

MSTH Purposes - Proposed

Moms Stop the Harm (MSTH) is a network of Canadian families impacted by substance-use related harms and deaths that advocates for evidence based drug policies, provides peer support to grieving families, and assists those with loved ones who have or had problematic substance use. Moms Stop the Harm promotes health and equity by:

1. Advocating for a change in laws and policies related to
 - a. health care so as to effect the equitable provision of a safe supply of substances and the development of diverse pathways of support for those who are struggling with problematic substance use and the people who are impacted by their struggle.
 - b. criminalization of persons who struggle with a substance use disorder.
2. Supporting and empowering families who support a loved one with a substance use disorder and/or have lost a loved one to drug related harms by:
 - a. providing on-line and in-person peer support groups.
 - b. providing information about evidence based prevention, harm reduction and treatment services;
 - c. providing emotional supports;
 - d. encouraging them to use their voices without shame, to share their stories so as to educate the general population about the challenges of problematic substance use and to advocate for positive changes to laws and policies that affect those who have or had problematic substance use.
3. Providing awareness and education to those struggling with problematic substance use and their families.
4. Educating the general public on current research and evidence-based approaches to addiction so as to reduce and eliminate the stigma associated with addiction.
5. Promoting age-appropriate education for youth, and to promote mental health and harm reduction-based approaches to prevent drug harms.