

Better Beginnings
Vibrant Childhoods
Empowered Youth

2025 Highlights

Making a Difference



Photo by Shelby Lisk at CIRAV.CA



Champion

We fuel existing strengths, catalyze emerging areas and embrace a lifecycle approach to advance knowledge, address health inequities and inspire support for science.

Support an Indigenous path in all activities

Prioritizing funding for Indigenous-led research

OBJECTIVE: Address health inequities and advance First Nations, Inuit and Métis human development, child and youth health through dedicated funding for Indigenous-led research in IHDCYH funding opportunities.

OUTCOME: Invested \$26M since 2020 with partners across 30 grants in 17 funding opportunities to support Indigenous-led projects. These investments are accelerating self-determination in research and helping to close the health equity gap for Indigenous children, youth and families.



Capacity Build

We support diverse career pathways and strengthen key infrastructure to improve efficiency, amplify impact and nurture a thriving health research environment.

Take a holistic approach to the career pathway

Advancing careers, collaboration, and mentorship through Implementation Science Chairs

OBJECTIVE: Support early and mid-career researchers to strengthen capacity for implementation science that improves health for children, youth and families.

OUTCOME: Invested \$5M to fund five Implementation Science Chairs to increase the uptake and sustainability of evidence-based solutions in healthcare and community settings. Their leadership will advance the field of implementation science and support the next generation of researchers.



Convene

We facilitate interdisciplinary collaborations and enable purposeful partnerships to strengthen research, mobilize knowledge and shape policy.

Engage children, youth and families

Integrating youth perspectives in peer review of grant applications

OBJECTIVE: Enhance research excellence by engaging youth in peer review activities.

OUTCOME: More than 30 youth have participated in peer review across 8 IHDCYH-led funding opportunities. 91% of youth and adult reviewers surveyed agreed that engaging youth in peer review strengthened the process by enhancing relevance to youth priority areas and increasing inclusivity of funded research.