

Growing Expertise in Evaluation and Knowledge Translation (GEEK) Program

September 8, 2023



ONTARIO
BRAIN
INSTITUTE

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WELCOME TO BRAIN CENTRAL



Ontario Brain Institute

Who we are

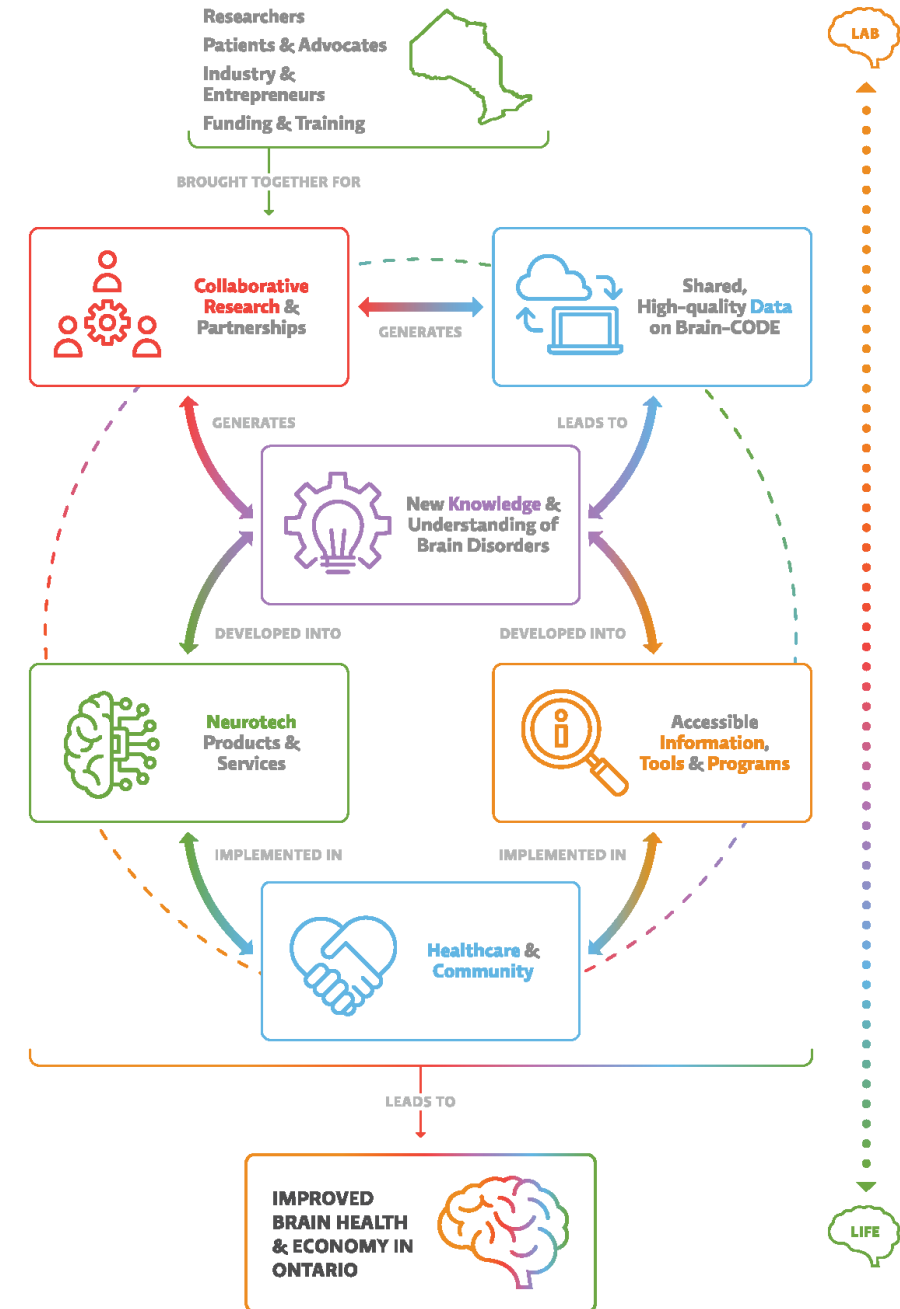
The Ontario Brain Institute is a provincially funded, not-for-profit organization that accelerates discovery and innovation, benefiting both patients and the economy.

