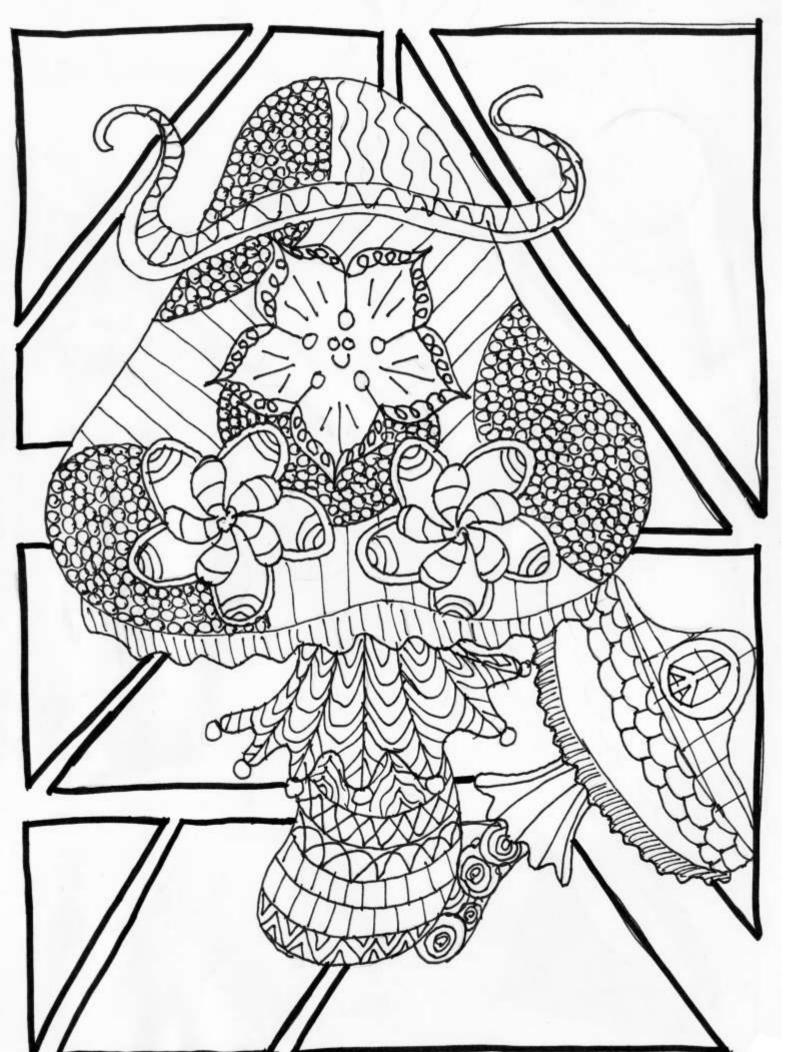
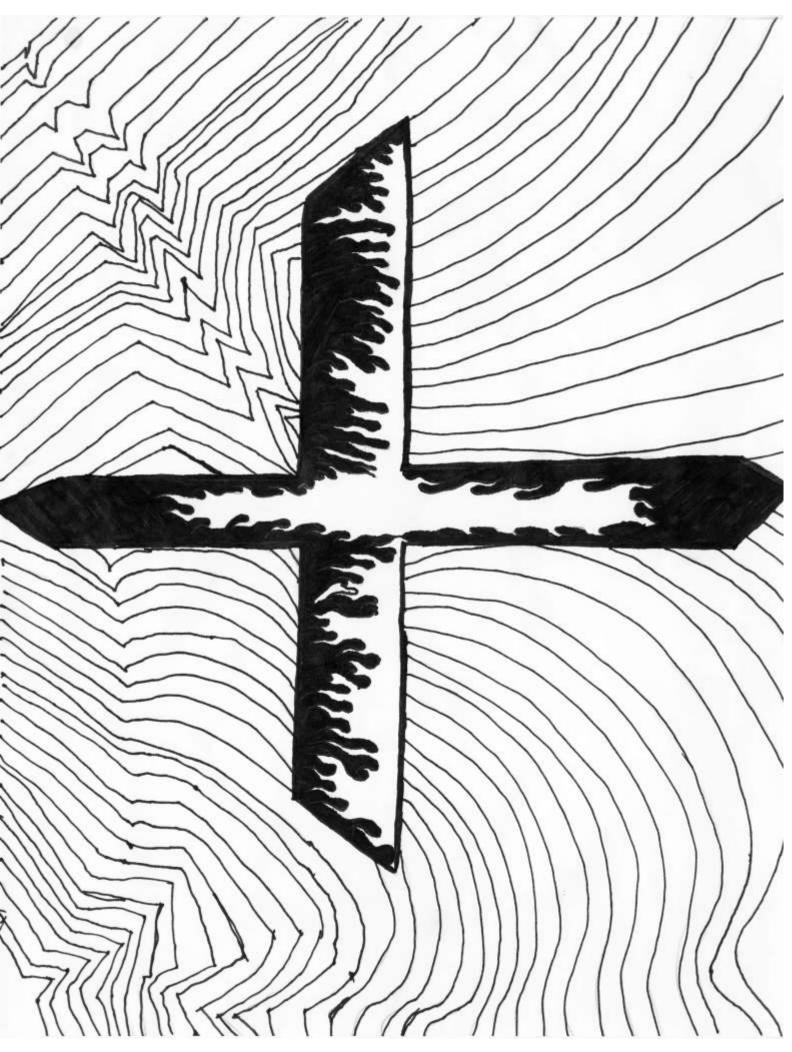
