

## Hub targets multiple risk youth

Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority and its partners are targeting youth in care engaged in dangerous and potentially destructive behaviors through the new Multiple Risk Youth Hub.

The Hub will provide a high fidelity wraparound approach. That means identifying the community services and natural supports that a child needs to achieve positive outcomes and provide them as long as they are needed.

Executive Manager Ruth Copot says it's quite different than past adolescent programs. "It's about a team where we are sharing responsibility," she says. "It's about improving outcomes for our youth and about what we can do to better support each other."

A number of agency partners will co-locate at Plaza 14, site of the Hub. They will include McMan, Enviros, Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC), Calgary Health Region and United Way of Calgary and Area.

Multiple risk youth meeting the criteria of the Hub are typically the ones that worker's lose sleep over, says Copot. They are 15-18 year olds who are facing a number of issues such as addictions, mental health issues, dangerous lifestyle choices, multiple placements, and limited external supports.

The Hub will continue to build on the Youth Transitions to Adulthood (YTA) model.

"We need to help youth make and sustain connections in our community so they can transition successfully to adulthood," says Copot.