

Community Report 2022-2023

Mental **(** Health Foundation

Identified Priorities



Our Mission

To make a difference in the lives of Nova Scotians by funding mental health and addiction initiatives.

Our Vision

To see Nova Scotians living with mental illness and addiction thriving in our communities.

Message from The President & CEO and Board of Trustees Chair

2022-2023 was a year for creating far-reaching waves of community support!

Through a lens of education, peer support and community connection, the Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia funded a record number of grants focused on the critical priorities of suicide prevention, youth, addiction, vulnerable populations, diverse communities, and mental health literacy.

By responding to the needs of our grant recipients, we created ripples of support from one end of the province to the other. For each direct touchpoint there were thousands of continuing and spreading impacts. For example, the benefits of one community support group session for twelve individuals improved the mental wellness of countless others including family members, friends, neighbours, coworkers, teammates, employers, and more.

Thanks to your ongoing support, there have been many highlights in 2022-2023. The Foundation is proud to have launched critical group trauma therapy for refugees arriving in Nova Scotia.

We have increased our monthly donors, grown our community of mental health support, and have had the privilege of honouring several individuals who make significant mental health contributions in our province.

Thank you to our donors, partners, volunteers and friends. Your generosity throughout 2022-2023 has allowed us to touch even more Nova Scotians, both directly and indirectly through the ripples of hope and help.

Together, we are *changing the way people think* about mental illness and addiction.

Starr Cunningham
President & CEO

Alisa Alyward Chair, Board of Trustees





Realizing the Ripples

IN 2022-2023, THE MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION OF NOVA SCOTIA APPROVED 241 GRANTS TOTALING MORE THAN

\$3,000,000

Our Grants fall into five categories:

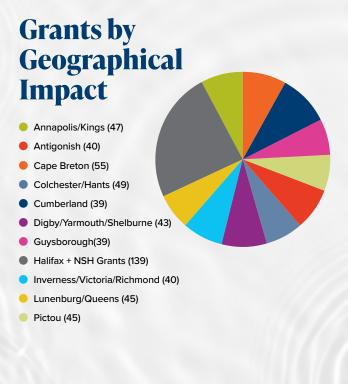
Community
Grants support
programs and
services that benefit
the mental health
of Nova Scotians
across the
province.

Mental Health &
Addictions Grants
provide funding to
enhance the services
provided by the Nova
Scotia Mental Health &
Addictions Program,
Central Zone.

Named Grants deliver funding to specifically defined mental health and addictions organizations, programs, and services. Episodic
Grants allow
mental healthcare
professionals to apply
for one-time financia
aid for individuals
living with mental
illness or
addiction.

St. John
Ambulance Mental
Health Literacy Grants
provide Mental Health
First Aid and Mental
Health and Wellness in
the Workplace training
to individuals and
organizations.

With the use of technology to connect across geographies, many projects impact multiple communities.



The Foundation is proud to partner with the Nova Scotia Office of Addictions and Mental Health to make many grants possible.



Women (31)

Youth (34)

Projects We Fund







Tri-County Women's Centre

SUPPORTING WOMEN WITH MILD TO MODERATE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

This pilot project includes oneon-one and group counselling for women facing barriers to accessing services in Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth counties. It develops peer support group programs, initially co-facilitated by a qualified therapist.

"My client says the opportunity to attend counselling sessions through the Tri-County Women's Centre has literally saved her life."

Colchester Ground Search and Rescue Association

PREVENTATIVE SUICIDE
RESPONSE AND EDUCATION
FOR GROUND SEARCH & RESCUE

This project trained CGSARA volunteers to become certified ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) facilitators. It also provided workshops for volunteers affected by suicide.

"This training has provided me with the skills I need to recognize the signs of suicidal ideation, provide a skilled intervention, and develop a safety plan to help keep someone safe for now."

Youth Project Cape Breton

QUEER-SINE: HEALING WITH FOOD

In addition to cooking classes, the impact of food on mental and physical wellbeing are discussed through a queer lens. Guest speakers provide practical advice on budgeting, eating disorders, and employment.

"I'm thankful a program like this was offered so close to home for folks in the queer community. I've gained many new friends that I will keep dear to my heart for life."