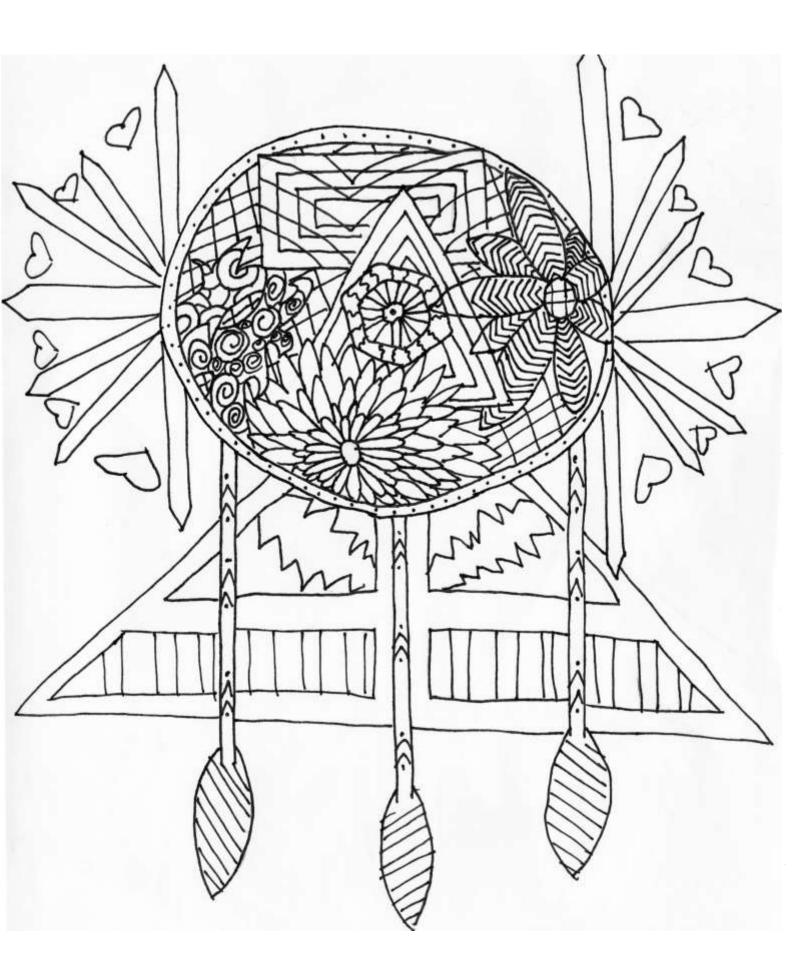
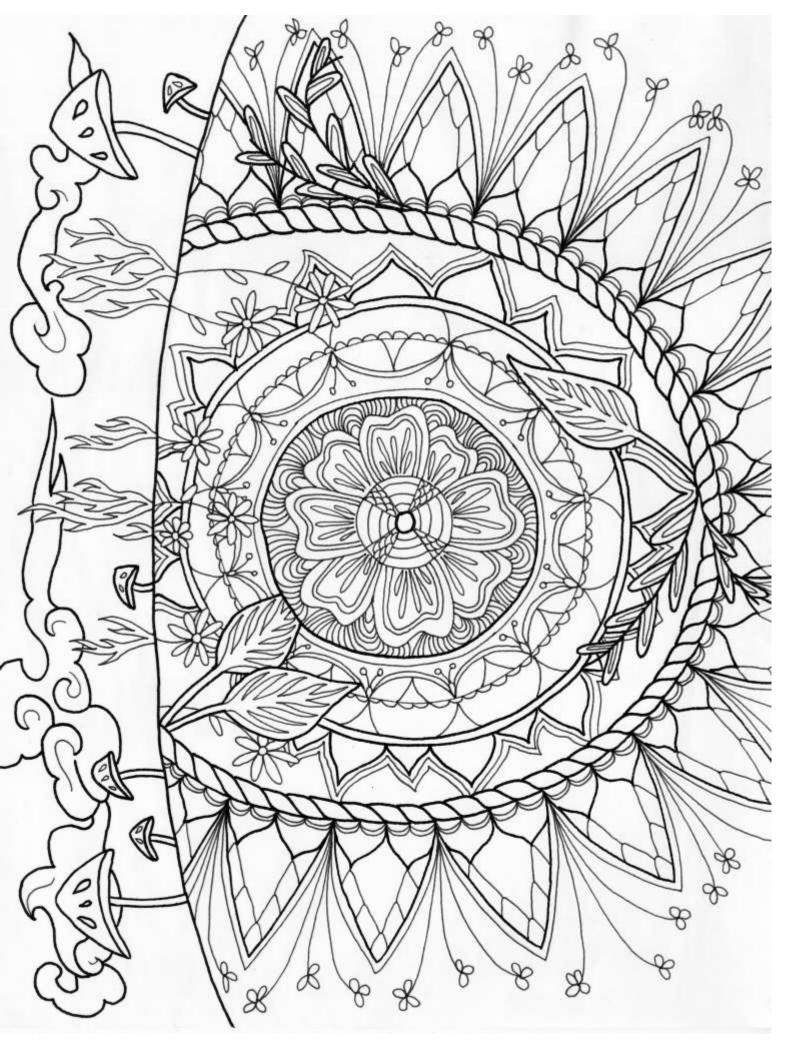


