

Helping More Seniors in Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand and Brant Get Care They Need at Home

Ontario Improving Access to Home and Community Care

NEWS

December 19, 2013

Seniors and residents throughout the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) are receiving better access to home care and community supports to help them live independently and at home longer.

Ontario is providing nearly \$27 million to support home care for more seniors and for expanded community health care services, including mental health supports for seniors and others living with complex conditions.

This investment will support existing programs and help develop new ones to provide better care for seniors at home and reduce unnecessary emergency room and hospital re-admissions. This includes:

- Providing more home care for patients with complex needs and reducing wait times for personal support services provided by Community Care Access Centres.
- Expanding supportive housing services at Niagara's Pleasant Manor to support about 150 frail and high-risk seniors and improving supports for seniors already living in the 22 wellness suites.
- Improving supports for people living with a brain injury through Brain Injury Services of Hamilton. This includes teaching clients strategies for improving memory and cognitive thinking, offering psychiatric consultation for medication management, running recreational and educational programs and providing clients with crisis management and counselling.
- Offering specialized transitional adult day programs through The Victorian Order Nurses of Canada for seniors with developmental disabilities. This program will help individuals with complex developmental conditions make a more gradual transition to mainstream adult day programs.

Improving access to home care and community supports is a key priority of [Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care](#) and helps to provide the right care, at the right time, in the right place. This is part of the Ontario government's economic plan to invest in people, build modern infrastructure and support a dynamic and innovative business climate.

QUOTES

"We are investing our health care dollars in services that help residents in Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand and Brant get the care they need at the right time, in the right place. This means better access to timely quality care for patients — especially our seniors."

— Jim Bradley, MPP, St. Catharines

"Providing seniors with more timely access to health care in their homes and communities ensures our health care system works better for everyone, improving access for all who need care, where they need it."

— Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“Our government is addressing the opportunities and challenges of an aging population. By working with our community partners we are creating and sustaining supportive environments that help Ontario seniors live healthy, active and meaningful lives.”

— Mario Sergio, Minister Responsible for Seniors Affairs

“The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care provided the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN communities nearly \$27 million in new investments. This will mean more seniors and others with complex conditions can receive expanded community health care services. Continuously improving access to home care and community supports is a key priority of Ontario’s Action Plan for Health Care and our LHIN. This investment in our communities will help us provide the right care, at the right time, in the right place for all our patients and families.”

— Michael Shea, Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant LHIN Board Chair

QUICK FACTS

- More than 637,000 people currently receive home care across Ontario.
- Over the next 20 years, the population of seniors aged 65 and over in Ontario will more than double from 1.9 million today to 4.2 million in 2036.

LEARN MORE

[Ontario’s Action Plan for Health Care.](#)

[Ontario’s Action Plan for Seniors.](#)

Dr. Samir Sinha’s report [Living Longer, Living Well.](#)

[Ontario Seniors’ Secretariat.](#)

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