

oolagen

youth mental health

OOLAGEN YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH NAMES LYDIA SAI-CHEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Toronto, ON – February 5, 2013 – Oolagen Youth Mental Health announced the appointment of Lydia Sai-Chew as chief executive officer early this morning. She joins Oolagen with 25 years of experience in children’s mental health. The mission of Oolagen Youth Mental Health is to listen, engage, and empower youth and families in recognizing their strengths, expanding their capabilities, and enhancing their wellbeing and mental health. Oolagen, an accredited youth mental health centre, has been helping Toronto youth and their families for over 45 years.

“Oolagen’s Board of Directors is delighted that Lydia Sai-Chew is leading Oolagen at this important point in our organization’s growth. Lydia possesses the vision and experience in children’s mental health Oolagen needs, along with an excellent record of accomplishments. We are particularly excited about her energy, passion, and dedication to Oolagen’s mission to help Toronto youth and their families overcome the devastating effects of emotional, social and psychological difficulties,” said Chip Pitfield, Chairman of the Board and Head of Investment Banking at Maison Placements Canada Inc.

Ms. Sai-Chew, who holds a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Toronto, will draw on her considerable leadership experience with children’s mental health programs at Griffin Centre, Hincks-Dellcrest Centre, and the Peel Children’s Centre, along with her background as a frontline social worker with the Dellcrest Children’s Centre and Children’s Aid Society of Toronto. She is current co-Chair of the Children’s Service System Review and Consultation Committee, which is the Ministry of Children and Youth Services Toronto Region’s service resolution mechanism.

“It is a privilege to work with the Board and lead this organization,” said Ms. Sai-Chew. “This is a very exciting opportunity to work with an exceptional group of professionals who are dedicated to really making a difference in young people’s lives.”

About Oolagen (www.oolagen.org)

Oolagen is an accredited youth mental health centre located in downtown Toronto. Common issues that Oolagen helps youth deal with include physical and sexual abuse, school issues, violence, issues of grief and death, family conflict, separation and divorce, alcohol and drug misuse, depression, eating disorders, sexuality and suicidal and self-harming behaviours.

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The hopes and aspirations of Oolagen are based on our vision for healthy relationships between youth and their families that recognize and build upon strengths, a community that works in partnership to enhance the social and emotional well being of its citizens, and a comprehensive, flexible service system that effectively responds to the challenging and diverse needs of the people we serve.

Oolagen's overhead costs are uniquely managed to remain below 10%, which means that over 90% of every dollar goes directly toward helping at-risk youth in Toronto.

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