

**Target population:** Young people ages 12-24

**Mission:** To transform health and social services for young people by bringing partners together in a single place and integrating services, making it easier for youth to find the care, connection and support they are seeking.

**Funding:** Foundry Vancouver-Granville is operated by Providence Health Care (PHC). Services are provided by partner organizations including PHC, with additional operations funding from the Government of British Columbia. Foundry Vancouver-Granville is a member of the Foundry provincial network, which is supported by the Government of British Columbia, the Graham Boeckh Foundation, St. Paul's Foundation and the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research. Foundry's online platform, foundrybc.ca, is powered by BC Children's Hospital.

## Context

Foundry Vancouver-Granville initially opened as the Granville Youth Health Centre in 2015 in downtown Vancouver. It was designed to provide integrated primary care, as well as mental health, substance use and peer support services in a welcoming space designed with young people under 24 years of age. This served as the prototype and inspiration for the Foundry provincial network of centres.

Like all Foundry centres, Foundry Vancouver-Granville focuses on early intervention and provides mental health, substance use services, peer support, primary care and social services. It also provides navigation to specialized services, creating seamless pathways of care.

Because the centre is located in the downtown core, the youth coming through their door often need higher-intensity services, are precariously housed or have substance use concerns.



## Governance & management

Each Foundry centre is operated by a lead agency that brings together local partners, service providers, young people and families. Foundry Vancouver-Granville is operated by Providence Health Care's Inner City Youth program.

In addition, every Foundry centre engages with young people in a meaningful way through their Youth Advisory Committee (YAC).

## What this initiative is about

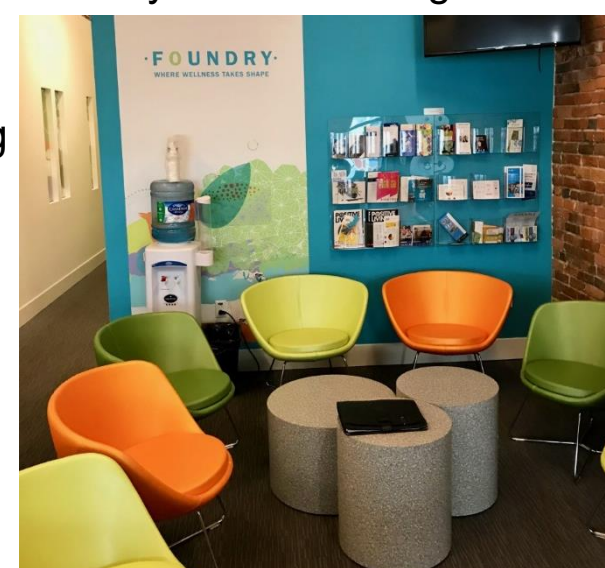
Foundry's strategy of integrated community care breaks down silos and improves access to care for young people with complex mental health and substance use conditions. This approach bridges gaps in the system and allows young people to access all the services that they need, simply by entering one door.

### Services offered at Foundry Vancouver-Granville include:

**Mental Health & Substance Use Services:** Both drop-in and appointment-based time-limited counselling are available. Counsellors use strengths-based and evidence-informed brief therapies to support youth with goals and coping.

**Primary Care (Physical and Sexual Health):** Consists of a team of family doctors, nurse practitioners and nurses. This team provides services on a drop-in and/or appointment basis.

**Peer Support:** Foundry Vancouver-Granville has served as an exemplar of how to include peer support workers as full and effective members of a multidisciplinary team. Peer support is a core feature of Foundry's model of care and new to many centre lead agencies and communities. This includes extensive organizational expertise in recruiting, training, and mentoring workers, as well as optimizing the role that peer support workers can play in facilitating integrated approaches to care and to reducing barriers for young people seeking services.



**Intensive Case Management:** The intensive case management (ICM) team, a service of Inner City Youth program, is co-located at the Foundry Vancouver-Granville centre and supports young people requiring more intensive and specialized mental health and substance use support. All young people receiving ICM services are connected with a team that includes a case manager and psychiatrist specializing in young adult mental health and substance use. ICM team members meet with youth regularly on an outreach basis to develop care plans, support with life skills development and link them with resources and community services to support their treatment and recovery goals.

**Income Assistance:** Income Assistance workers are able to help young people with their finances in a multitude of ways. These include support with disability applications and by explaining the many other services that young people may qualify for, such as employment training.

