2. Complete a 10-minute survey on Qualtrics to evaluate the program
  - The survey link is available in the online education resource

Please note that you do not have to participate in the survey or study to access or to use this resource.

**Your Voice is Needed**

Consider taking part if you are a/an:

- Canadian OT, OTA, OTA/PTA practitioner, student, educator, employer, or other related stakeholder.
- Interested stakeholder including physiotherapists, physiotherapist assistants, relevant associations etc.

**Institution/Organization:** Queen’s University  
**Primary Investigator(s):** Teresa Avvampato (Doctor of Science candidate), Dr. Marcia Finlayson (Queen’s University), Dr. Mark Hall (University of Alberta), and Dianna Fong-Lee (Contestoga College)

**Role:** Recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funding to Grandview Kids.

**Study focus:** Grandview Kids participated in Phase 2 of this research. As there is a shortage of Occupational Therapists (OTs) in Canada, many employers rely on OT assistants (OTA). There are significant variations in OTA education, training and competence as well as collaboration. Phase 2 included reviewing an online education resource called “Working together for optimal outcomes: Occupational therapists and OT assistants in Canada” and then completing a 10-minute online survey. In doing so, the outcomes hope to identify opportunities to support interprofessional collaboration.



## Bootle Blast, a movement tracking video game for home-based motor therapy: Understanding the family experience



**Institution/Organization:** Bloorview Research Institute, PEARL Lab

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Elaine Biddis and Selvi Sert

**Role:** Recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funding to Grandview Kids

**Study focus:** To understand real-world implementation, Bootle Blast will be trialled for 14 weeks in the homes of 60 young people (6 to 17 years) with any motor condition that could be addressed by the Bootle Blast system, regardless of their diagnosis. Our goal is to increase the commercial viability of Bootle Blast by: (1) Assessing the feasibility for families to independently set up and sustain the use of BootleBlast at home; (2) Exploring if using Bootle Blast at home over 14 weeks impact perceived performance on family-identified therapy goals.

## CHILD-BRIGHT National assessment of facilitators and barriers to implementation of early intensive manual therapy for young children with Cerebral Palsy (INTERPLAY)

**Institution/Organization:** CHILD-BRIGHT

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Adam Firton (Alberta Children's Hospital), Dr. Darcy Fehlings (Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital), Dr. John Anderson (Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital), and Alicia Hilderley (University of Calgary).

**Role:** Recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funding to Grandview Kids

**Study focus:** This study aims to identify the barriers and facilitators involved in the delivery of hand and arm intensive therapy from the viewpoints of caregivers of children with CP under 6 years of age, occupational therapists who treat children with CP, and healthcare administrators/managers in charge of pediatric occupational therapy programs via an online Likert response style survey.

Share your experiences with  
**HAND THERAPY**

Complete an online survey about things that may influence early intensive hand therapy for young children with cerebral palsy.

Across Canada, we'd like to hear from:

- **Caregivers** of a child with cerebral palsy under 6 years old.
- **Occupational Therapists** who provide therapy for children with cerebral palsy.
- **Leaders** who manage occupational therapy programs.


Take a picture to participate in the survey

Participants will receive \$25  
Questions? Ask us at [interplay.study@ucalgary.ca](mailto:interplay.study@ucalgary.ca)

This study has been approved by the University of Calgary Conjoint Health Research Ethics Board (REB22-1692)

## Imaging language function in the developing child: A focus on late talking

**Needed: 18 to 30-month olds**



**WHAT:** This is a neuroimaging and speech-language *intervention* study to establish brain areas used when speaking or while paying attention

**WHO:** If you have a child aged 18-to-30 months, you may be interested in participating

**DETAILS:** If you are interested in participating, please complete the study's parent contact information sheet. This information will be shared with a research team member who will further discuss this opportunity with you.

**Thank you for your time!**  
Your participation is valuable in helping us find out more about young children's language skills.

The team is led by Dr. Karla Washington, University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada.  
[karla.washington@utoronto.ca](mailto:karla.washington@utoronto.ca)

Karla N Washington, PhD. 770w (neuroimaging) Phase 4 Page 1 of 1

**Institution/Organization:** University of Toronto  
**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Karla N. Washington and Nicole Bazzocchi  
**Role:** Recruitment partner  
**Funding:** Funding to support Research Coordinator and Speech-Language Pathologist time (\$3,000)  
**Study focus:** This four-phase research study aims to investigate language function in children who are typically developing, those with developmental language disorder (DLD), and those who are late talkers (LT) at different time points. To achieve the study purpose, we will complete four-phases of research. This portion of the project describes Phase 4 and includes toddlers who are 18 to 30 months of age at pre-treatment being typically developing or LT. During this phase, we will incorporate an intervention program within a pre-post-followup design using established intervention programs for parents of children who are late talkers. The outcomes of this research study will help to address the paucity of available information on the relationships among language skill, intervention, and brain function in children with DLD and those who are LT, which is needed to guide speech-language services.

## Motor skill intervention for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A 5-year follow-up

**Institution/Organization:** Ontario Tech University  
**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Meghann Lloyd  
**Role:** Recruitment partner  
**Funding:** No funds to Grandview Kids  
**Study focus:** This is a 5-year follow up study on a cohort of children with ASD who participated in a SSHRC funded fundamental motor skill intervention between 2017-2020. A second cohort of age and sex matched peers with ASD, who did not receive the early motor skill intervention, will also be recruited.



**Do you, or someone you know, have a child 8-10 years of age with Autism Spectrum Disorder?**

We are looking for 8-10 year-old children with ASD to participate in an assessment of motor skills, physical activity, and overall development, led by Ontario Tech University researchers. This study is trying to understand the long-term effect of motor skill development on behavioural, social skills.

For more information, contact  
**Meghann Lloyd, PhD**  
[meghann.lloyd@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:meghann.lloyd@ontariotechu.ca)

REB# 17228  
 905-721-8668, EXT. 3693  
[compliance@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:compliance@ontariotechu.ca)



Version Date: 24-03-23  
 2000 Simcoe Street North, Oshawa, Ontario L1H 7K4 Canada | 905.721.8688 | ontariotechu.ca

**We want to hear from you!**  
**Participate in a research study to help us to evaluate the online F-words Foundations Course**

| What is the purpose?   | Who can participate?  | What is involved?  |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To hear from families and service providers on their thoughts, experiences, and impact of participating in the online F-words Foundations Course</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service provider to, or parent/caregiver of, people with neurodevelopmental disabilities in Canada</li> <li>Have not yet completed the F-Words Foundations Course</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete an online survey before and after the course, and again in 3 months (~ 15 minutes)</li> <li>Participate in an optional online interview (~30 minutes)</li> </ul> |

Receive a **\$20.00 gift card** for participating in the interview as a token of our appreciation



Version 1 March 24 2023





### Pre-post evaluation of two versions (self-paced versus synchronous) of the F-words Foundations Course

**Institution/Organization:** McMaster University

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Peter Rosenbaum, Andrea Cross, and Rachel Teplicky.

