

**Centre of Excellence in Mental Health at Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario
Dr. Alan Leschied**

This study, entitled "Exploring Patterns of Service Utilization within Children's Mental Health Agencies", is unique in that it involves a coordinated effort across Western's campus with the Faculty of Education including the Departments of Family Medicine and Epidemiology of the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Psychology and the Ivey School of Business (the latter will be contributing their expertise in calculating cost – benefits analysis of service utilization by kids and families who access the children's mental health system). As well as through Western, McMaster University is also involved as a co-investigator along with London's Child and Parent Resource Institute and Madame Vanier's Children's Services.

The focus of this work will be to identify what the pattern of use in children's mental health services is, who are the 'heavy' consumers, what are the outcomes etc.

This grant will also include research opportunities for our graduate students who are interested in children's mental health.