



On August 28th, George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, visited the Markham Activity Seniors Centre to launch an Aging at Home Strategy. The goal is to transform community health-care services so that seniors can live healthy, independent lives in their own homes. The Aging at Home policy reflects similar themes to those identified by Central LHIN's Seniors Advisory Network.

As you can see from the attached news release and backgrounder, Central LHIN will receive \$263,000 in 2007/08 for planning and additional \$106,521,461 in service delivery funding over a three year period. This investment gives the Central LHIN an exciting opportunity to change the way services and supports are delivered and provide more equitable access to health care by matching the needs of the local senior population with the appropriate local support services.

The planning funding will support the work of providers and planning partners from across Central LHIN who will be involved in developing and implementing plans to achieve these objectives, many of which have already been documented in the Integrated Health Service Plan.

The aim of the Aging at Home Strategy is to provide the right services, in the right place at the right time to ensure seniors have the supports they need. Services could include assistive devices, supportive housing services, home care and community support services like meals, transportation, adult day programs, homemaking services and caregiver supports.

Seniors who will benefit are those who:

- Wish to continue to live independently in their own homes
- Are at risk of experiencing a medical crisis and having to go to the emergency department
- Are lingering in hospital awaiting a more suitable placement; or
- Are inappropriately admitted to a Long-Term Care Home or hospital because of insufficient community supports

Please continue to watch the Central LHIN website - www.centrallhin.on.ca - for further updates and we look forward to your involvement in developing and implementing new innovative solutions that allow our seniors to age with dignity and independence.

If you require additional information, please contact the Central LHIN office at 1-866-392-5446 or email central@lhins.on.ca.

News Release Communiqué



Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Ministère de la Santé et des Soins de longue durée

For Immediate Release

August 28, 2007

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MCGUINITY GOVERNMENT TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY LIVING TO HELP SENIORS LIVE INDEPENDENTLY AT HOME IN CENTRAL LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORK

Aging at Home Strategy Will be LHIN led and Reflect Local Cultural Diversity

MARKHAM – The McGuinty government is launching an Aging at Home Strategy that will transform community health care services in the Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) so that seniors can live healthy, independent lives in their own homes, Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman announced today.

“Our goal is to open a whole world of opportunity for seniors that will offer new lifestyle choices that are reflective of how Ontario’s seniors truly want to live,” said Smitherman “As our population ages, we need to look for innovative solutions that are more responsive to their needs and allow seniors to continue to live in comfort and with respect in their own homes, ideally for the rest of their days.”

The McGuinty government is investing over \$106 million in the Central LHIN over the next three years as part of an overall \$700 million investment announced earlier today.

As part of a three-year strategy, Ontario’s 14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) will lead an exciting initiative that will impact the way services are delivered and help provide more equitable access to health care by matching the needs of the local senior population with the appropriate support services. These services could include enhanced home care and community support services like meals, transportation, shopping, snow shoveling, friendly home calling, adult day programs, homemaking services and caregiver supports.

“We are truly pleased with the government's commitment to improving the lives of seniors in the Central LHIN,” said Ken Morrison, chairman of the board of the Central LHIN. “This focus on community-based care will give seniors the support they need to achieve greater independence and better health so they can remain in their own communities, close to friends and loved ones.”

The Aging at Home Strategy will offer new possibilities for Ontario’s culturally diverse populations and other community-level organizations like service clubs and groups of seniors to help serve themselves. It will make available supports to help keep our seniors healthy and active, longer. Innovative thinking combined with health care solutions that encourage prevention and health promotion will play a large role in the LHINs plans to support Ontario’s seniors and their caregivers.

“As with the development of residential hospices we are witnessing across the province, government investments in community, like that we are announcing today, find success for many reasons,” said Smitherman “not least of which is because they leverage the love and support that is on offer from

countless community volunteers seeking to make a positive difference in the lives of their fellow citizens.”

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Today's investment has been designed with an historic new patient-centred funding model that recognizes population growth and promotes equitable access to services across Ontario based on the actual health needs of the population. Funding for enhanced services will flow to the LHINs in April 2008.

It is estimated that the senior's population in Ontario will double in the next 16 years. This investment will result in a more sustainable health care system that provides supports to seniors where they most want them, in their own homes.