**Role:** Dr. Taryn Eickmeier (Site Principal Investigator), recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funds to Grandview Kids

**Study focus:** The purpose of this study is to evaluate two versions of a tailored online F-words Foundations training program (i.e., a self-paced and a facilitated version) for families and service providers ‘F-words Foundations Training Program for Families and Service Providers’. This program was designed to increase families’ and service providers knowledge and use of the F-words ideas and materials. The program was developed in partnership with parent and service provider collaborators, and members from the Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) - funded CTC Hubs project

**Grandview Kids continues to support research from the previous fiscal year, including:**

**Innovative language assessment for children with low motor and speech function: Engaging end users to understand the necessary conditions for implementing the C-BiLLT in Canada**

**Institution/Organization:** Western University

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. BJ Cunningham

**Role:** Dr. Taryn Eickmeier (Site Principal Investigator), recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funding to Grandview Kids

**Study focus:** Exploring the necessary conditions for bringing a novel measure of language comprehension for children with cerebral Palsy and complex communication needs to Canada.

**Childhood Cerebral Palsy Integrated Neuroscience Discovery System (Phase3): CP-NET**

**Institution/Organization:** CP-NET is an Integrated Discovery Program carried out in partnership with the Ontario Brain Institute

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Darcy Fehlings

**Role:** Co-Investigators (Shannon Knights and Carolyn Hunt), recruitment partner

**Funding:** Approximately \$42,735.00 per year

**Study focus:** CP-NET is working to improve understanding of cerebral palsy (CP) and accelerate the development of new treatments. It explores risk factors, including genetic information, developmental and psychosocial outcomes, neuro-imaging findings and technological innovation for individuals with CP.

**Discrimination, ableism and racism hurt but inclusion can heal: Listening to the intersectional lived experience of youth with disabilities and co-creating solutions**

**Institution/Organization:** Bloorview Research Institute, TRAIL Lab

**Primary Investigator(s):** Dr. Sally Lindsay

**Role:** Recruitment partner

**Funding:** No funding to Grandview Kids

**Study focus:** (1) to explore the diverse lived experiences of youth with disabilities and the intersection of disability with race, ethnicity and gender; and (2) to explore the causes and persistence of systemic discrimination, racism and ableism experienced by youth with disabilities

# Extensive needs

The Extensive Needs program comprises a team of specialized clinicians who provide multidisciplinary assessments to support children with extensive needs and their families. The initiation of this fundamental care service requires analyzing its effectiveness and ability to improve client outcomes. With this in mind, the Extensive Needs project launches a set of evaluation tools for families and clinicians to complete, which will monitor the progression of client outcomes within their care cycle.

The Research Team has been a part of the early stages of program implementation and has taken an interdisciplinary approach to research evaluation by actively participating in clinical rounds and gaining multiple perspectives on service delivery. By taking this approach, researchers have been able to analyze target population needs and understand clinicians' routines. As such, a service delivery model for the execution of evaluation tools at Grandview Kids has been successfully implemented for all clients actively receiving care. Through this process, clinicians have received training in outcome measure tool collection and reporting.

Peer Navigators are active advocates for families and stay in contact with clients, making them essential partners in this project. As outcome measures collection began, families had concerns and questions that required addressing. Peer Navigators collect evaluation tools to allow families to ask those questions and gain support from trained and experienced care providers. Our research became very hands-on with families, as multiple sources of support were made readily available. This also allows for a constant stream of information to be shared with the team addressing family-voiced opinions on evaluation tools.

This project is partnered with the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital. Therefore, the Research Coordinator, Sumen Wariach, continuously communicates with their team to provide updates and share inquiries.

As a direct quote from Sumen,

*"I feel honoured to have joined a remarkable network of professionals dedicated to advocating for children with extensive needs."*





# CP-Net

## Cerebral Palsy Integrated Neuroscience Discovery Network (CP-NET) Clinical Database Platforms - Phase 4

The CP-NET project, which launched its fourth phase in October 2023, continues to build on a decade of transformative research in the neuroscience of cerebral palsy (CP). Over the past ten years, CP-NET has successfully established a standardized database during its previous phases. This database includes over 300 participants with hemiplegic CP and nearly 600 participants with all sub-types of CP from across the province. The new phase 4 aims to recruit an additional 175 participants across Ontario, with a specific target for Grandview Kids to recruit 12 new participants annually, contributing to a total of approximately 30 new participants by the end of the project.

The CP-NET has developed a comprehensive clinical database that spans five platforms: Clinical Risk Factors, Neuroimaging, Genomics, Neurodevelopmental, and Psychosocial & Participation. This database is essential for understanding the multifaceted aspects of CP, including risk factors, socioeconomic impacts, pain management, community participation, quality of life, and mental health well-being. Data collected will also enhance longitudinal studies to track patterns and outcomes over a three-year period.

### CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS!



*Do you have a child diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy?  
Do you live in Ontario? You may be eligible to  
participate in our CP-NET database research study!*

#### **What is Childhood Cerebral Palsy Integrated Neuroscience Discovery Network (CP-NET)?**

- ✓ CP-NET is a network of researchers and clinicians across Ontario focused on transforming the lives of individuals with cerebral palsy (CP) and their families.
- ✓ The CP-NET clinical database is designed to collect information which will help researchers study the causes of CP, improve diagnosis and develop treatments and interventions.

#### **Who can take part?**

Families of children with CP who are two (2) years and older, born after January 1, 2009, and who live anywhere in Ontario.

#### **How do I participate?**

Participation may be done remotely by telephone and computer or during a study visit at one of our four research sites.

