

BACKGROUND

HNHB LHIN INVESTING IN MORE CARE FOR SENIORS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN) is receiving \$28.9 million in 2009/10 for a number of initiatives to help seniors live healthy, independent lives in their own homes and to decrease the number of alternate level of care (ALC) patients in hospitals.

Having more home care and community services enables an ALC patient to leave a hospital sooner, making more beds available to emergency room patients. These services also provide ongoing health supports to seniors which reduces their need to go to their local hospital emergency room (ER).

Aging at Home Strategy

The HNHB LHIN is receiving \$26.6 million in 2009/10 to increase the range and quantity of services available to seniors, and to help relieve pressure in hospitals and long-term care homes.

This year's investment is an increase of \$18.9 million from 2008/09.

The Aging at Home program expands traditional services that help seniors stay healthy and live at home. These services include home care, assistive devices, assisted living/supportive housing and end-of-life care.

The Aging at Home program also encourages innovation at a local level, by giving LHINs the flexibility to start some creative projects that are tailor-made for seniors living in communities with specific needs.

To date, the following initiatives have been approved for funding in 09/10. The remainder of the funding for this year will be allocated at a later date.

Project Title	Service Provider Name	Geographic Area Served	Program Description	Total 09-10 Funding
Niagara Gatekeepers Program	Niagara Region Seniors Community Programs	Niagara	Sustain volunteer training in Niagara Region to identify seniors at risk in the community for early intervention.	\$104,681

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Expansion of Transportation in HNHB LHIN	Canadian Red Cross	Brant and Niagara	Purchase of a wheelchair accessible van in Grimsby for seniors and increased number of drivers for existing vans in the LHIN for independent living.	\$215,709
A Comprehensive Mobile Team Program for Francophone Seniors	Centre de santé communautaire Hamilton-Niagara	Hamilton, Welland, Port Colborne, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines	A mobile primary health and wellness team in Hamilton, Welland, Port Colborne, Niagara Falls and St. Catharines.	\$386,962
Feet First: Steps for Health	North Hamilton Community Health Centre	Niagara and Hamilton	Inter-professional outpatient foot care and education for seniors living with diabetes	\$636,331
Improving Continence Care for Seniors in the Community	St Joseph's Centre for Ambulatory Health Services	St. Catharines, Burlington, Brant County, Simcoe and Hamilton	Expansion of continence self-management program from Hamilton to St. Catharines, Burlington, Brantford and Simcoe.	\$148,006
Aging at Home: Best Foot Forward	St Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton	Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand, Norfolk and Brant	A community and a multi hospital collaborative for integrated foot care for persons with diabetes and kidney failure and on dialysis.	\$128,064
Travelling Falls Prevention Clinic	St Peter's Hospital	Niagara, Haldimand, Norfolk, Brant and Burlington	Expansion of existing Falls Prevention Clinic in Hamilton to Haldimand, Norfolk, Brant, Burlington, and Niagara. A mobile clinic will be available on a rotating basis one day a month	\$241,775
Targeted Supportive Living Service	Brain Injury Services of Hamilton	Hamilton	Creation of three new supportive housing environments for aging persons with an acquired brain injury.	\$150,376
Niagara Hindu Samaj Seniors Gathering	Community Support Services of Niagara	Niagara	A bi-monthly, culturally appropriate congregate dining program for South Asian seniors in Niagara. Transportation for program provided.	\$ 30,052

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Project Title	Service Provider Name	Geographic Area Served	Program Description	Total 09-10 Funding
Slow Stream Rehabilitation	Norfolk General Hospital	Norfolk	Inpatient rehabilitation to improve persons' functional status waiting for Long Term Care home placement, with a goal of diverting placement and returning home.	\$480,993

Urgent Priorities Fund - Addressing ALC Pressures

The HNHB LHIN is receiving \$2.3 million to help provide community alternatives to hospital care.

Last year, this fund helped to:

- Reduce ER visits by providing additional community supports through supportive housing or by placing more nurses in long-term care homes
- Move ALC patients to a more appropriate health care setting as quickly as possible by improving the electronic flow of information from hospitals to long-term care homes.

Increasing Home Care Services – CCAC Service Maximums

The HNHB LHIN is receiving \$7.3 million in 2009/10 for changes made last year to increase the availability and integration of home care services. This included increasing the limits on hours of person support/homemaking services by 50 per cent, and removing limits entirely for patients waiting for a long-term care bed or receiving end-of-life services at home.

Nurse-Led Outreach Team

The HNHB LHIN is receiving \$250,000 for a nurse-led outreach team that is being created to provide long-term care home residents with timely and appropriate care, and stabilize residents who need more urgent attention. This team of nurse practitioners and registered nurses will travel to LTC homes to assess urgent problems, determine the need for hospital care, and provide interventions (such as intravenous therapy, antibiotic management and administering oxygen) in cases where unnecessary visits to the hospital and the ER can be avoided.