

Project Title: Designing a Systems Map of the Teen Healthy Relationships Field in Canada

Supervisor: Dr Wendy Craig, Department of Psychology and Scientific Co-Director of PREVNet

Project Background and Significance: Dr Craig is working with the Canadian Women's Foundation on a three-year project to make a contribution to ending violence against girls and women in Canada. This initiative is an opportunity to facilitate increased collaboration among those operating in what might be regarded as the "Teen Healthy Relationships Field". For example, across Canada there are:

- Many organizations that **deliver programs** aimed at increasing teens' capacity for healthy relationships;
- A variety of **funders/philanthropic** organizations that fund such programs;
- A range of initiatives and **policies** at the federal, provincial and municipal levels of government related to healthy youth development (including healthy relationships); and
- Individual researchers and academic institutions that are involved in generating evidence about what works to develop the capacity of teens for healthy relationships.

The focus of this initiative is to increase and strengthen links and relationships between these entities and thereby establish greater coordination, alignment, communication and knowledge sharing. As a result of such collaboration, young people will be better supported to lead healthy, violence-free lives.

Computing requirements: This project will require a student to design a "mapping software" that best fits the survey data gathered from over 500 people representing different sectors such as researchers, service-delivery providers, policy makers, and funders.

The goal of this "mapping" exercise is to work with the data and develop maps that illustrate the nature and intensity of relationships and practices in the Teen Healthy Relationships (THR) field in regions and nationally, across Canada. We want to reduce complex relationships into compelling visualizations.

We want to organize the survey data into multiple maps and views to capture different perspectives and provide information such as:

- Assign colors to people and organizations based on the sector they represent
- The geographic distribution of the various sectors/organizations/individuals
- The intensity/quality of relationships among the various groups/sectors
- The policies impacting the provision of THR programming
- The type of research impacting THR programming
- How different groups are connected to each other and by filtering the data, help us visualize commonalities and gaps among these groups.
- How relationships/connections change over the course of the 3-year project. The software will need to allow us to continue to add more information.

For more information, please contact Kelly Petrunka, PREVNet's Executive Director at petrunka@queensu.ca