

Sample 250-word summary from a 2020 applicant – Hope Hallway Project

There is still often stigma, shame, and fear associated with mental health crisis. First impressions can impact the development of therapeutic relationships and creating a sense of safety and belonging in the treatment setting. Patients and families have provided both informal and formal feedback (via satisfaction surveys) suggesting the need to make our spaces feel less institutionalized.

A committee was established to determine how to address this feedback and the decision was made to create welcoming, inspirational spaces in the hallway and waiting areas for each adolescent unit.

The patient/family voice was engaged to plan and create all elements of this project. Some highlights include:

- Engaging and collaborating with various artists and volunteers (including Youth Advisory and Family Advisory councils) to design key art installations (e.g., Floating Skateboard project)
- Incorporating youth/patients—including inpatient, families, staff, AHS family advisors, and community members in the co-creation of installations (e.g., the "Wave" is a 300+ handmade, clay-tile mosaic that incorporates themes of hope, joy, comfort, and well-being)
- Incorporating quotes from "Hope" letters written by adolescent patients to others as a way to provide inspiration and support others on their healing journeys.

As for impact, some highlights include:

- Patient and staff comments:
 - "It doesn't even feel like I'm a patient in hospital."
 - "I totally forgot my problems over the past 2 hours."
 - "This is a good thing. Can we do this more often?"
- Staff have seen a decrease in escalations in the evening programming that follows the art creation activities.

Statements of support might include...

Two statements of support are required and one must be from a patient or family member. Examples of what this team might have considered submitting are listed below.

Patient or family member (patient advisors would be included in this category)

- A letter from a family member sharing how the Hope Hallway set the tone for their experience with the care they received
- A "Hope" letter from a patient that was incorporated into the installation
- A short video from a patient sharing what they liked about the artwork in the unit
- A short story or poem from a patient talking about their experience receiving care from one of these units

Leadership, provider, staff, community member, etc.

- A short video by one of the non-patient/family member artists sharing their experience supporting the project
- A letter of support from the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Program Manager that includes a photo of the hallway



Reminder: Consent is required from any/all participants to share media (e.g., video, recording, photo)