FCSS 101

April 29, 2024

Judy Smith, Director, Community Resources, FCSS Edmonton
Courtney Rippin Kaufman, Director, Community Preventive Initiatives
Kristi Prout, Manager, FCSS

Agenda

- What is FCSS?
    - Program History and Mandate
    - FCSS Accountability Framework
    - Prevention Priorities and Strategies
- How FCSS Works
    - Governance Structure
    - Role of the FCSSAA
- Program Administration
- Outcomes Model
    - Program Objective and Key Performance Measures
- Eligible Programs and Services

What is FCSS?

Program History and Mandate

FCSS History and Mandate

- Program started in 1966
- 80/20 Partnership
- Voluntary Participation
- FCSS Act and Regulation
  - Mandate and Requirements
  - Responsibilities and funding parameters
- Emphasis on Prevention
- Focus on Volunteerism

In 2022, FCSS programs across Alberta:

54,675 Volunteers

1,494,775 Hours
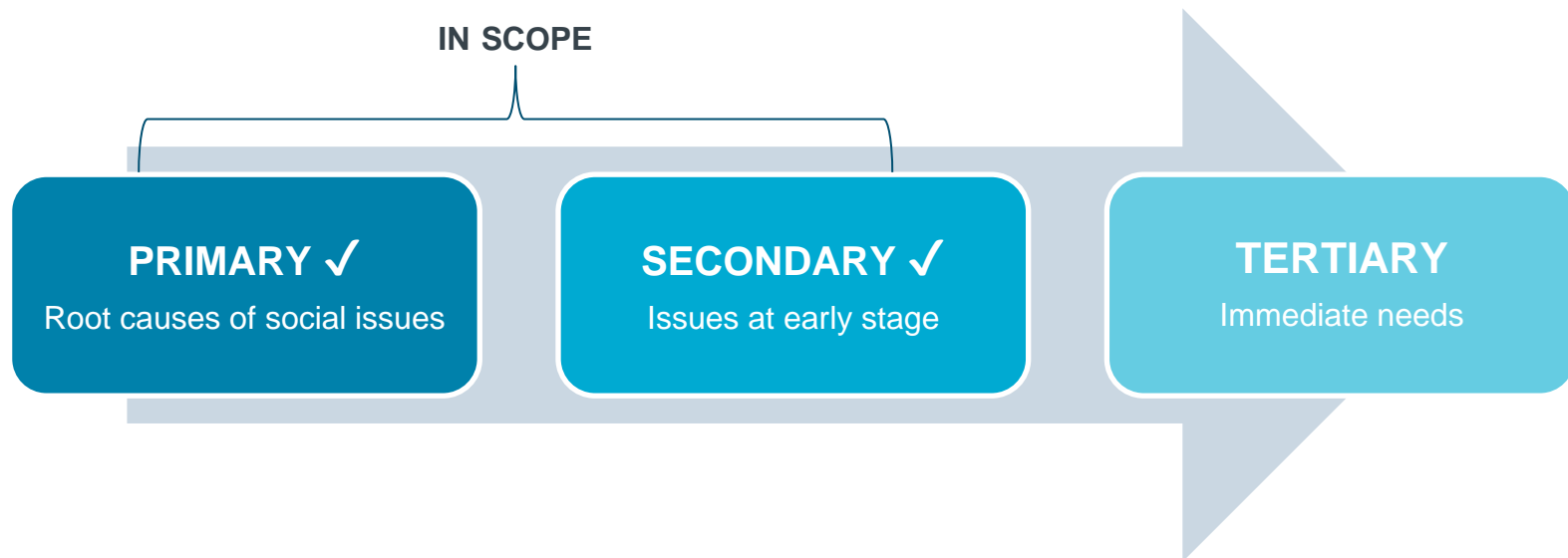
$22.4 million* in labour costs