This is just one more example of how, working together, Ontarians have achieved results in health care services. Other initiatives include:

- \$800 million more in long-term care funding since 2003
- \$463 million more in home care funding since 2003
- \$100 million more in community support service funding since 2003
- \$875 million invested in reducing wait times since 2003 to perform more than 1,270,000 procedures.

Today's initiative is part of the McGuinty government's plan for innovation in public health care, building a system that delivers on three priorities – keeping Ontarians healthy, reducing wait times and providing better access to doctors and nurses.

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Media Contacts:

David Spencer
Minister's Office
416-327-4320

David Jensen
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
416-314-6197

Anne Themelis
Central LHIN
905-948-1872 ext 203

Members of the general public: 1-866-532-3161

This news release, along with other media materials, such as matte stories and audio clips, on other subjects, are available on our website at: <http://www.health.gov.on.ca> under the News Media section.

For more information on achievements in health care, visit: www.resultsontario.gov.on.ca.

Disponible en français.

Background/ Document d'information



Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Ministère de la Santé et des Soins de longue durée

August 28, 2007

AGING AT HOME STRATEGY

The government is expanding community living options for seniors by investing more than \$700 million over three years in an Aging at Home strategy. The province's 14 Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) will receive significant funding and tailor a range of support services to meet the needs of seniors so that they may live independently in their own homes.

Services could include enhanced home care and community support services like meals, transportation, adult day programs, homemaking services and caregiver supports, and increased access to mobility aids. These community services will give seniors support to lead healthy and independent lives at home.

Twenty per cent or more of the Aging at Home funding is earmarked for innovative approaches to service such as culturally sensitive options and community economic development approaches for service delivery that will increase equity and access for marginalized and at risk seniors, and employ community members (cultural, linguistic etc.) who can identify and connect with seniors, and build capacity for members of the community to *help each other*.

These approaches may also include funding to support non-traditional partnerships and new preventive and wellness services. For example, groups and individuals who deliver care informally, such as friendly home visits/telephone calls and transportation to appointments.

The historic new funding model used to allocate funding to the LHINs is based on the estimated health needs of the people in each LHIN and their associated costs.

- Estimates of health needs are based on each individual's age, diagnosis, and rural and socio-economic status.
- The needs of each LHIN's population in 2010 are forecast based on projections of population growth and aging.

Listed below is a breakdown of the Aging at Home funding:

Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)	2007/08 Planning Funding	Three Year Allocations to LHINs			
		Initial Investment 2008/09	Planned Base Increase 2009/10	Planned Base Increase 2010/11	Planned Three-Year Funding
Erie St. Clair	\$187,000	\$3,937,535	\$9,785,302	\$17,282,348	\$31,005,184
South West	\$236,000	\$7,005,606	\$17,409,869	\$30,748,507	\$55,163,982
Waterloo Wellington	\$181,000	\$4,783,520	\$11,887,688	\$20,995,487	\$37,666,695
Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant	\$295,000	\$7,638,234	\$18,982,036	\$33,525,196	\$60,145,467
Central West	\$162,000	\$2,737,669	\$6,803,474	\$12,015,982	\$21,557,124
Mississauga Halton	\$196,000	\$7,685,778	\$19,100,189	\$33,733,872	\$60,519,839
Toronto Central	\$243,000	\$6,194,791	\$15,394,886	\$27,189,738	\$48,779,415
Central	\$263,000	\$13,527,801	\$33,618,398	\$59,375,263	\$106,521,461
Central East	\$288,000	\$4,641,877	\$11,535,688	\$20,373,799	\$36,551,365
South East	\$182,000	\$2,211,479	\$5,495,822	\$9,706,466	\$17,413,767
Champlain	\$246,000	\$6,928,868	\$17,219,166	\$30,411,697	\$54,559,731
North Simcoe Muskoka	\$161,000	\$2,973,268	\$7,388,969	\$13,050,056	\$23,412,292
North-East	\$202,000	\$4,290,570	\$10,662,643	\$18,831,868	\$33,785,081
North-West	\$158,000	\$1,046,673	\$1,924,956	\$3,399,768	\$6,371,397
Ontario Total	\$3,000,000	\$75,603,669	\$187,209,085	\$330,640,046	\$593,452,800

Total Funding

Assistive Devices Program Funding Increase (mobility aids)	\$40,000,000
Provincial Priorities	\$66,000,000
Allocations to LHINs	<u>\$596,452,800</u>
	\$702,452,800

Media Contacts:

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