



**Unit Name:** Connections Dartmouth

**Unit Location:** Connections Dartmouth: 16 Portland St, Dartmouth, NS

**Program:** Recovery and Integration Service

## **Nova Scotia Health Authority Outpatient Service Profile**

**The purpose of this Profile is to provide Nurses with an overview of each service area.**

<b><u>General Information</u></b>	
<b>Service</b>	Connections Dartmouth
<b>Site</b>	16 Portland St, Dartmouth, NS
<b>Brief description of the Unit</b>	<p>Community based service that provides an array of supports and opportunities for individuals that contribute to their recovery and re-integration back into their community. The core components of the service are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Clinical Care &amp; Treatment Support</li><li>2. Employment &amp; Education Support</li><li>3. Family Support &amp; Education</li><li>4. Health &amp; Wellness</li><li>5. Community Outreach</li><li>6. Resource Centre</li><li>7. Social Support &amp; Engagement</li></ol>

<b>Unit Orientation</b>	Orientation varies from staff to staff. It includes the Central Zone Mental Health and Addictions Staff Orientation offered by the Clinical Nurse Educators. In terms of service specific orientation, the Addiction and Mental Health Program Orientation Guidelines are followed and a more detailed site specific orientation is offered. Length of orientation will vary according to the mental health experience of the RN. Opportunities for staff shadowing and mentorship are available.
<b>Number of Beds</b>	n/a

<b><u>Patient Care</u></b>	
<b>Patient Population</b>	<p>Individuals age 19+ living with serious and persistent mental illness, with a primary diagnosis of a psychotic disorder (e.g. schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder and other psychotic illnesses) and who experience substantial functional challenges, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performing the practical activities of daily living (such as self care, grocery shopping and food preparation, transportation, relationships, money management, coping, maintaining wellness, etc.)</li> <li>• Accessing and engaging in meaningful skill-building activities such as employment, volunteer work, and education</li> <li>• Succeeding at safe, affordable and stable independent tenancy or in supported housing environments</li> <li>• Enjoying a positive level of social networks and relationships</li> </ul>
<b>Average Patient Age Range</b>	19 yrs and above ( 75 yrs)
<b>Nursing Model of Care</b>	<p>Primary Nursing: _____ Team Nursing: <u> X </u> Other: _____ Total Patient Care: <u> X </u>            Modified Total Patient Care: _____</p> <p>Other: Case Management Services</p>

### Systems

<b>Medication System</b>	Traditional: <u> X </u> Unit Dosage: _____ Other: <u> X </u>  Other: The nurses give IM's, do metabolic monitoring with our participants either at Connections Dartmouth or in the individual's home. They are also doing medication reconciliation for our new participants and others as required.
<b>Scheduling</b>	Manager: _____ Self: <u> X </u>
<b>Average Number of Staff per Shift</b>	Days: RN <u> 2FT and 3PT </u> LPN <u> n/a </u> CTA <u> 1 </u> Evenings: RN _____ LPN _____ CTA _____ n/a Nights: RN _____ LPN _____ CTA _____ n/a
<b>Service Hours</b>	08:30 to 16:30 / 4 days/week ( Monday -Tuesday- Thursday-Friday)  Weds it is from 08:30 to 18:30  We have occasionally evenings and week-end programming
<b>Length of Shift</b>	8hr: <u> X </u> 12 hr: _____ Other: _____  <b>Other:</b>

### Staff

<b>Staff Mix</b>	RN: <u> 24 </u> % LPN: <u> 0 </u> % CTA: <u> 5 </u> %
<b>Physician Coverage</b>	On Call: _____ On Site: <u> x </u> N/A: _____ Other: _____
<b>Multidisciplinary Team Members</b>	Occupational Therapists, Social Workers, Recreation Therapists, Care Team Assistants, Developmental Worker, Community Mental Health Clinical Workers, Administrative Support Staff, Psychiatrist, Health Service Manager. Access to Psychological Services primarily for staff training and support

### Required Skills, Qualifications & Experience

**RN**  
*Registered Nurses provide professional nursing services, deliver health education programs and provide consultative nursing services to promote, maintain and restore patient health.*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Responsibilities</b></li> </ul>	<p>Primary support staff with specific case load (up to 20 participants)</p> <p>Symptoms Management</p> <p>Mental Health Assessment including the Mental Status Exam</p> <p>Medication Management ( IM's, medication reconciliation, metabolic monitoring, link to pharmacies/GP's/specialists, etc)</p> <p>Primary clinician support i.e. do assessment of needs &amp; strengths/recovery plan, wellness plan, support individuals with their goals, engage with natural supports and community partners</p> <p>Family work/support</p> <p>Consultant with the inter professional team on various medical/psychiatric issues</p> <p>Work closely with the psychiatrist</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Skills Required</b></li> </ul>	<p>Knowledge of mental illnesses/medications/concurrent disorders/etc</p> <p>Knowledge of the Recovery and Integration Services and processes as well as all the Mental Health Services within the NS Health Authority (Central zone)</p> <p>Knowledge of other services in the community</p> <p>Skills in giving injections and doing metabolic monitoring</p> <p>Skills in verbal communication/ Interpersonal skills</p> <p>Excellent documentation skills</p> <p>Assessment skills/Interviewing skills</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Additional Responsibilities</b></li> </ul>	<p>Knowledge of safe community practice</p> <p>Team player</p> <p>Support program development and evaluation</p> <p>Contribute to various committees</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Additional License/Certification/Educa</b></li> </ul>	<p>Recovery oriented approach</p>

**tion required**

- Concurrent disorder
- Motivational interview
- Suicide prevention assessment
- Mental health status assessment
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy( an asset)
- Cultural Competency
- Family work

**Completed by:** Sylvie Gibeau

**Date:** August 12, 2015