

The Co-Creating Evidence (CCE) project is a first-of-its-kind-in-Canada national evaluation involving eight different programs serving women at high risk of having an infant with FASD.

Project Goals

- To bring together many of Canada's holistic prevention programs to share promising approaches and practices;
- To evaluate the effectiveness of multi-service prevention programs for women with substance use and complex issues; and
- To identify characteristics that make these programs successful.

Mixed Methods Evaluation Process

Collected by project team at 8 program sites:

- **256** interviews and questionnaires with clients
- **108** interviews with program staff
- **60** interviews with program partners

Collected quarterly by the eight program sites:

- Program/output data
- De-identified client intake & 'snapshot' data

Program Partners/Sites

- O Victoria HerWay Home
- Vancouver Sheway
- O Surrey Maxxine Wright
- Edmonton H.E.R. Program

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- Regina Raising Hope
- Winnipeg Mothering Project
- Toronto Breaking the Cycle
- New Glasgow Kids First

Multi-Service Programs for Pregnant and Parenting Women with Substance Use Concerns: Women's Perspectives on Why They Seek Help and Their Significant Changes

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Findings

TRAUMA / VIOLENCE SUPPORT

group support

SUBSTANCE USE

- Took part in one-to-one counselling support
- Took part in substance use (and
- trauma/violence) groups • Got referral or support to go to
 - treatment or outside group
 - Got prescriptions for Opiate Replacement

CHILD WELFARE OR CUSTODY

- Therapy Staff provided support in meetings with social worker; saw child protection worker on site
- Staff provided advocacy for retaining/regaining custody
- Supervised visits with child(ren) on site
- Staff provided support in meetings with social worker during pregnancy or preventatively

HOUSING

- Got help from staff re: referrals and/or applications
- Got help from staff to move into housing
- Accessed housing via program's service partner

BASIC NEEDS

- Received clothing and/or toys
- Received diapers and/or infant supplies
- Staff helped to apply for IA, Disability, Child Tax Benefit
- Met with Income Assistance worker on site
- Got transportation to appointments
- Received transit tickets or gas money to enable participation
- Had meals at the program
- Took part in community kitchen
- Received food store vouchers/gift cards
- Met with nutritionist on site
- Went to the food bank with program staff

What women hoped to get from participating in their program – Top themes

Support for their problematic substance use and/or trauma

Support for child welfare and/or mother-child connection

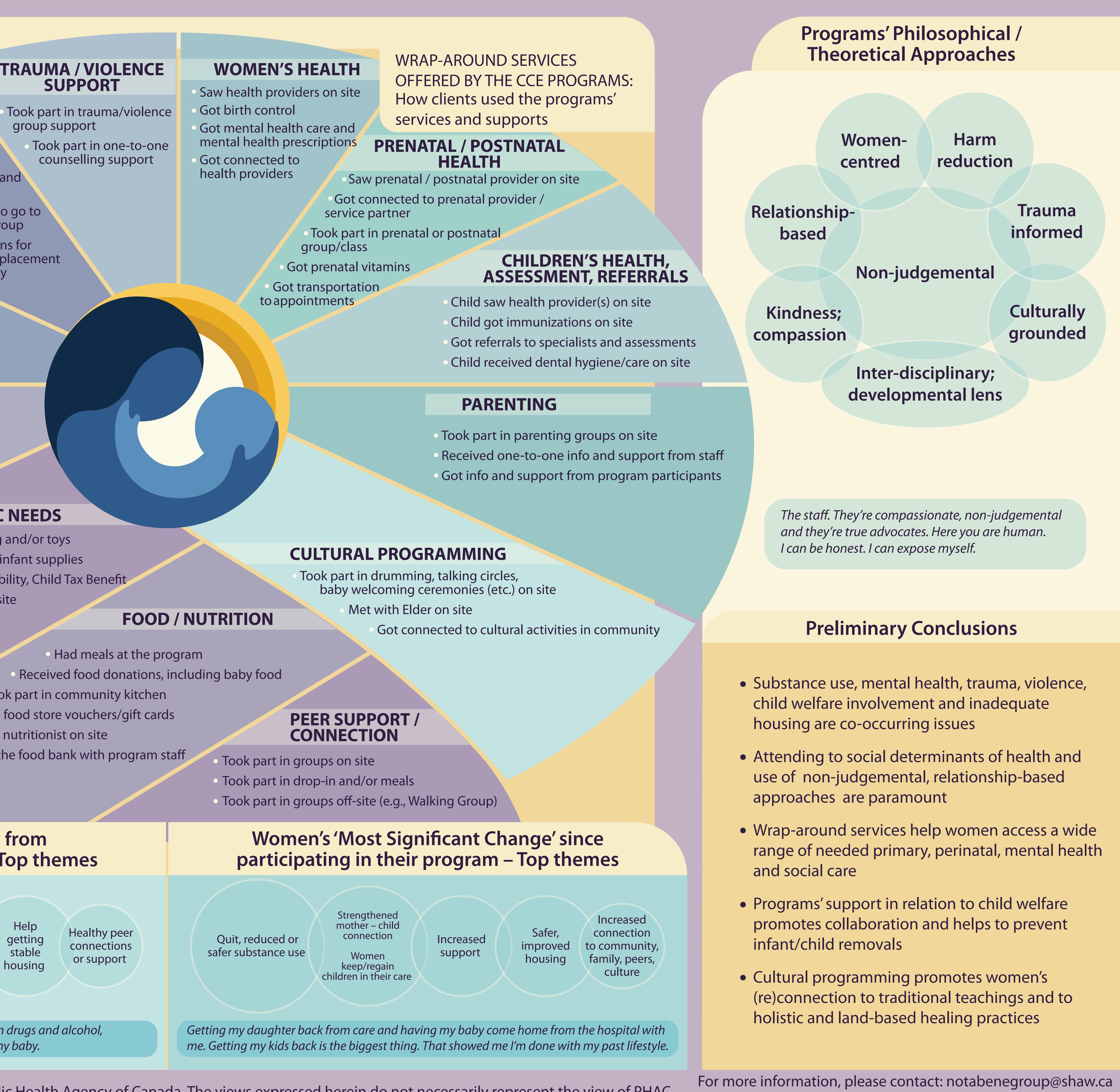
Support and information re: pregnancy Help in accessing health or prenatal care

Help gettir stable housing

Healthy peer connections or support

[I wanted] better housing, support to keep me away from drugs and alcohol, and help with nutrition. [I wanted] to keep my baby.

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