Mi'kmaw Circle of Hope Society

THE LAND LOVES US BACK

Traditional knowledge, teachings, and ceremonies connect elders to younger Indigenous women in Unama'ki to reconnect with the land.

"I have always felt connected to the land, and this has brought me back to my childhood of taking part in traditional activities."

Alcare Place

SOCIAL RE-INTEGRATION/ COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECT

This project offers group participation trips, community involvement and social events to individuals recovering from addiction.

"It is very helpful in recovery from addiction to find new ways to have fun that are healthy; I focus on the moment and the time we all share."

Laing House

THE BIPOC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

This peer support program empowers BIPOC youth living with mental health challenges by providing resources, encouraging self-reflection, and emboldening community engagement.

"It's been a great experience to go down a learning path with members and staff in both the African Nova Scotian culture and the Indigenous culture."

Vision Awards

The Vision Awards acknowledge individuals and organizations who share the Foundation's vision of mental wellness for all Nova Scotians. Each year, the Foundation honours recipients who have made a significant contribution to the Foundation.



Partners in Our Vision

We can't stop smiling thanks to the sweet support of Tim Hortons locations in the HRM! The Foundation, along with Feed Nova Scotia, was thrilled to be chosen as a charity of choice for its annual 2022 Smile Cookie Campaign. A whopping \$124,265 was donated to the Foundation! Thank you to store owners, managers, employees, volunteers, and customers. We've always got time for Tim Hortons!



Outstanding Volunteer

Maureen Banyard is a stellar supporter of the Foundation. She works tirelessly to raise both awareness and significant funds for the Foundation. A resident of Parkland at the Gardens, Maureen organizes concerts, holiday wreath auctions, mental health events and more! The only thing bigger and brighter than Maureen's heart, is her smile. Thank you for being such an outstanding volunteer. Maureen!

Pictured (L to R): Dr. Howard Conter, Maureen Banyard, Starr Cunningham, and Jodi Bartlett at Parkland at the Gardens Celebration of Wreaths.



Outstanding Achievement

The Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia Grants Selection Committee knows all about reading the fine print! This seven-member volunteer group reviews and scores every Community Grant application that comes its way. In 2022-2023, that included more than 150 applications! Hats off and thanks to Jennifer Simister, Morgan Manzer, Dorothy Edem, Barbara Hall, Lorna Griffin-Fillier, Fiona Kirkpatrick Parsons and Bryan Rice.





Let's Keep Talking 2022, presented by Bell Let's Talk and keynote sponsor J & W Murphy Foundation, focused on raising awareness of eating disorders. Keynote speaker, Jenna Robar, shared her own personal struggles in hopes of helping others. Special thanks to Paul Hollingsworth and to our sponsors, The Berkeley, Nova Scotia Power, Dalhousie University Department of Psychiatry and IWK Mental Health and Addictions.

SAVE THE DATE: October 3, 2023!

Congratulations to our 2022 Let's Keep Talking Award recipients:



ANN MARGARET GAUDET
Outstanding Caregiver



SALLY HUTCHINSONOutstanding Healthcare Provider



SUSAN KILBRIDE-ROPER
Outstanding Senior



LANDON 'MORTY' MORTON
Outstanding Individual



AIDAN BONNER
Outstanding Youth

STAGE OF MIND







HRM Mayor Mike Savage hosted the 19th annual BMO's A Different Stage of Mind in front of 550 enthusiastic fans at the Halifax Convention Centre in May.

Huge applause to the Mental Health Realness Group for putting mental health and our 2SLGBTQIA+ community in the spotlight. Congratulations to The New Scotlanders (Scott & Kevin Saccary) for receiving the People's Choice Award, to Eric Church (Tom Hickey) for taking home the Top Fundraiser trophy, and to Katy Perry (CTV's Liz Rigney)!

SAVE THE DATE: February 29, 2024!



PROUDLY PRESENTS



AN EVENT OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION
OF NOVA SCOTIA

The inaugural RBC Evergreen Gala rocked the Halifax Convention Centre in November 2022. A unique partnership with Halifax's Evergreen Festival (a four-week outdoor winter celebration of Nova Scotia culture, food, spirits, craft, and art), the glam gala featured Nova Scotia rapper Harmz, an RBC putting challenge, DJ Dollar, CTV's Todd Battis & Katie Kelly, the traditional Touch of Gold Raffle, and the exciting addition of Steele Streamers, and more.