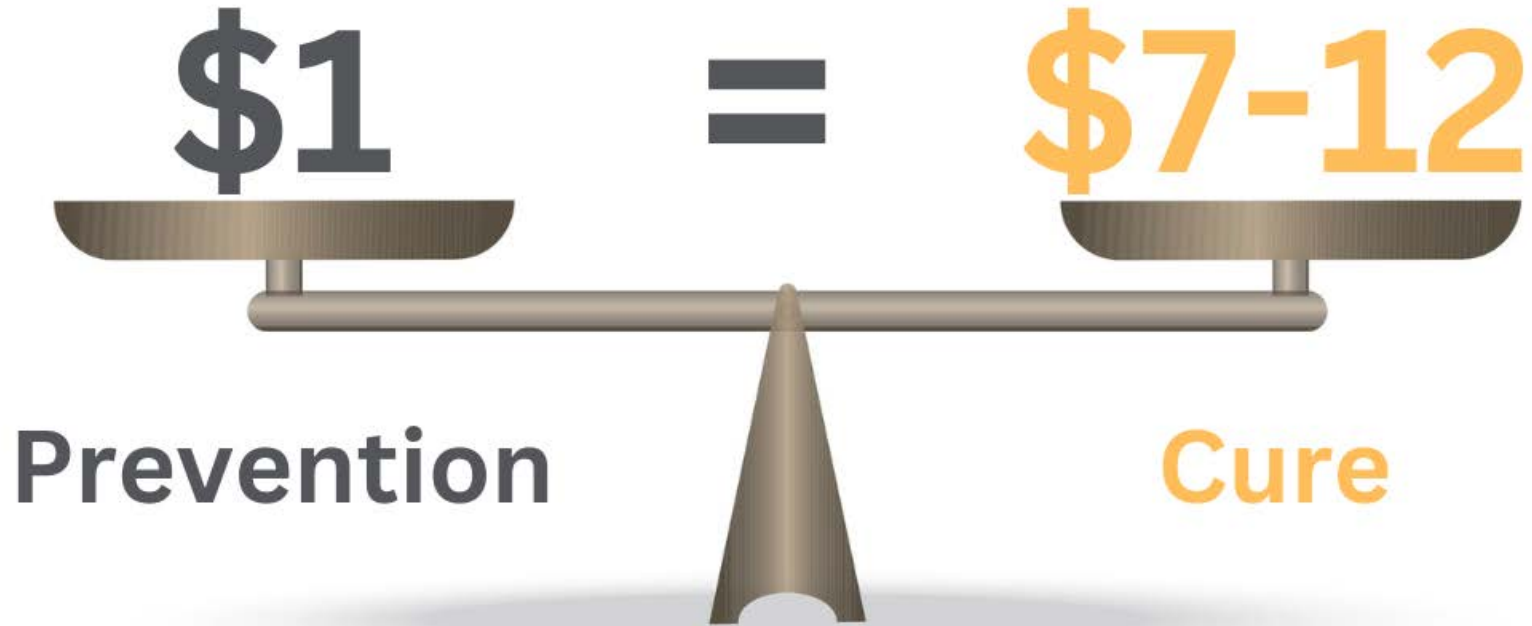Alberta

FCSS Accountability Framework

FCSS Accountability Framework

- Common definition of prevention
- Provincial prevention priorities and strategies
- Clear governance structure
- Streamlined outcomes model and Key Performance Measures

Prevention *is a proactive process that strengthens the protective factors of individuals, families and communities to promote well-being, reduce vulnerabilities, enhance quality of life and empowers them to meet the challenges of life.*

Prevention

IN SCOPE

PRIMARY ✓
Root causes of social issues

SECONDARY ✓
Issues at early stage

TERTIARY
Immediate needs

$1 = $7-12

Prevention   Cure

Provincial Prevention Priorities

- Homelessness and Housing Insecurity
- Mental Health and Addictions
- Employment
- Family and Sexual Violence
- Aging Well in Community