Our Vision

Ontario as a world leader in brain research, commercialization and care.

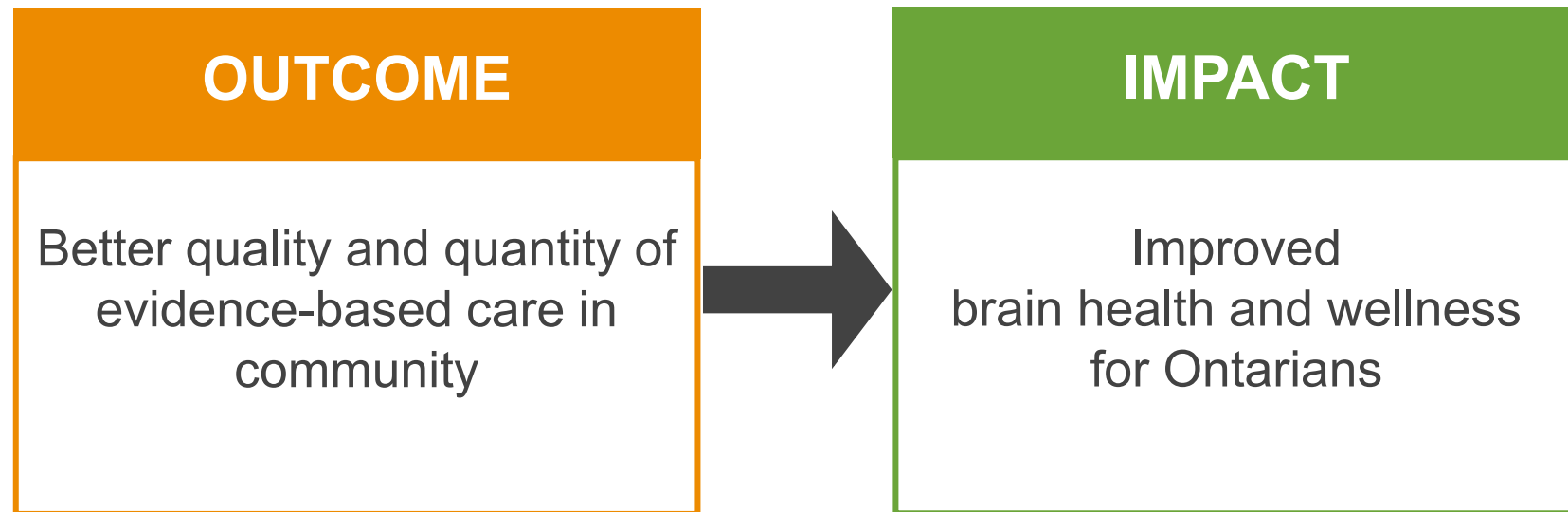
We realize this through our collaborative 'team science' approach between researchers, clinicians, industry, patients, and their advocates to foster discovery and deliver innovative products and services that improve the lives of those living with brain disorders.

Bringing Lab to Life





OBI Logic Model





Value of community care

- Community care is part of the broader health care community and is needed to have the greatest impact on brain health.
- Community organizations provide care and support people with various health conditions.
- They are limited in their capacity to generate evidence for (evaluate) and expand the care they provide because of gap in supports and funding for community care.

Growing Expertise in Evaluation and Knowledge translation

GEEK Program:

Build evaluation capacity and receive funding to sustain, spread & scale community-based programming.

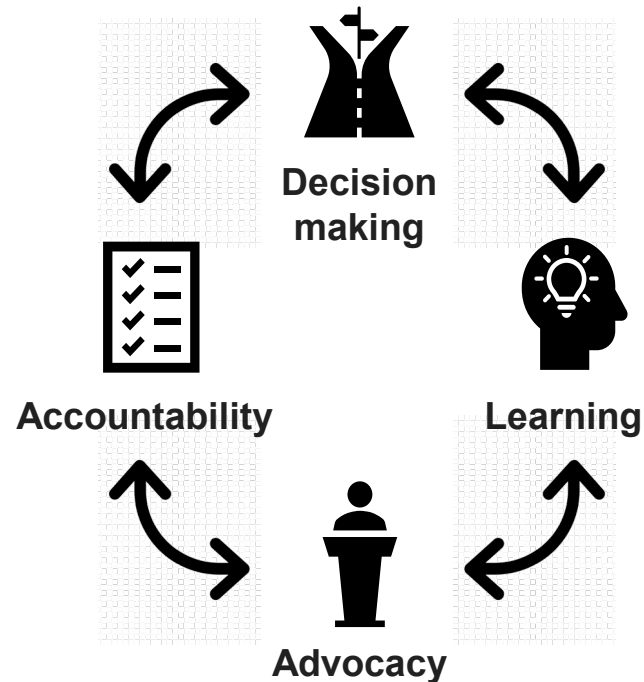


- Created as a response to feedback from community organizations regarding their evaluation capacity needs and lack of funding for programs.