#### **Who can I talk to?**

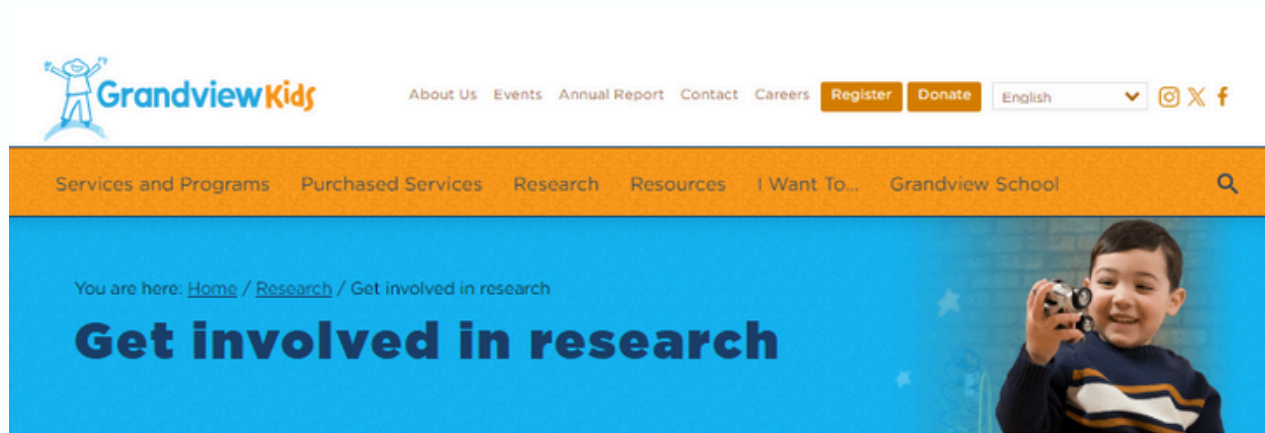
For more information, please contact our Research Coordinator, Mahsa Assadabadi, at 289-675-1754 or email [Mahsa.Assadabadi@grandviewkids.ca](mailto:Mahsa.Assadabadi@grandviewkids.ca).



CTO ID 1517 Version 2.0 01-11-2023



The Research Team is supported by Communications and Marketing to create digital adverts and resources to showcase research opportunities to families.

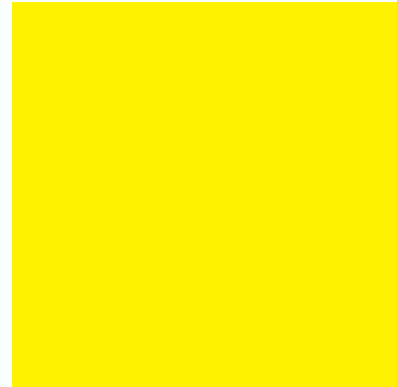
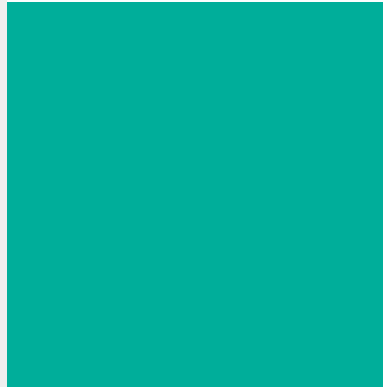


## New opportunities

The research studies listed below are looking for participants. Each study has received approval from a Research Ethics Board and Grandview Kids. Click on the study title to learn more about who can participate and what you're asked to do.

- ▶ Motor skill intervention for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A 5-year follow-up
- ▶ Bootle Blast, a movement-tracking video game for home-based motor therapy: Understanding the family experience
- ▶ Measure of Processes of Care (MPOC) 2.0 - Towards the new gold standard in measuring family-centred service: Field-testing the new MPOC 2.0
- ▶ Discrimination, ableism and racism hurt, but inclusion can heal: Listening to the intersectional lived experiences of youth with disabilities and co-creating solutions [Youth Interview]
- ▶ Childhood Cerebral Palsy Integrated Neuroscience Discovery Network (CP-NET) - Clinical Database Platforms
- ▶ Province of Ontario Neurodevelopment Disorders-Network (POND-Network)





# Innovation

## Brain-Computer Interface

The Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) is an innovative technology that translates brain activity into commands to control surrounding technology. The technology supports children and youth with complex disabilities who do not communicate through spoken word. The developers at the Bloorview Research Institute have trained Grandview Kids and the Grandview School to use the BCI with clients and students. The hope is to develop an inclusive art and gaming program for youth and use the BCI for innovative video gaming and socializing among friends.

## Bootle Blast

PEARL Interactives have gifted Grandview Kids a Bootle Blast unit. This innovative gaming system uses intrinsic motivation to engage in computer play-based motor therapies. The Grandview Kids Therapeutic Recreation team is trialling the Bootle Blast unit to support engagement in group settings.

## Guided Hands

Imaginable Solutions has created Guided Hands, an international award-winning assistive device that enables people with limited hand mobility to write, paint, draw, and access technology through touch-screen devices.



Occupational Therapist,  
Tara Williams trialed  
Guided Hands with  
Grandview Kids through  
School-Based  
Rehabilitation Services.





# Innovation

## Agilik

In early 2024, the Grandview Kids physiotherapists received an in-person demonstration of a technology called “Agilik” by Bioinic Power. This device helps children and youth with crouch gait - when the ankles are flexed with bent knees and hips. The device is wearable and helps reduce undue strain on leg muscles through the use of battery-powered torque through a knee-ankle-foot-orthotic. The physio team continues to review the Agilik in 2024 to determine if Grandview Kids serves the correct population that would benefit from this device.

## MyWay+

MyWay+ is an open-frame walker that cleverly supports children in an upright position, improving stepping and maximizing opportunities for exploration, interaction, and participation. Sunrise Medical Canada, together with Leckey, provided an online demonstration to the Grandview Kids Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists.





# Knowledge mobilization

A wide range of knowledge mobilization activities are offered to Team Grandview such as lunch and learns, journal clubs and coffee chats. Information and opportunities are also shared during all staff meetings and discipline team meetings. Staff champion innovation, learned evidence and best practices by sharing the information with their teams. In addition to knowledge mobilization activities, staff have access to an internal education calendar that shares the latest multidisciplinary opportunities for building knowledge and expertise. Staff are encouraged to connect with the Research Team to share opportunities and ideas.