Provincial Prevention Strategies

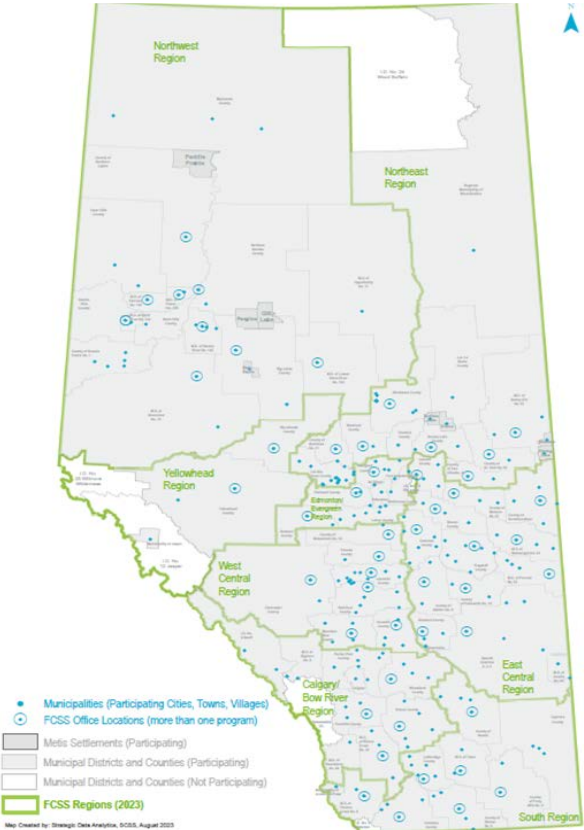|		
Promote and encourage active engagement in the community	Foster a sense of belonging	Promote social inclusion
Develop and maintain healthy relationships	Enhance access to social supports	Develop and strengthen skills that build resilience

Governance Structure

FCSS Steering Committee

- Formally connects and fosters a positive working relationship between the GoA and external FCSS stakeholders.

- Provides strategic oversight on matters including:

- Implementation of the framework

- Provincial level trends and emerging needs

- Opportunities for continuous improvement

The FCSSAA

Working Together

$105 Million Alberta Goverment

$>26.25 Million Municipal Contribution

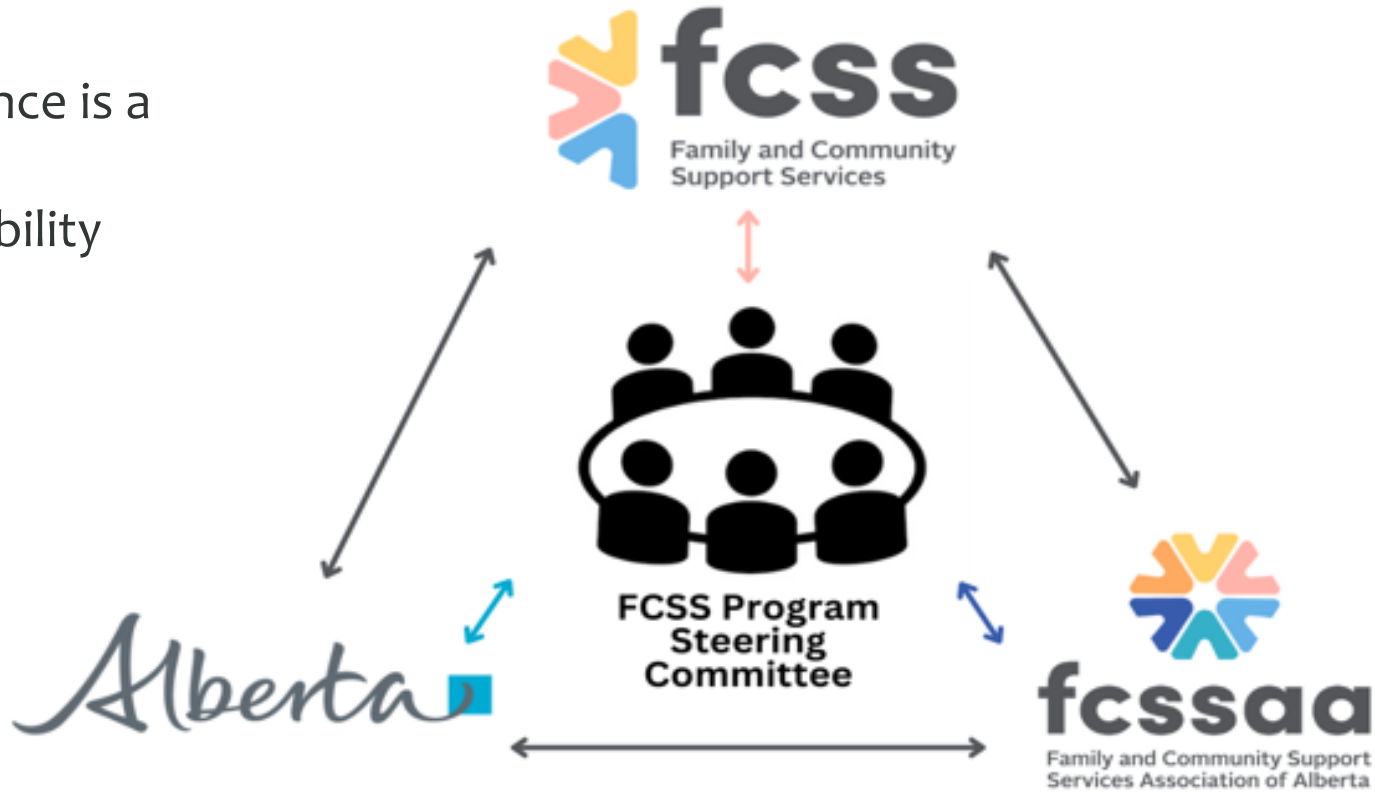**8** FCSS regions

298 municipalities

8 Metis Settlements

198 LOCAL PROGRAMS

Over 98% of the population resides in communities with FCSS programs.

Program governance is a shared responsibility

FCSS Program Steering Committee

FCSS Association of Alberta

- Representatives from FCSS regions and the Director's Network Committee make up the board
- Strong voice on behalf of FCSS programs, advocating to government and non-government organizations on issues that impact FCSS
- Works closely with the ministry; solid relationship with other ministries and non-government organizations related to FCSS
- Annual conference and regular learning opportunities
- Regional meetings occur in the spring

FCSS Administration

Program Structure and Municipal Responsibilities

Structure

- Single Program
- Multi Municipality
- Grant Transfers

Administration

- FCSS Department
- Community Services Department
- Direct Municipal Management
- Society/Non-Profit

Municipal Roles & Responsibilities

- Responsibilities:
  - Develop stronger communities
  - Promote public participation
  - Facilitate and promote volunteerism
  - Use resources efficiently
  - Coordinate and cooperate with allied service agencies

- Roles:
  - Municipal Council
  - Advisory Board/Committee
  - FCSS Program Director

Program Management

- Community needs assessment
- Plan programs and services
- Outcomes monitoring
- Program evaluation
- Annual reporting
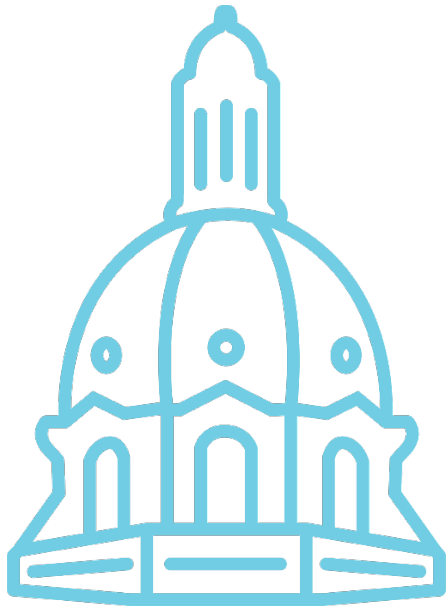- Promote the program and share success stories