Why is ECB important?

➤ Why is it important to build evaluation capacity in community-based organizations?



- Evaluation findings or evidence can be regularly used to aid in program and organizational decision making and allow for organizational learning.
- ECB provides people with an opportunity to learn by doing and to readily transfer what they learn about evaluation into a program which is key to increasing organizational evaluation practice and evidence generation.
- By improving community-based organizations' ability to generate program evidence through evaluation, community programming can better situate itself into health care contexts.



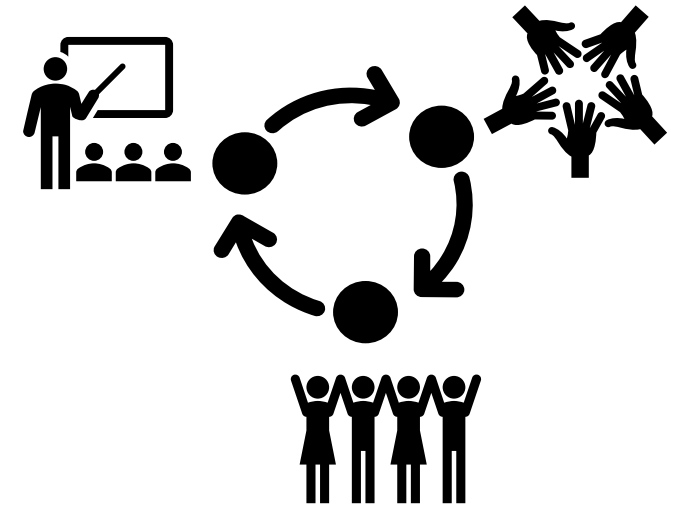
How does the GEEK program help?

- GEEK program provides evaluation expertise, funding, and other supports to **community-led** programs and services for brain health and people living with brain disorders.

- Goal:
 - Enable community-led organizations to evaluate their programs and generate evidence for learning & improvement and to convey their impact, ultimately increasing the success of programs.

- How:
 - GEEK provides funding to sustain, scale and/or spread these programs, and promotes evaluation capacity building to improve the quality and quantity of evidence-based care in the community.