| March 2024 |  |   |   |  |   |          |
|------------|--|---|---|--|---|----------|
| SUNDAY     | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY |
| 25         | 26   | 27<br>12:00 pm - 1:00 pm<br>OT Webinar: Addressing infant/ho  | 28<br>9:00 am Webinar: Working with 20<br>11:00 am Youth in Pain - Solutions<br>12:00 pm Supporting Refugees: H                 | 29   | 1<br>Deadline for Registration for both<br>8:30 am What's New in CAS Assess<br>12:00 pm Social Work Webinar: Un<br>~ 2 more items | 2        |
| 3          | 4<br>12:00 pm - 1:00 pm<br>Complex Care Journal Club Mini-S    | 5<br>1:00 pm - 2:00 pm<br>Technology Watch List: Care for O   | 6<br>2:00 pm - 3:30 pm<br>Push to Heal: Skateboarding as a  | 7<br>12:00 pm Webinar: Child Health Eq<br>12:00 pm Her Spectrum: Navigat   | 8<br>Deadline: Presentation Submissio<br>Deadline: Call for Contributions f<br>12:00 pm Social Work Webinar: Ov                   | 9        |
| 10         | 11   | 12  | 13<br>12:00 pm - 1:30 pm<br>Social Work Webinar: Building Aut   | 14<br>1:00 pm - 1:30 pm<br>All Staff Huddle  | 15<br>Early Bird Deadline: Orthopaedic<br>CDAAC Virtual Conference Regis  | 16       |
| 17         | 18   | 19  | 20<br>12:00 pm - 1:30 pm<br>Pathways through Partnership: Kno   | 21<br>A comprehensive introduction to sensory processing and autism: To<br>12:00 pm - 3:00 pm<br>Webinar: Child Health Equity Part | 22<br>Conference: InterACTION Physiotherapy Conference (Delta Hotel)<br>12:00 pm Social Work Webinar: Fo<br>~ 1 more item         | 23       |
| 24         | 25<br>10:00 am - 12:30 pm<br>Precisely Speaking: Exploring equ | 26<br>Early Bird Deadline: SAC (Speech)<br>6:00 pm - 7:30 pm<br>Brain Health Basics: Eat and Play h | 27<br>10:00 am McMaster Child Health E<br>12:00 pm Social Work Webinar: Ov<br>12:00 pm GrandView Journal Club:<br>~ 1 more item | 28<br>12:00 pm - 3:00 pm<br>Webinar: Child Health Equity Part  | 29  | 30       |
| 31         | 1<br>Early Bird Deadline: Orthopaedic                          | 2<br>11:30 am Valuing Caring: The Pat<br>1:00 pm Valuing Caring: The Impa                           | 3   | 4<br>Birth to Three Conference: (Live Webinar Conference) (Online)   | 5   | 6        |

The Research & Innovation Team also manage a digital, on-demand library of workshops, webinars and self-paced training modules.

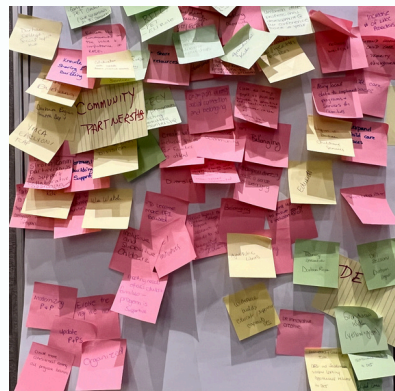
## Trauma-Informed Care

- [Module 1: Safety for Everyone](#) - Complete the survey to receive your personalized link to the online education.
  - View the [Safety for Everyone Toolkit](#).
- [Being Trauma Aware Course](#) is a free, self-paced course delivered by Luna Child and Youth Advocacy Centre.
  - Course explores topics of how trauma impacts children and youth such as cognitive abilities, negative emotions, and behavior.
  - Course can be completed in as little as 3 hours and can be paused and resumed as needed.
  - Once complete, you will have virtual access to the course resources indefinitely.
- [Attachment, Regulation, and Competency \(ARC\) online certificate course](#)
  - Co-developed by Dr. Margaret Blaustein, ARC is a framework that is clinically-proven to enhance trauma-informed care for "traumatized children" by world renowned trauma expert, Dr. Bessel van der Kolk.
  - There are also [8 modular videos](#) available for purchase for professional learning.

## Community presentations

### Seminar Presentation to Ontario Tech University's Faculty of Health Sciences Graduate Seminar

This presentation provided an overview of knowledge translation and mobilization. The KT Game(c) was used to facilitate an exercise for graduate students to gain a brief experience of how to create a knowledge translation plan. Following the presentation, students were excited to learn more about knowledge translation and mobilization and eager to introduce these methods in their upcoming projects and future practices.



### Durham's Best Start Network

Executive Lead Dr. Taryn Eickmeier was elected the Co-Chair of Durham's Best Start Network this year. This Network is a collaborative table of agencies focusing on service delivery for children from birth to 12 years. Alongside Co-Chair Julie Gaskin, Director of the Children's Services Division at The Regional Municipality of Durham, the vision and mission of the Best Start Network were revised. Hundreds of ideas of how to Network hopes to impact the lives of families were consolidated and reviewed. With a renewed vision of "Happy Childhoods, Better Futures," Dr. Eickmeier will continue to work alongside community partners to mobilize best practices in child development and rehabilitation sciences to children, youth and those who care for them.

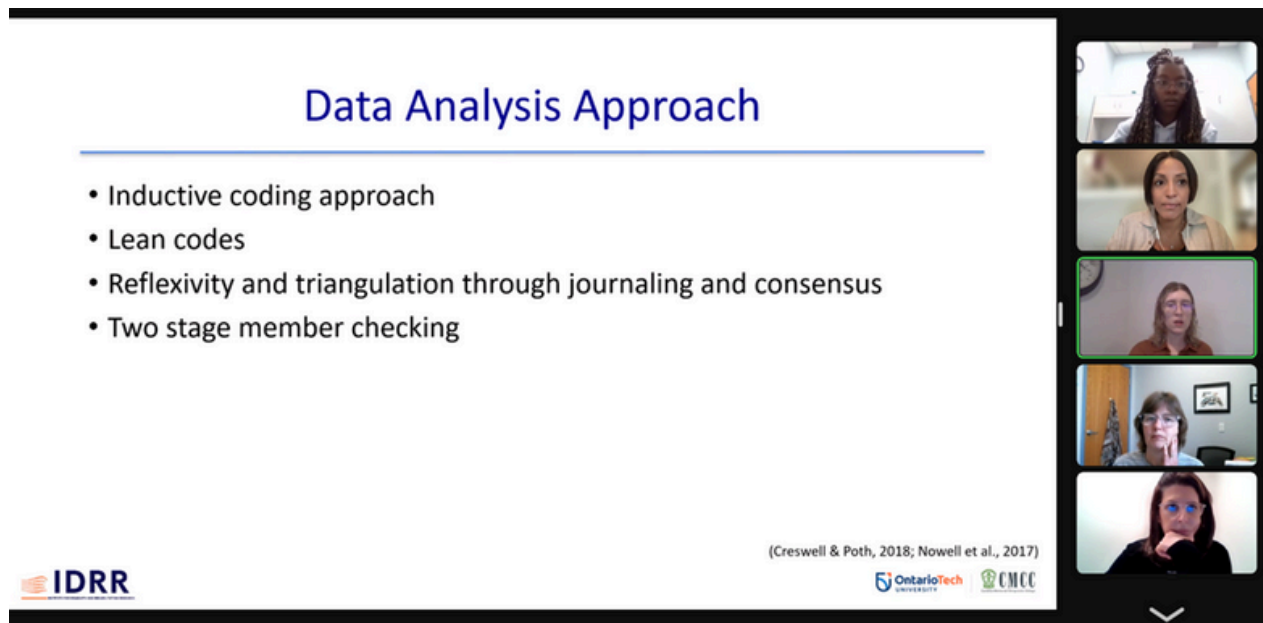
## Lunch and Learns

Grandview Kids invites community partners and expertise in the field of rehabilitation science to share the latest research with clinicians. Topics are identified by the Research & Innovation Committee, though any clinician or staff person at Grandview Kids can request a topic.

