Colorado Behavioral Healthcare Council

2021 Training Conference: Celebrating Community Partnerships | Session #603

Presented by Wes Williams, PhD & Alires Almon, MA



How might we solve the access to care problem?

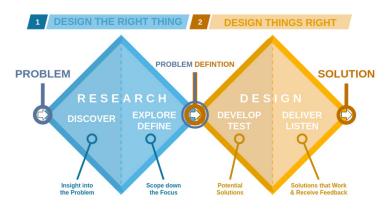


With Human-Centered Design

Using human-centered design to develop a pathway to solving important problems.

DISCOVER: What are the issues and sentiments surrounding your problem?

- Individual user/client/staff interviews using tools such as Empathy Maps and/or Journey Maps.
- Focus interviews with staff and individuals who are adjacent to the question you are trying to answer.



Reference: Democracy in Design: How data prioritizes what's important and helps suppress the loudest voice in the room. | UX Collective (uxdesign.cc)

EXPLORE: What are you doing to narrow down the problem?

- Rapid Prototyping Create tangible prototypes to share with users digital and hands on.
- Use the feedback to create your next prototype iteration. Repeat.
- Conduct Focus Groups to develop and discover themes and topics to apply.

PROBLEM DEFINITION: "Fall in love with the problem, not with the solution."

- Begin to refine the problem by using the information from your discovery sessions.
- Narrow the problem focus to solve one main issue. (Everything can't be solved with one solution!)

DEVELOP AND TEST

- What are the types of solutions that could meet address the problem as defined?
- Iterate the process used in rapid prototyping to develop and test those solutions in different pilot programs.

DELIVER AND LISTEN

- Provide final solution to all stakeholders.
- Continue to evolve the solution based on user feedback and experiences.



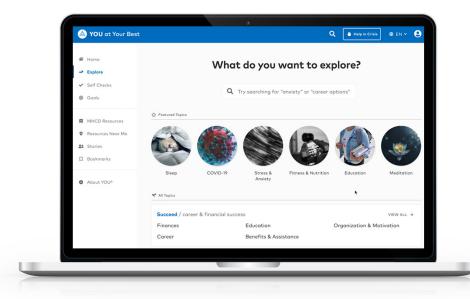


How might we reach over 60,000 people who sought out mental health assistance but were unable to obtain it?



Develop a free online resource platform available 24-7, which is personalized to individual needs and allows users to explore their mental health, seek out local community resources and access services when ready.

YOU@YourBest: www.youatyourbest.com



RESOURCES:

- Human-Centered Design Inspiration, Models and Case Studies: Resources Center for Care Innovations
- Grit Digital Health: www.gritdigitalhealth.com
- Design Thinking Starter Kit: Stanford dSchool: d.school Starter Kit Stanford d.school

CONTACTS:

- Wes Williams, PhD | Chief Information Officer | wesley.williams@mhcd.org | @drweswilliams
- Alires Almon, MA | Director of Innovation | alires.almon@mhcd.org |
 @alires

ABOUT THE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER OF DENVER: The Mental Health Center of Denver is a place for recovery, resilience and well-being, known locally and nationally as a model for innovative and effective community behavioral health care. For more than 30 years, we have provided mental health and support services to enhance the well-being of children, families and adults in metro Denver.

