



**PETERBOROUGH**  
Youth Services

# THE IMPACT OF SUPPORT: EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PETERBOROUGH YOUTH SERVICES' INTENSIVE SUPPORT AND SUPERVISION PROGRAM

## BACKGROUND

Peterborough Youth Services (PYS) supports youth mental health and community safety, offering programs for those facing mental health challenges and justice system involvement. One of its key initiatives is the Intensive Support and Supervision Program (ISSP).

ISSP provides an alternative to custody for youth with serious mental health issues or intellectual disabilities. It provides individualized support, including counseling, vocational training, educational support, and service coordination to promote stability and well-being.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to evaluate the outcomes of the ISSP to ensure its effectiveness and maintain the quality of service it provides. By assessing the program's impact, we aim to ensure that it is meeting its objectives and delivering the desired results for both the participants and the community.

## METHODOLOGY

Literature review to assess the ISSP outcomes. Key metrics were identified through analysis of similar program evaluations.

Aggregate data from PYS was used to identify trends and outcomes related to program participation and determine the effectiveness of the program.



## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The main objective of this project is to develop a tool to measure the effectiveness of the ISSP outcomes.

1. Are the services provided by the ISSP effective?
2. Are the services accessible and inclusive for all participants?

## PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

According to data on the completion rates for the ISSP, 50% of participants have not reoffended. However, 27% of active cases have reoffended.

Barriers like poverty and transportation limit accessibility, requiring further efforts to enhance service reach.

## CONCLUSION

The outcomes demonstrate a promising future in supporting at-risk youth. Despite the individualized nature of service plans, it appears to be meeting the broader objectives. The Youth Justice Program, which is similar to ISSP also saw a reduction in criminal justice involvement and an increase in knowledge and life skills upon completion of the program.

Services are accessible to all, though barriers such as poverty and rural housing exist and need to be addressed. Future research should refine data collection methods, to better understand the factors behind successes and setback.



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