In the 2023-24 fiscal year, Grandview Kids offered three lunch and learns.

## Sleep behaviours in families with children with ASD

**Dr. Efrosini Papaconstantinou and Emma Grant**  
**Ontario Tech University**  
**May 2023**



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. On the left, a slide titled "Data Analysis Approach" is displayed. The slide content includes a bulleted list of research methods and logos for IDRR, OntarioTech University, and CMCC. On the right, a vertical stack of five video feeds shows participants in the meeting.

**Data Analysis Approach**

- Inductive coding approach
- Lean codes
- Reflexivity and triangulation through journaling and consensus
- Two stage member checking


(Creswell & Poth, 2018; Nowell et al., 2017)

Logos: IDRR, OntarioTech UNIVERSITY, CMCC


Dr. Efrosini Papaconstantinou, an associate professor from Ontario Tech University, and graduate Emma Grant provided an update about Emma's research study entitled 'Sleep in Families with Children with ASD'. Emma and Dr. Papaconstantinou first presented their work to us back in May 2021. Since then, they have collected and analyzed data from many Grandview Kids families.



## “I was not aware there were certain aspects of listening that I was not doing during conversations”: How Can Effective Clinical Listening Make Therapy More Engaging?



5



**Michelle Servais, Ph.D.**

Michelle Servais, PhD, is a Researcher on TVCC's Quality Management Team and an Adjunct Research Professor in the School of Communication Sciences & Disorders, Faculty of Health Sciences at Western University. Dr. Servais focuses on bringing evidence to quality of care and supporting research in a clinical environment. She collaborates with clinicians, service leaders, educators, students, families, clients, and other stakeholders to develop integrated KT research to enhance service delivery, develop professional expertise, translate evidence into practice, and improve clients' and families' quality of life.

For the past 15 years, Michelle has been collaborating with a research partnership of clinicians, service leaders, researchers, and educators focused on enhancing clinical expertise and practice by developing clinicians' listening and communication skills. The CLEAR Research Team (Clinical Listening that is Effective And Research-based) has focused on a program of integrated knowledge translation research that has included developing and testing innovative, inter-professional, educational tools and interventions to enhance clinical listening and communication skills.

Every child and youth living life at their full potential

### **Dr. Michelle Servais** **TVCC** **July 2023**

Listening in rehabilitation conversations is an essential skill that contributes to client and family engagement and better outcomes. However, these skills are often overlooked in clinical education and in practice, or they may be assumed rather than explicitly taught. Effective rehabilitation professionals typically have several listening intentions during a clinical encounter. These include engaging the other person in the therapy session, understanding needs, building relationships, and collaborating. This presentation will highlight aspects of effective clinical listening, with a focus on strategies that will make a meaningful difference to service delivery and clinical practice. Our CLEAR Communication Research team will share an integrated KT program of research that examined: “What does effective listening look like in rehabilitation therapy?”, “How do you assess listening competency and identify opportunities to improve?”, and “How can clinical listening skills be developed?”.

#### **Learning Objectives**

- To understand the elements of effective clinical listening and communication.
- To learn about four clinical listening stances and a reliable and valid listening tool that allows clinicians to assess their own listening and communication skills to identify areas of strengths and areas for improvement.
- To learn about clinicians' perspectives about the impact of an educational intervention on their listening development.

## Listening to the Margins: Conducting Anti-Racist & Culturally-Safe Research & Care for Racialized and Disabled Children, Youth, & Families in Canada



**Dr. Fiona Moola**

**Toronto Metropolitan University, Grandview Kids Research Associate**

**Nivatha Moothathamby, PhD Candidate**

**Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto  
October 2023**

For this lunch and learn session at Grandview Kids, we will be covering an overview of the Listening to the Margins conference, which took place in 2022. Following that, we will explore the Best Practices Guide which was generated from the intersectional and inter-professional conversations that took place during the conference on recommendations to best care and research practices when working with racialized and disabled children, youth, and families.

### **Learning objectives**

1. Overview of Listening to the Margins Conference
2. Outline and explore the Table 1 of Best Practices Guide -- Best Practice/Research Recommendations for Racialized Disabled Children, Youth, and Families
3. Outline and explore Table 2 of Best Practices Guide -- Best Practice Indigenous-Specific Recommendations for Culturally Safe & Anti-Racist Research & Care

# Capacity-building coffee chats

## Dr. Taryn Eickmeier

### Creating impactful surveys

Program evaluation is an essential component of quality improvement that spans the organization. One efficient method of collecting data is through the use of Surveys. Grandview Kids has an enterprise account with Survey Monkey and a new standardized approach of how to conduct surveys.

The objectives of this 30-minute coffee chat are to:

- Review the purpose and intention of surveys versus more engaging methods of data collection.
- Improve your survey question writing skills.
- Learn the capabilities of Survey Monkey.
- Understand and apply the survey request process at Grandview Kids

### MS Excel: An introduction

Microsoft Excel can be a reliable, yet challenging, software to use. Through this introductory course, we will examine the core features of MS Excel. This will be a hands-on training, from which you will achieve:

- An orientation to MS Excel
- Review of standard formulas
- Create on-brand, accessible graphs

**Survey standards at Grandview Kids**  
Updated: March 2023

**Objective**  
The purpose of this document is to provide members of Team Grandview with the tools and resources required to develop and implement surveys that are rigorous, ethical and aligned with brand standards. The Quality, Risk and Continuous Improvement team will update this document as new features of Survey Monkey evolve.

**Creating a survey**  
The first step is to consider the intention of a survey. What are you trying to learn? Why is a survey the best mode of data collection? Use Table 1 as a guide to help select the most appropriate data collection methodology for your project. You may choose more than one collection type for a comprehensive approach, often called mixed methods.