Special thanks to RBC, Advocate, Steele Auto Group, St. John Ambulance, Moore Suites, Touch of Gold and live auctioneers, Howard and Adam Conter.

We love this new holiday tradition and we know you will too!

SAVE THE DATE: November 18, 2023!







Tides of Change



New to Nova Scotia Resilience Support Grant

The Foundation created the innovative New to Nova Scotia Resilience Support Grant in partnership with Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS). The grant provides group trauma counselling to adult refugees arriving in Nova Scotia from Ukraine, Afghanistan, and other war-torn countries. It is supported by Emera, a generous anonymous donor, and other individuals across the province.

"I feel now there are people behind me who can support me. I am hopeful. I feel like I am not alone." — New to Nova Scotia Resilience Support Grant participant



Bright Smiles

James Skinner used to be embarrassed of his smile. Now he meets people on the street who say "Jim, you look great! What did you do to yourself?" What James did is contact the Bright Smiles Project in Antigonish. The program, created by the Pictou County Mental Illness Family Support Association, provides access to dental services for individuals living with mental illness who can't afford to access services on their own. The Foundation is a proud funder of the Bright Smiles Named Grant.

"There are many emotions with getting a new mouth and now, I feel like me again and it has given me a new self-confidence." – Bright Smiles participant

Waves of Support

Thanks to our friends at J & W Murphy Foundation for supporting both of these harmonious projects!



Sound Minds

In partnership with the East Coast Music Association, the Foundation created the Sound Minds Named Grant to support the mental health of music industry professionals. It provides one-on-one counselling, addiction support and recovery, mental health literacy and peer support at no charge to musicians.

"Years ago, before these kind of programs were introduced, at a lot of the conferences, you were told to feel lucky that you were there. We didn't have access to anything and so a lot of times it was substances or leaning on each other or burning out." — ECMA Award Winner



Manger Music: Christmas Eve Live Stream

With just three days' notice, the Foundation pulled together a Christmas Eve Matt Mays Manger Music virtual concert, live from the alpaca farm! A generous supporter of the Foundation, Matt donated his time and talent to raise more than \$20,000 thanks to the support of online donors and Sonic Concerts.

"Well that was really special, Matt. Thanks very much. Happy Christmas! Love your alpacas!" "Just donated." – Manger Music viewers

Celebrating Excellence



The Foundation was thrilled to honour the following Nova Scotians with a Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for their exceptional work in mental health.

Dr. Howard Conter, The Tema Foundation

Morgan Manzer, Foundation Trustee

Dr. Belinda Seagram, Landing Strong

Starr Cunningham, Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia (Awarded externally)

Darrell Johnston, Foundation Trustee

Cecilia McRae, Pictou County Mental Illness Family Support Association

Dr. Emmanuel Aquino, NSH Psychiatrist

Dr. Patricia Lingley-Pottie, Strongest Families Institute (Not pictured)

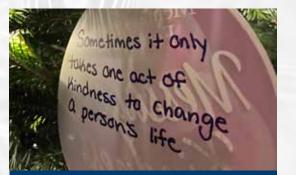
The Foundation was proud to partner with the Office of Addictions and Mental Health to oversee and manage the inaugural Council of the Federation Award for Innovation in Mental Health and Addiction Care. After receiving 20 applications from across the province, the \$5.000 cash award went to the Strongest Families Institute. It was presented to Dr. Patricia Lingley-Pottie by Premier Tim Houston and Minister Brian Comer during the fall sitting of the Nova Scotia Legislature.



In Our Community



Our President & CEO, Starr Cunningham, pictured here with second-year dentistry student, Mohammed Alabdoulsalam, was honoured to deliver the JD McLean Lecture keynote to the Dalhousie Faculty of Dentistry. The audience was made up of dentistry and dental hygiene students, as well as faculty, staff, and alumni.



The Messages of Kindness holiday fundraising campaign raised critical funds for the Foundation to support mental health and addictions programs and services across the province, with donations matched by our partners Killam Apartment REIT and Southwest Properties.



