

**“Enhancing Interprofessional  
Collaboration and Learning for  
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

July 21-23, 2021

Faculty of Medicine, Public Health and Nursing  
Universitas Gadjah Mada  
Yogyakarta, Indonesia

**TUFH** THE NETWORK:  
**2021** TOWARD UNITY  
FOR HEALTH

Supported by:



## TUFH 2021 ABSTRACTS

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Title                   | UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF OUR STRENGTH-BASED APPROACH TO CARE  |
| Type                    | Oral Presentation<br><i>Innovative Ways for Community Mobilization and Engagement of Stakeholders</i>  |
| 1st Author              | JONNY GREK   |
| Co-Authors              | Becky Shorrock, Jen Carlson  |
| Country                 | CANADA   |
| Abstract N <sup>o</sup> | TUFH571  |
| Content                 | Background When relationships are built, and trust is established, vulnerable populations are willing to access health and social services. Our primary care outreach team has been providing a safe space for the sizeable homeless and under-housed population of Kenora, Ontario (Canada) to access health care. This rural community of 15,000 people sits 6 hours by vehicle to its major referral access point (Thunder Bay, Ontario), and serves the health needs of many surrounding First Nations' reserves. Methods/Results Without judgment, our practitioners accept the complexity of each unique healing journey, aiming to offer the fullest holistic approach to support each person's physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual needs. Simply by providing a place to call one's own - a location where prejudice relating to one's actions or past indiscretions has no place in determining one's treatment in the present, we have developed a sense of belonging for clients who may have never had such care and compassion from a service delivery model. Every interaction through our clinic aims to be a positive one. We recognize the importance of honouring all members of our society, especially those who are considered dispensable by some. Conclusion By bringing inclusion, compassion and service delivery together, the entire community has raised its game and has moved towards a place of de-stigmatizing addictions and the care of the homeless. Being respectful of everyone's place on their own journey, and "meeting people where they are" should be the standard for primary care. The patients truly know best. |