Table 1 Rationale for selection of data collection methodology

| Method       | Objective   | Sample   | Type of questions                             |
|--------------|---|--|---|
| Surveys      | To identify trends in perceptions, beliefs or knowledge.        | Typically target of 10% of the total population.               | Closed-ended questions. Open-ended comments.  |
| Interviews   | To learn about individual experiences and opinions.             | 8 to 10 participants   | Open-ended questions and prompts.             |
| Focus groups | To learn about shared experiences and opinions among a group of | 6 to 8 groups, each group having between 5 and 8 participants. | Open-ended questions and prompts to encourage |

**Line of Inquiry report template**

**Title of survey: Line of Inquiry Report**  
Insert the date


**Table of Contents**

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| Line of Inquiry report template | 4  |
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| Analysis                        | 23 |
| Reporting                       | 23 |
| Interpretation                  | 24 |
| Stakeholder communication       | 24 |

**Background**  
Describe the issue that you are currently facing and the context for which the context occurs. Write a clear objective to guide your survey development. Record how this information will be used by Grandview Kids to inform or influence policy, practice or service delivery.

**Methodology**  
Provide a rationale as to why you have selected a survey as the preferred data collection method.

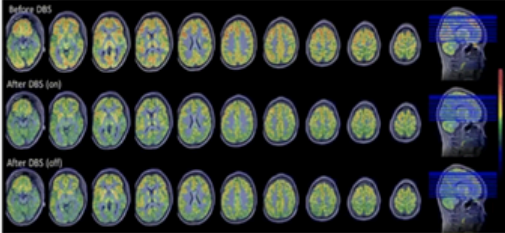
# Journal clubs

 **Nucleus Accumbens DBS<sup>4</sup>**

Article by Park et al - 2017


Patient's post-operative improvements in:

- Expression skills
- Language comprehension
- Eye contact



**Figure 5:** FDG PET/CT images from 14yr old boy with ASD & SIB- before and at 2 years after DBS. Shows increase metabolism at bilateral frontal cortices before DBS (upper row). Two years after DBS, metabolism at bilateral frontal cortices decreased to normal on DBS ON (middle row). Similar pattern shown on DBS OFF (lower row). Metabolism of bilateral occipital cortices also decreased after DBS

*Every child and youth living life at their full potential*



## Deep brain stimulation for autism spectrum disorder: Journal Club

Ariani Jagan, Grandview Kids, Research Student Volunteer  
August 2023

**Article:** Marini S, D'Agostino L, Ciamarra C, Gentile A. Deep brain stimulation for autism spectrum disorder. *World J Psychiatry*. 2023 May 19;13(5):174-181. doi: 10.5498/wjp.v13.i5.174. PMID: 37303931; PMCID: PMC10251363.  
Read the article online: [Deep brain stimulation for autism spectrum disorder - PMC \(nih.gov\)](#)

**Description:** Deep brain stimulation is a medical procedure that can be used to provide therapeutic effects for certain psychiatric and neurological disorders. It involves applying electrical impulses to specific brain structures to modulate neurological circuits. Currently, deep brain stimulation for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) experiencing severe self-injurious behaviors is being studied at Sick Kids with a pilot trial being conducted in 2022. This session will highlight the clinical application and therapeutic effects that deep brain stimulation can have on individuals with ASD, specifically in individuals with symptoms resistant to multiple drug therapies.

### Learning Objectives

1. To learn the psychiatric comorbidities associated with autism spectrum disorders (ASD)
2. To identify which brain structures play a significant role in the pathophysiology of ASD and understand how they contribute to symptoms associated with ASD
3. To understand how deep brain stimulation can modulate neurological circuits to provide therapeutic effects





### Health-professional-educator collaboration in the delivery of school-based tiered support services: A qualitative case study: Journal Club

Marika Beaumont, Clinical Manager, Grandview Kids

September 2023

**Article:** Pheonix, M., Dix, L., DeCola, C., Eisen, I. & Campbell, W. (2021). Health professional-educator collaboration in the delivery of school-based tiered support services. A qualitative case study. *Child, Care, and Health Development*, 47:367-376.

**Description:** Grandview Kids is implementing tiered Occupational Therapy services in 87 schools across Durham Region. This model is being adopted across the province by other children's treatment centres. This article reviews some of the qualitative experiences in two schools in high priority neighbourhoods and outlines some considerations we will need to be mindful of moving forward.

#### Learning objectives:

1. To explore how an interprofessional team worked with educators to provide tiered services.
2. To outline the most common types of services requested by schools.
3. To discuss benefits and challenges when implementing tiered services in the school system.

## Orientation e-Modules

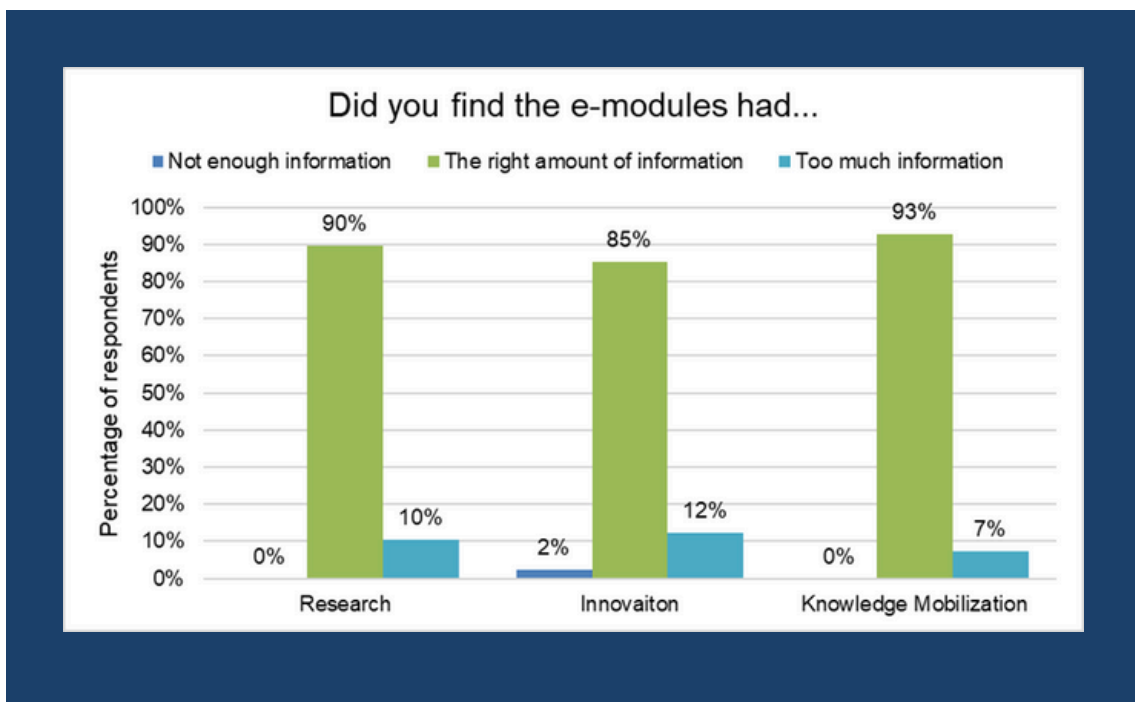
In 2023, the Research, Innovation and Knowledge Mobilization e-modules were launched as part of new hire orientation. Since this time, 48 new employees and students have completed the training. Evaluation questionnaires were launched at the end of each module, prompting users to provide feedback to receive a certificate of completion.

