



The O'Brien Institute for Public Health &
the Department of Community Health Sciences present:

Perspectives on a community-based tooth decay prevention program for families subjected to domestic abuse

Speakers: Cynthia Weijs & Kirsten Marsh

**Friday, September 13, 2019 - 12:00 to 12:50 p.m.
G500 - Health Sciences Centre, 3330 Hospital Dr NW**

Dr. Cynthia Weijs and community research associate, Kirsten Marsh, co-developed a whole-health Moms and Tots style program that is set to be piloted in two domestic violence shelters in Calgary, Alberta. The pilot (called Blooming Brushers) aims to improve access to dental prevention, reduce stigma and judgment associated with tooth decay, build trust between dental professionals and underserved clients, and provide a fun and supportive activity for moms and kids. Kirsten and Cynthia will share their perspectives and key learnings over the past year around developing the program.

Cynthia Weijs is a CIHR/AHS Health System Impact postdoctoral fellow in Community Health Sciences at the University of Calgary. Her work focuses on health system and quality of care impacts related to the private dental system model in Canada. Her interest is in early childhood tooth decay and strategies that promote prevention and reduce invasive and expensive late-stage treatment models. She also aims to understand parents' barriers to early and appropriate dental prevention. Kirsten Marsh is an experienced Kindermusik teacher, has lived experience of domestic violence, and works as a court support liaison with victims of domestic abuse. Her key interest is in critical reforms of the support system for families subjected to domestic abuse.

Objectives:

Develop awareness of oral disease (tooth decay) as a significant and costly health system problem.

Understand and reflect on disconnects or gaps in perspectives of domestic abuse.

Recognize and reflect on challenges in the paradigm shift from treatment to prevention in health services.

This event is a self-approved group learning activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. This seminar is also available via an online AdobeConnect session: To attend the seminar from another location via your computer, click on this link:

<https://connectmeeting.ucalgary.ca/sep13-19/>

Enter as a guest. You may join the session at any time. It is advisable to test your audio before the seminar starts. The

AdobeConnect session will be archived and accessible for later viewing at:

<https://www.obrieniph.ucalgary.ca/events/chsobrien-institute-seminar-series>