

M.A.P.S. ALBERTA CAPITAL REGION

Forward Looking Plan 2024-2027



STRATEGIES

M.A.P.S. will use a multi-pronged approach in assisting human service providers to plan more effectively together.

- Facilitating collaborative planning
- Making maps and creating customized community profiles
- Engaging in collaborative community planning processes as requested
- Engaging in community-based and community-led research towards social change
- Improving access to social demographic information
- Translating community knowledge to inform, educate, and inspire change
- Using prototyping and other tools to support social change
- Advocating for lived/living experience, as it is fundamental in community planning processes and decision making



VISION

Healthy and strong communities for children, youth, adults, seniors, and families.



STATEMENT OF NEED

Based on our work in the community, we know that families and individuals are requesting a more cohesive response from service providers.

Human service providers do not often have the time, resources, ability, and/or capacity to conduct a deeper analysis of the population they serve or to facilitate collaborative planning initiatives.

Many human service providers and community groups are requesting support in achieving their vision. While they have passion, they may lack capacity to facilitate collaborative planning. They are often not able to access the range of data and information which would assist their work.



HEALTHY & STRONG COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

- Caring relationships
- Respect for a diversity of perspectives
- People feeling that they belong
- People participating in their community
- Safe and nurturing
- Strength in the face of adversity
- Positive relationships among community service providers
- Cohesive human services



ACTIVITIES

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- Facilitate the community mapping and planning process with partnership groups
- Create maps with existing partnership groups engaged in collaborative planning
- Update our technology so that our maps can be more interactive and accessible

CREATING MAPS AND CUSTOMIZED COMMUNITY PROFILES

FACILITATE COLLABORATIVE PLANNING

- Design and facilitate collaborative planning processes as requested
- Provide workshops in how to develop and maintain effective partnerships and related topics as requested
- Create new and innovative methods of engaging residents in community mapping and planning

- Work with collaborative tables to conduct research projects that work towards solutions for social problems
- Amplify the voice of community to show the reality around needed supports in the community's social safety net

ENGAGING IN COMMUNITY-BASED AND COMMUNITY-LED RESEARCH TOWARDS SOCIAL CHANGE

ENGAGING IN COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESSES

- Work with community groups, social service organizations, and collaborative tables to assist them in creating pathways to integrate/coordinate services and create frameworks for community mapping processes
- Engage with collaborative groups to enhance their abilities to work together and plan their activities

- Host annual showcase to share exceptional work in collaborative planning and effective partnership
- Create Map-Up Newsletters to update the community about current projects and research outputs
- Share our learnings and knowledge on community mapping and engagement processes as an invited guest at collaborative tables, community events, and select meetings

TRANSLATING COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE TO INFORM, EDUCATE, AND INSPIRE CHANGE

IMPROVING ACCESS TO SOCIAL DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

- Update census maps as data becomes available
- Continue to update the Edmonton Social Atlas and Regional Social Atlas
- Maintain M.A.P.S.' website to ensure our interactive dashboards and other maps/datasets are updated for community members
- Continue to further develop social vulnerability index and work with community to use the information to create positive social change

- Ensure that individuals with lived/living experience voices are present in community-based and community-led research projects
- Advocate for lived/living experience voices to be involved in collaborative work and present at decision making tables
- Provide leadership in mentoring other researchers and community groups in involving lived/living experience voices in their processes

ADVOCATING FOR LIVED/LIVING EXPERIENCE, AS IT IS FUNDAMENTAL IN COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESSES

USING PROTOTYPING AND OTHER TOOLS TO SUPPORT SOCIAL CHANGE

- Involve community members and social service agencies to create programming that initiates solutions for children, youth, adults, seniors, and families needing support
- Seek out evidence-based methods in other communities that can help contribute to solutions in the Edmonton community



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

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- M.A.P.S.' partners have implemented strategies for greater collaboration at local and regional levels
- Social service agencies and community members have an increased understanding of gaps in services to children, youth, adults, seniors, and families
- M.A.P.S.' partners' relationships and collaborative tables are strengthened
- Social service agencies and community members engage in increased joint planning at local and regional levels
- Increased effectiveness in responding to needs of children, youth, adults, seniors, and families

MID TERM

LONG TERM

- Children, youth, adults, seniors, and families have enhanced access to services to improve their lives and achieve social justice

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS

- Social service agencies report they are more informed about their community of interest
- Joint planning initiatives are occurring regularly
- Social service agencies and community members report that they have an increased understanding of gaps in services
- Agencies and community members seek out M.A.P.S. on a regular basis for our involvement in community processes
- Systems-level positive social change is occurring in Edmonton and Alberta

SHORT TERM

- Social service agencies and community members are more informed about their communities
- Community groups and social service agencies identify opportunities and courses of action for greater collaboration
- Community members and human service organizations identify barriers to greater collaboration and strategies to address them
- Social Service agencies and community members identify gaps in service and strategies to address them
- Community members identify what is working well and strategies to build on these successes
- Increased capacity for partnership within community