**What is Research:** This module defines research, explains how research can be empowering to staff, clients and their families and reviews how staff can engage with research at Grandview Kids.

**What is Innovation:** This interactive module defines innovation, provides examples of innovation in the children's health and rehabilitation sector and describes innovation projects at Grandview Kids.

**What is Knowledge Mobilization:** This training module reviews the definition of knowledge mobilization and describes knowledge tools and knowledge mobilization activities in research settings.

In the next fiscal year, we will refine and update to meet the needs of Team Grandview.



# Presentations

## **Building research, innovation and knowledge mobilization at Grandview Kids**

Children's Health Symposium

May 2023, London, ON

Taryn Eickmeier, Maritza Basaran and Janicka Auguste

## **Establishing and evaluating peer support and family engagement functions within health care organizations**

Children's Health Symposium

May 2023, London, ON

Avori Cheyne, Andrea Belanger, Natasha Mills, Taryn Eickmeier, Brad Sexton, Jacki Nemisz, Annette Neufeld, Clare Arias-Alexander and Fadia Omer

## **Moving from consultation to empowerment: A Family Advisory Council model**

Children's Health Symposium

May 2023, London, ON

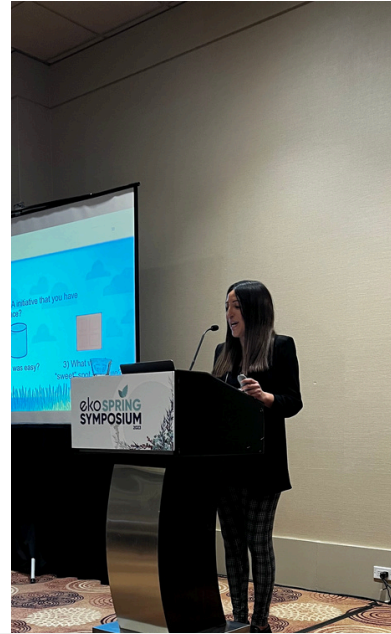
Avori Cheyne, Andrea Belanger, Natasha Mills, Jacki Nemisz and Brad Sexton

## **Fostering inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility within EKO organizations**

Empowered Kids Ontario Conference

May 2023, Toronto, ON

Martiza Basaran and Arjana Sivayogeswaran



# Presentations

## Grandview Kids transforming from paper referrals to Ocean eRerral platform

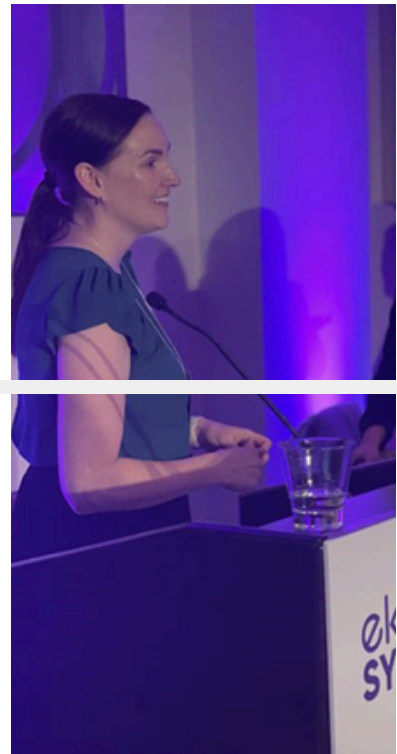
Empowered Kids Ontario Conference  
May 2023, Toronto, ON  
Karen Ng, Alfred Ng, Joshua Theodore, and  
Christine Curan

## Developing clinical competency self-assessment checklist for Behaviour Analysts

Empowered Kids Ontario Conference  
May 2023, Toronto ON  
Brizida Vinjau and Alicia Creaser

## Our co-production journey: Persistence leads to success

CiCan Applied Research Symposium  
February 2024, Ottawa, ON  
Nicole Doyle, Corrinne McCormick-Brighton, Dr.  
Ann LeSage, Dr. Brenda Jacobs, **Dr. Taryn  
Eickmeier**, Lesley-Ann Foulds, Yvonne Mais, and  
Leanne Morton.





# Winter Wonders

## All staff education 2023

In 2023, the Province of Ontario issued guidance to all children's treatment centres and preschool speech and language lead agencies. Through these Leading Innovation for Transformation (LIFT) guidelines, children's treatment centres are helping to enhance timely access to services, reduce wait times, and expand provision of services. Including in the guidelines is a refreshed approach to clinical training to support diversity, equity and inclusion of all families. As such, the December 2023 all staff event included a half day of training to enhance the understanding and personal awareness of unconscious bias and anti-racism with Dr. Gena Chang-Campbell, review the duty to report with Nicole D'Ornealias from Durham Children's Aid Society, and broaden the scope of personal well-being with motivational speaker, Jenny McKee.



# Funding

## 2023-2026

**Building knowledge and understanding of the intersection of race and disability in accessing paediatric rehabilitation services**

**Investigators:** Ontario Tech University, Grandview Kids, The Regional Municipality of Durham

**Funding Name:** Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

**Funding Role:** Co-Principal Investigator

**Funding Start Date:** June 2023

**Total Funding:** \$200,000

## 2023-2024

**Trends in access to government-funded rehabilitation services between 2016-2022 for families of children and youth with disabilities living in the Durham Region: a pilot study**

**Investigators:** Ontario Tech University and Grandview Kids

**Funding Role:** Collaborator

**Funding Start Date:** June 2023

**Total Funding:** \$5,000

## 2023 to 2028

**CP-Net and Hip Surveillance (Phase 4)**

**Institutions/Organization:** Ontario Brain Institute

**Funding Name:** Ontario Brain Institute

**Our role:** Co-Investigators (Dr. Carolyn Hunt, Dr. Shannon Knights) and Research Support (Dr. Mahsa Assadabadi, Nicole Jones)