The Foundation received donations from several Twitch events throughout the year. The live streaming video platform allows gamers to display their skills while raising funds from fans.



This buddy bench was one of three unveiled in New Glasgow in memory of Brennan Wyatt. The Foundation was pleased to work with Brennan's parents to make this project possible.

Thanks to our Donors

The Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia extends its gratitude to all donors for every gift it receives, including those who choose to remain anonymous. This list recognizes donors who have donated \$500 or more during the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

Visionary

Advocate Printing & Publishing

Frank Almeda

Atlantic Road Construction & Paving

Believeco

Bell Canada

Bluedrop Training & Simulation Ltd.

BMO Bank of Montreal

Community Foundation of Nova Scotia

CTV Atlantic

Dalhousie University, Department of Psychiatry

Joseph & Violet Diab

Emera Inc.

Enterprise Holdings Foundation

Government Of Canada

Government of Nova Scotia

Harry Freeman & Sons Limited

Kim Huskilson

J & W Murphy Foundation

Moore Suites

Lisa Murphy

Nova Scotia Health

Parkland at the Gardens Residents

Property Valuation Services Corporation

RBC Royal Bank

RPM Productions

Salon Resource Group

Scotiabank

St. Augustine's Church

St. John Ambulance Council for NS and PEI

Steele Auto Group

The Estate of Edwin Charles Urguhart

The Community Foundation of Nova Scotia

on behalf of Green Shield Canada

The Windsor Foundation

Local HRM Tim Hortons Restaurant Owners

True Patriot Love Foundation

Champion

ACADOM Ltd.

Cory Bell

BOYNECLARKE LLP

Fred & Elizabeth Fountain

John & Elizabeth Godin Charitable Trust

IWK Mental Health & Addictions Program

Killam Apartment REIT

Cathy MacRitchie

Gestion Maurice & Donna Assh

MICCO Companies

Nova Scotia Power

Pratt & Whitney Canada

Andrew Pye

Rank Inc.

Karen Spaulding

Southwest Properties

The Berkeley

Touch of Gold

Leader

30 Minute Hit

Abram Almeda

Alisa Alyward

Emmanuel Aguino

Architecture 49 Inc.

Ian Atkins

Eric Beaton

Blue Nose Marathon Charity Challenge

Sarah Bradfield

James & Norma Brannan

Rodney Burgar

Maritime Life Alumni

Terry Chisholm

CIBC Commercial Banking Centre

Debbie Clark

Cognizant

Karen & Howard Conter

Cooke Insurance

Crombie REIT

Starr Cunningham & Nick Peters

Cushman & Wakefield Atlantic

Dalhousie Student Pharmacy Society (DSPS)

Dalhousie University

Dartmouth Orthopaedics Group

Develop Nova Scotia

Paul Doucette

Dream Team Fundraiser Ride

Eacan Timber Limited

Events East Group

Evolve Fitness

James Farguhar

Brenda Firth

Flora's Walk

Flowers Canada Growers Inc.

Full Throttle Power Sports Limited

George F. Wade Foundation

Joe Ghosn

GJM Charitable Foundation

Glow The Event Store

Amanda Grinter

Halifax Port Authority

Mathew Harris

HDT Holdings Limited

Ed Hickey

Nicole Hunter

Nancy & Darrell Johnston

Shannon Cunningham & Harrison Keenan

Kohltech Windows and Entrance Systems

Labatt Breweries of Canada

LifeWorks / TELUS Health

Rylan MacDow

David MacKay

Morgan Manzer

Bruce Marchand

Karen Mason

Sandra Mason

McInnes Cooper

Metro Premier Properties Inc.

Catherine Misener

Floyd C. Murphy

Anne Murray

Crystal & Sean Murray

Harold Nickerson

Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission

Office Interiors

Stephen & Suzanne O'Regan

O'Regan's Toyota Halifax

Page Property Management

Parkland Investments

PMco Incorporated

Joan Pugsley

RBC Dominion Securities

rcs construction

Regroup

Residents of The Baker Drive Development

Family of Companies

resulta

Rogers Communications Canada

SaltWire Network

Shannex Inc.

