

Why the Youth Wellness Centre Supports Hamilton City Council's Protocol for Gender Identity & Gender Expression

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Youth Wellness Centre Overview

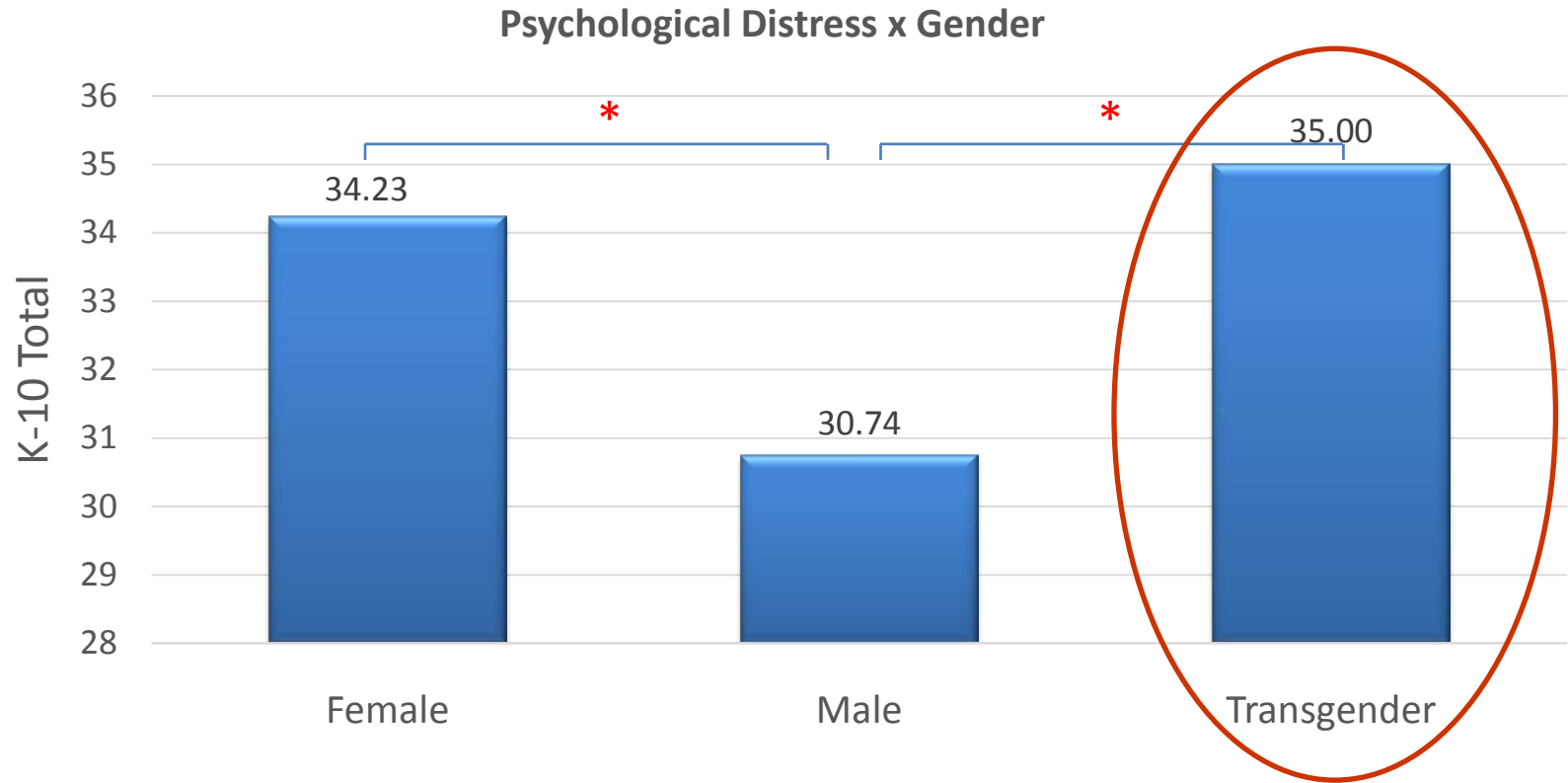
The YWC is a St Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton program located in downtown Hamilton—we share space with Alternatives for Youth at 38 James St South, 2nd floor.

We opened in March 2015, and see youth ages 17 – 25, who are struggling with mental health and substance use concerns.

How many trans youth do we see?

- 700 youth are referred to the YWC annually, 3% of them identify as trans
- We have seen 850 youth so far this fiscal year (April 1, 2016 – Feb 28, 2017)
- Over 7% of clients who receive intensive support from the YWC are trans youth

There are significant differences in psychological distress between genders



These results reflect findings made by the TransPulse Research Study in 2015

“More than half of trans people in Ontario have levels of depressive symptoms consistent with clinical depression, while 43% had a history of attempting suicide, including 10% within the past year.”

(TransPulse, 2015)



More from the TransPulse Study

“Contrary to the notion that depression and suicidality are primarily attributable to distress inherent to being trans, we found evidence that discrimination and violence had strong adverse impacts on mental health. This means that interventions to improve the social and human rights situation of trans people have the potential to reduce depression and suicidality.”

(TransPulse, 2015)

In Conclusion

- The YWC is doing everything we can to support our vibrant & resilient trans youth
- We need the City's help to end the discrimination and injustice that they face on a daily basis
- Thank you for giving us hope that Hamilton supports & includes our trans citizens

Contact Info

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