**Start date:** October 1, 2023

**Total funding:** \$35,000 to Grandview Kids

## 2024 to 2025

**The value of the MUAC Z-scores in the assessment of malnutrition in enterally-fed children with medical complexity**

**Granting agency:** Norman Saunders Complex Care Initiative through SickKids.

**Researchers:** Dr. Julie Johnstone, Katharine Williams, Jordan Beaulieu (SickKids).

**Team Grandview:** Heather-Ann Burrell, Fadia Omer and Taryn Eickmeier.

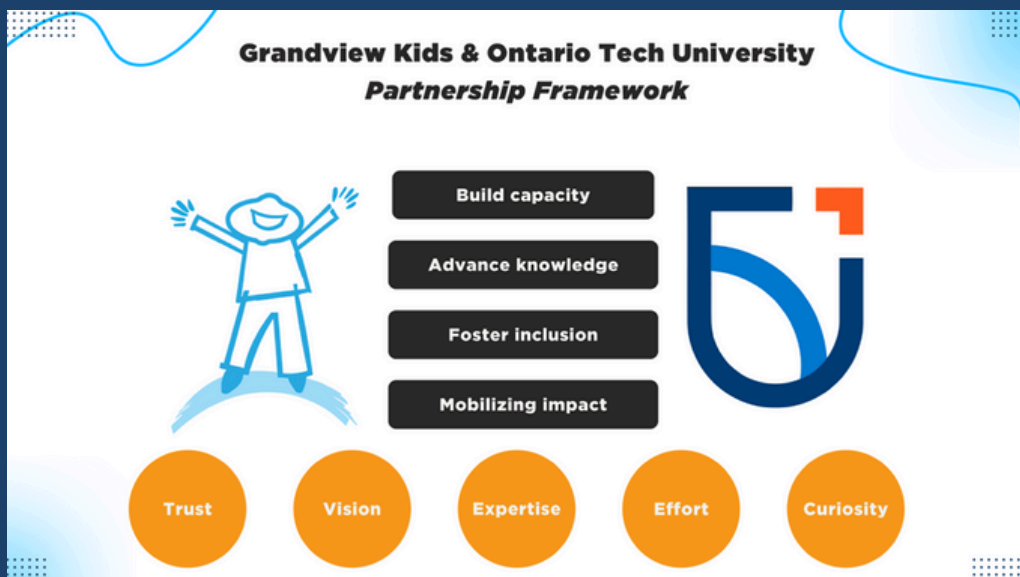
**Amount:** \$37,000

**Timeline:** April 2024 to March 2025



# Partnerships

In February 2023, long-established community partners Grandview Kids and Ontario Tech University are celebrating their shared commitment to advancing research, innovation and education in the Durham Region through a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). During the first year of the partnership, the Steering Committee members co-developed a partnership framework.



The framework refers to a partnership built on a mutual sense of trust, shared vision, leveraging expertise and equal effort, with a dedication to fostering curiosity among staff, students, volunteers, clients and caregivers.

The framework continues with four domains: build capacity, advance knowledge, foster inclusion, and mobilize impact. The partners continue to find opportunities to action these domains, including:

- Identifying opportunities for collaboration with the Faculty of Health Sciences researchers.
- Mentoring graduate students at the Masters, Doctoral, and Post-Doctoral level.
- Identifying joint research grant opportunities.
- Sharing knowledge across organizations related to the advancement of rehabilitation sciences and knowledge mobilization.
- Creating opportunities for Ontario Tech students to volunteer at Grandview Kids.

The partnership continues to grow with new and exciting opportunities on the horizon, such as the opening of the new Grandview Kids headquarters in Ajax. Together with Ontario Tech University, the research conducted at Grandview Kids is creating meaningful change for the local community.



# Special Olympics

Grandview Kids ventured into a new informal partnership this year with the inclusion of Dr. Taryn Eickmeier and CEO Tom McHugh invited to participate in the retreat to identify research priorities for Special Olympics Ontario. The two-day event, facilitated by Dr. Eickmeier, used the Nominal Group Technique to identify key priorities for future research when examining health service utilization data against registration information from Special Olympics athletes.

Participants included Canadian and American researchers interested in supporting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities alongside representatives from Special Olympics International, Special Olympics Canada, and Special Olympics Ontario. Of course, we cannot forget that we successfully included Special Olympic athletes and family representatives. The collaborative atmosphere identified 10 key research priorities, which were then filtered into a project grant to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

The grant application outcomes will be announced in the 2024-25 fiscal year, and Grandview Kids foresees potential opportunities for continued collaboration with Special Olympics well into the future.





# Research Associates



## **Meghann Lloyd, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Ontario Tech University  
Senior Research Associate, Grandview Children's Centre

Dr. Meghann Lloyd earned a Bachelor of Kinesiology (Honours) degree from Acadia University and a Master of Arts degree from McGill University. She completed her PhD at the University of Michigan in the Division of Kinesiology. She joined Ontario Tech University in 2010 and is also a Senior Research Associate at Grandview Children's Centre. Dr. Lloyd's research is focused on the motor development, physical activity, and health of children, youth, and adults with disabilities, including children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down syndrome, Developmental Coordination Disorder, Intellectual Disability, and Cerebral Palsy.



## **Dr. Fiona Moola**

Fiona Moola, MSc, PhD  
Registered Psychotherapist (Qualifying)  
Associate Professor, School of Early Childhood Studies, Faculty of Community Services, Toronto Metropolitan University.

Dr. Moola is a Canadian-South African who is the daughter of anti-apartheid activists from South Africa. Dr. Moola is a woman of colour. Dr. Moola completed Undergraduate, Masters, and Doctoral Degrees at the University of Toronto, graduating in 2011. She completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Concordia University in 2012 before joining the Faculty at the University of Manitoba. Dr. Moola comes with a long history of excellence across many children's in Canada where she has maintained many lines of research. These include a) children with disabilities, play, and physical activity, b) childhood disability and the arts, c) marginalized childhoods, and d) childhood disability, narrative, and storytelling. Dr. Moola also maintains ongoing lines of research in Indigenous childhoods and children's mental health.

Dr. Moola's research is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Canadian Institute for Health Research, TMU, VERTEX, the Holland Bloorview Foundation, and the University of Toronto. Dr. Moola's work is strongly committed to principles of critical health psychology, social justice, and anti-oppression. Thus far, Dr. Moola has contributed 55 publications (articles and book chapters) to the academic peer-reviewed literature. Fiona is a registered psychotherapist (Qualifying) with a small therapy practice. Fiona is also Faculty at the Gestalt Institute of Toronto, which is a psychotherapy institute where she specializes in racial trauma, eating disorders, child development, and children with disabilities. Fiona also teaches and delivers equity, diversity, and inclusion workshops. Dr. Moola is delighted to join Grandview Kids as its second Research Associate.