Direct Delivery

- services are provided by FCSS program staff or service providers under contract

External Grants

- FCSS funds granted to local organizations and groups to deliver services or projects - "FCSS funded agencies"
- can be ongoing grants or one-time projects
- must meet FCSS eligibility guidelines

Alberta

Provincial Roles & Responsibilities

- Coordinate program governance
- Establish provincial prevention priorities and strategies
- Ensure accountability
- Complete program reviews
- Interpret legislation
- Develop policies
- Provincial level reporting

FCSS Outcomes Model

Program Objectives & Key Performance Measures

Program Objectives and Outcomes

- FCSS programming:

  - Increases the protective factors of individuals, families and communities related to provincial prevention priorities.

  - Strategically connects Albertans to address provincial prevention priorities.

  - Reflects community demographics and needs.

  - Is accessible, appropriate and designed to serve Albertans across their lifespan.

  - Fosters connectivity in participating communities

Key Performance Measures

- Program Outcomes (streamlined list of provincial outcome measures)
- Local FCSS Programs that completed a needs assessment
- Number of program participants
- Number of referrals made
- Percentage of participants satisfied with FCSS programs and services
- Percentage of participants reporting FCSS programs and services were easy to access
- Number of partnerships
- Number of volunteers and volunteer hours

Eligible Programs and Services

Program Requirements and Eligibility

- Must be preventive, enhance the well-being of individuals and families, and contribute to one or more of the following:
  - Help people develop independence, strengthen coping skills, and become more resilient to crisis;
  - Help people develop an awareness of social needs;
  - Help people develop interpersonal and group skills that enhance relationships;
  - Help people and communities assume responsibility for decisions and actions that affect them; and
  - Support people to be active participants in their community

What are we looking for:

- Projects that assist communities to identify their social needs and develop responses to meet those needs;

- Programs that promote, encourage and support volunteer work in the community;

- Services that inform the public of available services;

- Programs that support skill development so people can function more effectively within their environment;

- Programs to support seniors to remain in their homes; and

- Programs promote the social development of children and their families.

How to determine Eligible Programs

Identify social needs and develop responses

→

IMPROVED SOCIAL WELLBEING OF COMMUNITY
- The community is connected & engaged
- Community social issues are identified and addressed

What programs or projects can help to achieve these:
- public information awareness and education
- coordinating responses and engagement to community issues
- developing comprehensive social community plans and initiatives; and
- research: community needs assessments, strategic planning,

What tells us that we are achieving the outcomes:
- social engagement
- awareness and understanding of social issues
- Partnership work to address social issues
- Positive attitude towards others and the community

How to determine Eligible Programs

Programs that support skill development

IMPROVED SOCIAL WELLBEING OF INDIVIDUALS
•Individuals experience personal wellbeing
•Individuals are connected with others
•Children and youth develop positively

What programs or projects can help to achieve these:
• programs that develop life skills and/or social responsibility
•programs that help to develop independence, strengthen coping skills, build relationship and support networks
•programs that bring people together to learn or work together

What tells us that we are achieving the outcomes:

• increased resilience, personal engagement, optimism, self esteem
•trust and a sense of belonging
•development that is age appropriate
•increase skills and confidence

Ineligible Services

- Services must not:
  - Be primarily recreational or leisure time pursuits
  - Be primarily rehabilitative in nature
  - Duplicate services provided by a government or government agency
  - Offer direct assistance*
- Prohibited costs:
  - Capital expenses (land, buildings, building renovations, vehicles)
  - Those not directly related to FCSS programs/services
  - Municipal taxes or levies
  - Payments to board members other than expense reimbursement

Questions