

# Mental Health Response Unit

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Accessibility Workshop**

**October 20<sup>th</sup> , 2015**



# **Mental Health Response Unit (MHRU)**

## **Description**

**MHRU is comprised of a specially trained OPP officer and a mental health crisis worker.**

**Joint venture between HDGH and OPP.**

**The team responds to referrals from police, community service providers, families, etc.**



## **MHRU cont'd.**

**Our purpose is to decrease the stigmatization and marginalization of individuals with a mental illness as well as frequency of police contacts and frequent ER visits.**

**Our aim is to provide comprehensive mental health assessments and attempt to engage individuals with community services aimed at treatment outside of hospital and/or the criminal justice system.**



# Referral Criteria

**Chronic and persistent mental illness and has frequent contacts with police and/or the emergency room.**

**Risk of entry into the criminal justice system due to behaviour related to acute symptoms of a mental illness.**

**An individual's level of daily functioning (e.g. ADL's) are deteriorating and intervention is required to prevent hospitalization.**

**When an individual is reluctant or unable to access mental health services.**

**When a person has lost contact with their mental health support system (e.g.; family members, GP, CMHA, psychiatrist).**

**When it is NOT a 911 call.**



## Exclusion Criteria

**When the individual requires a 911 response, e.g.; suicidal, homicidal, medical emergency.**

**When the individual is in physical distress and requires medical attention.**

**MHRU is not a first responder unit and as such, any situation requiring emergency service/response should be re-directed to the appropriate authority (e.g.; 911, hospital, 24-hour crisis line).**



## **How to Make a Referral**

**Call either of the MHRU offices and/or send referral through MHRU email account.**

**Provide as much detail as possible about the individual including name, DOB, address and pertinent details about the concern.**

**If you are unsure if a client meets eligibility criteria, please call and we will consult with you over the phone.**



# **Additional Information**

**Important to note that in regards to accessibility of MHRU service:**

- we attend the client's home (no transportation or physical disability limitations)**
- phone number and email are published for ease of referral**
- community partner for interpretation services, if required (including sign language)**

# Contact Information

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# Questions?