Gretchen V. Shaw

Jennifer D. Simister

Nancy Smithers

Michael Speer

Jane Spurr

Tara & John Starratt

Stewart McKelvey Stuart & Davidson Orthodontics

Sullivan's Crossing Productions S1 Inc.

Church of Canada Foundation

TC Moore Developments Ltd.

The Boyd & Holly Hunter Fund at The United

Theriault Financial Inc.

Wadih M. Fares Family Foundation

Len Wagg

Wesben Global

West Kings District High School

Westwood Group

Wholetherapy

Deborah & Howard Windsor

Builder

4-H Canada

Diane Ashton Aurora Inn Ltd.

Maureen Banyard

John Black

Sharon & Russ Brannon

Bruce Leasing Limited

Donald Burton

Catherine E. Cameron

CBCL Limited

David H. Christie

Jolene Cook

Laura Coupar

Dalhousie University, Student Health

Physicians and Staff

Michelle & David Comeau

Dalhousie University, Faculty of Dentistry

Paul Doane

Andrew Doucet

DP Slantrange Enterprises

Dyno Nobel Canada

East Coast Credit Union

Doug Frizzle

Halifax International Airport Authority

Christopher Hubley

Industrial Paramedic Services

Iron Dog Mechanical Services Inc.

Jason Campbell Memorial Coasting Party

David Knowles

Carol Loncarevic

Pete Luckett

Katherine MacCormick

Alison MacDonald

Timothy MacLeod

Andrew MacMillan

Peter Mahonev

Matthew Maver

......

Mic Mac Mall

Don Mills

Brendan Morgan

Shirley Murray

Bob S. Mussett

Kyle Niekamp

Nova Construction Co. Ltd.

Ocean Contractors Limited

Brigid M. Savage

Kathryn Schleit

Paul Shirriff

Rob Sobey

Sparkles n' Sawdust Studio

Stanhope Simpson Insurance Ltd.

Calley Stapleton

Jessica Stokes

Summa Financial Services Inc.

Tantallon Community Medical Clinic

Renee Graziella Thomas

Sherri & David Topple

Twin City Management Ltd.

Ultimate Online Nova Scotia Kitchen Party

Diane van der Horden

Kim West

Nancy E. Wood

Monthly Donors

Erica Allanach

Alisa Alyward

Emmanuel Aquino

Shauna Archibald

Ian Atkins

Paul A. Bailey

Shannon Beck

Tracy Bentley

Jeff Brett

Geoff Brinston

Doug Buffett

Krista Canning

Jennifer Carrier

Joyce Carter

Jill Chappell

Nancy Chase-Hill

Terry Chisholm

Debbie Clark

Laura Clark

Jody D. Clarke

Jolene Cook

Starr Cunningham

Jacob Dambergs

Shirley Davenport

Alison & David Davidson

Andrew Doucet

Leslie Dubinsky

Deborah Eaton & Tom Chisholm

Jean Frost-Stone

Lorna Griffin-Fillier

Ben Hagon

Cindy Hartlen
Nancy & Darrell Johnston

Jeff Keelerd

Daniel Kelly

Anna Kennedy

Kenneth & Pat Kilby

Melissa Kinsman

Jennifer Kogon

Donna Laffin

Kim J. MacDonald

Matthew MacDonald

David S. MacDougall

Marian Macken-Issekutz

Andrew MacMillan

Janet MacQuarrie

Kyle Niekamp

Bryan Rice

Claudette Richard

Heidi Schwartz

Sara Smysniuk

Calley Stapleton

Colten Steele

Dianne Thurber

Sherri Topple

Twin City Property Management Ltd.

Lisa Weatherhead

F. Maureen White

Deborah & Howard Windsor

Anonymous (31)



Make it Monthly

The Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia is incredibly proud of its growing list of monthly donors. By giving a consistent gift, donors provide us with critical financial support we know we can count on. It's easy, it adds up, and it truly impacts change!

"I am a monthly donor because I see the strong impact the Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia has in communities all across the province through its grants program." – Sara Smysniuk, Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia, Finance Lead

We are especially proud when members of our team make it a priority to support the work we do personally. Thank you, Sara, and all of our generous monthly donors!