**STADD Navigator:** Foundry Vancouver-Granville is partnered with Services to Adults with Developmental Disabilities (STADD), which provides the services of a STADD Navigator on-site. A STADD Navigator provides transition planning supports for young people ages 16-24, who are eligible for Community Living BC (CLBC) services. By building a unique personalized care plan, the Navigator helps young people in areas such as housing, employment, education, community inclusion, health and wellness.

## Impact

- ❖ All Foundry centres share a provincial data collection system, called Toolbox, to allow for provincial and local-level evaluation. It shows that over 1,000 individual youth have accessed Foundry Vancouver-Granville over the past year.
- ❖ 80% of young people visiting the centre fall in the 19-24 age group and most accessed services include mental health and substance use services as well as physical health.
- ❖ Almost 50% of clients of Foundry Vancouver-Granville score as in extreme distress on a distress-rating scale, meaning that their needs are more severe.
- ❖ The Foundry central office and Foundry Vancouver-Granville are now reviewing Emergency Room data from St. Paul's Hospital, which is close to the centre, and observing a trend in reduced admissions among youth aged 12-24 (though this data still needs to be validated).



## Insights (Key learnings)

- ❖ Foundry's provincial evaluations show that Foundry has *transformed access to services for young people and their families* primarily through the intentional integration of services, programs, and policies across sectors and systems.
- ❖ We believe that achieving Foundry's vision – transforming access to health and social services for youth and their families in BC, requires the full and meaningful integration of services in each Foundry centre. We have learned that this requires intentional and focused effort, a commitment to distributive leadership, and a willingness to address system barriers head on.
- ❖ We believe the key for success is to have a common, identifiable and youth friendly brand, which includes absence of access barriers; youth-friendly staff; youth-appropriate spaces; and navigational ease with embedded family supports.

### Who



**Malcolm Jenkins**, Manager, Inner City Youth Program & Foundry Vancouver-Granville

*With representatives from Foundry Vancouver Granville’s Youth and Family Advisory Committees and Staff*

### When & Where

When: Thursday, October 3, 9am – 11am  
 Where: Vancouver Granville, 1260 Granville Street, Vancouver  
<https://foundrybc.ca/vancouver-granville/>

### Workshop agenda

- 9:00am: Welcoming remarks, land acknowledgement, and round of introductions, led by Malcolm Jenkins
- 9:15am: Tour of Foundry Vancouver-Granville, led by Malcolm Jenkins
- 10:00am: Foundry Vancouver Granville presentation:
  - Partnerships & integration
  - Youth & family engagement
  - Funding and governance model
  - Challenges & opportunities
  - Evaluation
- 10:20am: Q & A
- 11:00am: Workshop concludes

### Workshop main goals

- To provide workshop participants with an intimate and interactive tour and presentation of Foundry Vancouver-Granville, demonstrating the impact meaningful youth and family engagement has had both on the physical design of the centre and the programs and services offered.
- To provide workshop participants with an opportunity to ask questions, learn from Foundry’s model, share their own experiences, and provide input into the challenges and opportunities faced by Foundry Vancouver-Granville.

### Interactive session

Both the tour of Foundry Vancouver-Granville and presentation will provide opportunities for workshop participants to ask questions and engage in dialogue regarding their own experiences and that of Foundry Vancouver-Granville.



### Questions for discussion

- What are the challenges and how have you overcome them related to services for individuals who identify as Indigenous visiting your centre?
- What are the unique challenges Foundry Vancouver-Granville experiences because more services are delivered outside the Foundry building (outreach, through partners, etc) when the Foundry model is built on access to all services under one roof?
- What are the impacts, challenges and unique opportunities that come with serving an itinerant population of youth?
- Foundry Vancouver-Granville, along with other Foundry centres and the youth and families they serve, have been deeply impacted by an ongoing opioid overdose crisis. How do you support staff morale and wellness in the face of a relentless crisis where there are no easy solutions?
- How do you help facilitate an easier transition from being a ‘young person’ to becoming an ‘adult’ for those we serve?
- How do you build alliances and ensure effective participation of different stakeholders in the local community. What are the local governance structures?
- Some organizations use the term ‘client’, others use the word ‘patient’, and others still use ‘consumer’. Could those we serve be defined differently and would that change the way our practice looks (e.g. from delivering services to clients to co-producing health with community members)?
- What are the differences in terms of needs between the clients at Foundry North Shore and Foundry Vancouver-Granville?

### Space for your personal notes

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---