 - Design guided by our patient advisory committees



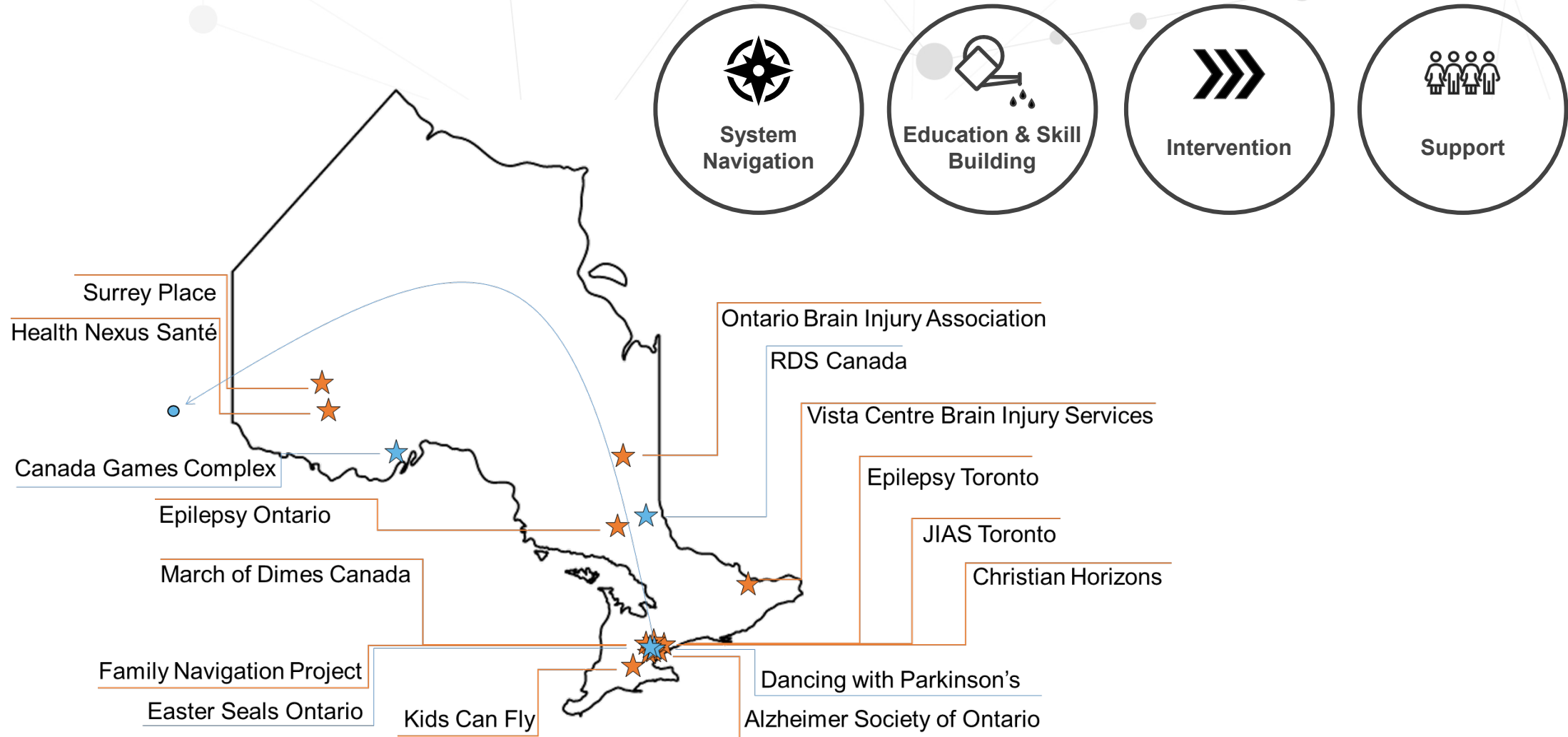


Priorities of the GEEK program

- 1. *Community-led*:** the program is led by a community group (outside of hospital/research/academia) and they will be the main recipient/beneficiary of funds, capacity building, training, learning.
- 2. *Evaluation*:** if we support organizations to evaluate their programs and get necessary evidence, then they can demonstrate their value and leverage it to secure more funding.
- 3. *Scale/spread*:** we want to support taking a good program and giving them the resources to implement that program in another location/context, or expand the number of people who have access to it.
- 4. *Sustainability*:** ultimately, we want to increase the sustainability of programs/organizations in the community—help them get to a more secure place in being able to offer programs/services to people living with brain disorders/their caregivers. More secure in both resources (e.g. funding) and in knowledge (e.g. how to best run their program).



Who are the previous GEEK recipients?





Previous GEEK program examples



Intervention

Peer-Administered CBT-Informed Support for Post Partum Depression (Brantford)



Education & Skill Building

Educational Pathway to Employment (Toronto)



System Navigation

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Transition Program (Ottawa)





Eligibility Criteria

1. The applicant is a community-led organization that seeks to increase their ability to conduct and use evaluation.
2. The program or service is brain health related (includes mental health).
3. The program or service is currently or has previously been offered.
4. The program is community-led and takes place outside of a hospital or primary care setting.
5. Funding supports activities taking place across Canada, with the head office or main site located in Ontario.
6. The applicant is an incorporated organization with prior or existing funding.



2023-2024 Application Process

1. Letter of Intent (LOI)

- Deadline: Monday, October 2, 2023
- Reviewed by OBI Review Committee
- Decision by: Tuesday, October 17, 2023

2. Full Application and Interview

- Invitation to successful LOIs
- Matched with an evaluator
- Deadline: Friday, December 22, 2023
- Reviewed by External Advisory Committee
- Interview: February 2024
- Decision by: end of March 2024



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Questions?

Website: braininstitute.ca/geek
Contact email: geek@braininstitute.ca

Ontario 

Funding provided, in part,
by the Government of Ontario