To learn more about how you can become a monthly donor, please visit: mentalhealthns.ca/team-hope



The Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia is proud of its dedicated pool of volunteers. Like the Evergreen Gala volunteers pictured above, from events to committee service, and everything in between – volunteers consistently help us *change the way people think* about mental illness and addiction!

Summarized Financial **Statements**

The Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia consistently works to ensure our donors' investment in our mission makes a meaningful difference in the lives of Nova Scotians living with mental illness and addiction, and their loved ones.

STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year ended March 31

	2023	2022
Revenue		
Donations	\$ 2,980,423	\$ 1,847,736
Special events	763,462	1,016,259
Miscellaneous	136,878	35,282
Interest income	70,211	10,090
Services	4,500	3,876
Government wage subsidy		25,441
	3,955,474	2,938,684
Expenses		
General and administrative	685,973	650,495
Special events	237,224	178,536
	923,197	829,031
Net revenues available for community funding	3,032,277	2,109,653
Community funding	3,096,703	2,005,308
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	\$ (64,426)	\$ 104,345
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 1,190,450	\$ 1,086,105
(Deficiency) excess of revenue over expenses	(64,426)	104,345
Net assets, end of year	\$ 1,126,024	\$ 1,190,450

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION March 31

	2023	2022
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,202,549	\$ 64,650
Cash held for custodial funds payable	15,928	14,773
Receivables	62,332	52,419
Short term investments	2,090,703	2,036,273
Prepaids	18,294	34,438
	3,389,806	2,202,553
Capital assets	5,833	5,397
	\$ 3,395,639	\$ 2,207,950
Liabilities		
Current		
Custodial funds payable	\$ 15,928	\$ 14,773
Payables and accruals	139,178	115,945
Unearned revenue		59,499
Deferred contributions	2,114,509	827,283
	2,269,615	1,017,500
Net assets	1,126,024	1,190,450
	\$ 3,395,639	\$ 2,207,950

The audited financial statements of the Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia for the year ended March 31, 2023, as audited by Grant Thornton, LLP are available upon request. Copies of the complete statements may be obtained from the Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia, 1120-300 Pleasant Street, Mount Hope Centre, Dartmouth, NS, B2Y 3S3 or by calling 902.464.6000.

www.mentalhealthns.ca/new-index

Board of Trustees

ALISA ALYWARD, Chair RBC

MORGAN MANZER, Vice Chair Nova Scotia Legal Aid

PAUL SHIRRIFF, Treasurer CIBC

ADAM CONTERPriority 1 Real Estate

ANDREW DOUCET rcs Construction

LORNA GRIFFIN-FILLIER Primary Health Care, NSH

DARRELL JOHNSTONCommunity Volunteer

KIM MACDONALD13 Factors for Business Growth

JANET MACQUARRIE RBC

LINDSAY PEACH
Mi'kmaw Health and Wellness

BRYAN RICEV.J. Rice Concrete Limited

JENNIFER SIMISTER
Steele Auto Group

CATHERINE WATSON COLES
McInnes Cooper

STARR CUNNINGHAM Ex officio

Partners

ADVOCATE PRINTING & PUBLISHINGPrint Partner

BELIEVECOBranding Partner

CTV ATLANTIC Media Partner

RPM PRODUCTIONS
Video Partner



Doing what we can to continue to grow the ripple, our team successfully completed the St. John Ambulance Opioid Poisoning Response Training.

From L/R: Amanda Bell, Erica Allanach, Lisa Weatherhead, Jenna Conter, Kate Udle, Monica Jordan, Sara Smysniuk, Starr Cunningham.

Thank You!

With your support we are *changing the way* people think about mental illness and addiction!

Changing The Way People Think



#CHANGINGTHEWAYPEOPLETHINK

- f /MentalHealthNS
- **梦** @MentalHealthNS
- MentalHealthNS
- in Mental Health Foundation of Nova Scotia

Mount Hope Centre 1120-300 Pleasant Street Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 3S3 PHONE: 902.464.6000
TOLL FREE: 1.866.CARING.2
EMAIL: info@mentalhealthns.ca

Charitable registration number: 8586 35675 RR0001

mentalhealthns.ca

Print Partner

Advocate

Branding Partner

believeco: