The START Program

Are you having a hard time navigating multiple agencies to deal with complex issues for either yourself or your child? The START Program offers multiple programs to help families, youth and adults to meet with all their agencies once a month to collaboratively create solutions and reach goals.

The START Program is a community mobilization model that focuses on collaborating with community agencies to create a team to work alongside the client to best support them. Monthly meetings allow all agencies involved with the client to fully understand the client's unique situation and collaboratively create solutions. START and its model programs work from a client-centred, trauma-informed and culturally inclusive perspective. The START program and its models offer access to their programs across Manitoba. There are three different programs that are offered, START Youth, Re-START for Adults and the START Families Program (not all program streams are offered in all areas, please see information below).

The START Youth Program assists youth who are experiencing challenges in various areas of their lives. This program assists our youth clients by coordinating and advocating for resources and provides ongoing supports. To be eligible for the Youth Program, the client must reside in the catchment areas, be under the age of 18 (or 21 if they are still in school) and be experiencing challenges in various areas of their lives. Some of the challenges that our youth may experience include mental health concerns, physical health concerns, substance use concerns, school refusal/lack of attendance, academic struggles, involvement with police, involvement with Youth and Community Corrections (probation), involvement with Child and Family Services, being a victim of crime or experiencing family relational concerns.

The Re-START Program for adults is funded by Manitoba Justice and is offered in several communities across Manitoba. The Re-START program helps support clients who have been involved with the Justice system create and reach meaningful goals by utilizing community and family resources to intervene, plan for and support clients. As a result, this helps to reduce our client's involvement with the Justice system. The Re-START Program supports positive behaviours, ensures that all services relevant to the client are being accessed and that the client is progressing through the program in the most effective way possible. Much like START's Youth programs, Re-START provides coordination of interagency case planning and advocacy, and it can also assist with completing applications for treatment programs, schooling and accessing other services. To be eligible for the Re-START Program, a client must be over the age of 18, have been involved in the justice system in any way and they must reside in the catchment area of one of the programs.

The third and final program that is offered through START, is called the START Families Program. START Families is funded by the General Authority of Child and Family Services. START Families is a consent-based community mobilization program that utilizes the START and Safe & Together Models to assist adults who are perpetrators of domestic violence with the goal of creating new outcomes for their families. The START Families program focuses of ending

abusive behaviours displayed by the perpetrator and works alongside them to be accountable for their pattern of behaviour and choices. It also promotes the shift towards creating stability, healing and healthy families while ensuring that the perpetrator is responsible for their behaviour.

In addition, any clients that are enrolled in START Model programs are eligible to receive mental health services with our own Mental Health Counsellors.

If any of these programs interest you, please find below the contact information for the following catchment areas:

The START Program – Selkirk: offers access to START Youth, Re-START for Adults and START Families. Participants must reside in Selkirk, St. Andrews, St. Clements or Brokenhead Ojibway Nation.

- **Please contact Tammy Thompson for information. 204-785-4001**

The DART Program – Dauphin: offers DART for Youth, Re-START for Adults and the START Families program. Participants must reside in the city and RM of Dauphin, Villages and RM's of Ochre River, Winnipegosis, Ethelbert, Grandview, Gilbert Plains or Valley River First Nation.

- **Please Contact Lori. B at 431-345-0983**

The Headway Program – Steinbach: offers Headway for Youth, Re-START for Adults and the START Families Program. Participants must reside within the Hanover School Division catchment area.

- **Please contact Heidi Falk at 204-905-3685**

The FYRST Program – Gimli: offers the FYRST Youth Program and the Re-START Program for Adults. Participants must reside in the Evergreen School Division catchment areas, including Gimli, Arborg, Riverton, Winnipeg Beach and the surrounding areas.

- **Please contact Holliday Fisher at 204-641-2914.**

Community Resource Network – Stonewall: offers Resource for Youth and the Re-START Program for Adults. Participants must reside in Stonewall, Town of Teulon, or the RM of Rosser, Rockwood or Woodlands.

- **Please contact Lori Alcorn at 204-906-9273.**

The ARC Program – Winkler: offers a Youth Program and Re-START Program for Adults.

- **Please contact Riley Johnston at 204-325-0257.**