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This coloring book was put together to raise awareness around Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use. It was made by the Dawson Creek Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative with the help of Dixie Kotylack's art class at South Peace Secondary School.

What is the Collaborative?

The Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use (CYMHSU) Collaborative is a provincial initiative aiming to increase the number of children, youth and their families receiving timely access to integrated mental health and substance use services.

What is the purpose of the Collaborative?

To engage children, youth and their families, Aboriginal peoples, physicians, clinicians, provincial ministries (Health, Children and Family Development and Education), health authorities, schools and communities:

- To increase the number of children, youth and their families receiving timely access to integrated mental health and substance abuse use services and supports throughout the province.
- To involve youth and families in decisions related to program and system design, clinical practice and policy development, which manifest the "family-first, people centered" goals of Healthy Minds, Healthy People, and their families.

What is a Local Action Team?

The CYMHSU Collaborative supports the formation of community-led Local Action Teams to identify gaps in care and develop solutions for children and youth with mental health and substance use challenges. The Local Action Teams of the CYMHSU Collaborative are mechanisms to bring community partners together to share information and knowledge, in order to make positive system changes locally, regionally and provincially.

The Dawson Creek Local Action Team.

The Dawson Creek Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use (CYMHSU) Local Action Team started in December 2015 after the local Practice Support Coach, Cindy Kadziolka put Dawson Creek's name forward for this initiative. Dr. Ulrike Meyer agreed to sign on to be our Physician Champion. We have five acting co-chairs: Isaac Hernandez (Executive Director North Winds Healing Center), Louise Rogers (Team Lead Child and Youth Mental Health Dawson Creek), Shaely Wilbur (Councilor City of Dawson Creek), Kate Fitch (Clinician Child and Youth Mental Health), and Cheryl Hendy (South Peace Community Resource Society). We have over 45 members on our team as of June 2016! If you are interested in our cause please consider joining us in our work.

It was identified that many family and youth experiencing mental health and/or substance use issues, had difficulty navigating the system of care which is often fragmented, confusing, and uncoordinated.

The Collaborative was formed to address these issues and receives funding from the Shared Care Committee, a partnership of Doctors of BC and the Ministry of Health. Three ministries including the Ministry of Education, Health and Children and Family Development have signed a tripartite agreement supporting the work of this initiative.