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LONG TERM CARE FUNDING COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH PSYCHOGERIATRIC SERVICES

The Health and Emergency Medical Services Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, May 28, 2008, from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. Council approve the receipt and expenditure of \$175,000 in additional base funding increases for 2008 (\$350,000 annualized) from the Central Local Health Integration Network for expansion of Long Term Care Community and Outreach Psychogeriatric Services, subject to receipt of the final funding letter.
2. Council authorize a 1.0 full-time employee increase in the proposed Long Term Care and Seniors Branch 2008 permanent staffing complement to accommodate the identified program expansion, subject to 100% funding by the Province.
3. The Commissioner of Community and Health Services be authorized to enter into purchase of service agreements with the other partner agencies identified in the report and sign any necessary Agreements with the Central Local Health Integration Network that may be required to implement the above.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to secure approval from Council for the receipt and expenditure of additional subsidy from the Central Local Health Integration Network for program costs related to the expansion of the Long Term Care Community and Outreach Psychogeriatric Services and to increase the Long Term Care staff complement by 1.0 permanent full-time employees pending receipt of the final funding letter from the Central Local Health Integration Network.

3. BACKGROUND

In November 2007, the Central Local Health Integration Network issued a call for submissions for enhancements to specialized geriatric services. Funding provided under this initiative is targeted at building existing system capacity, leveraging current resources, reducing service gaps, and serving hard-to-reach communities and is allocated from the Aging At Home Strategy. In response to that request, the Long Term Care and

Seniors Branch, in partnership with Whitby Mental Health Centre, York Support Services Network, Alzheimer Society of York Region, Central Community Care Access Centre, and Southlake Region Health Centre submitted a proposal to enhance the services provided by the Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

The total amount of expansion funding that has been requested and approved, in principle, through the February 26, 2008 Board Resolution of the Central Local Health Integration Network is \$175,000 in fiscal 2008 (\$350,000 annualized) for the expansion of the clinical outreach component for the Long Term Care Community and Outreach Psychogeriatric Services. It is expected that the final funding letter will be released in May/June 2008.

The Regional Psychogeriatric and Mental Health Consulting Service provides training, education, and consulting services to support front line staff in long term care centres and community support agencies that serve people who exhibit difficult or aggressive behaviours and the Integrated Psychogeriatric Outreach Program which provides clinical assessment and treatment planning for clients with aggressive and difficult behaviours.

Need for expanded psychogeriatric outreach services

Long term care centres and community agencies are dealing with a significant and growing number of clients with complex physical and mental health needs with associated behaviours. These include client with the following types of conditions:

- Individuals with behavioural problems related to dementias, other neurological dysfunction and mental illness.
- Older adults with severe mental illness, including those who require acute and ongoing mental health care as well as services provided by the long term care network, and older people with long standing severe mental illness who required complex care and/or have functional limitations.
- People with long standing mental illness that now require long term care.
- Vulnerable adults who are less than 65 years of age, with behaviours related to conditions such as Down's Syndrome, early on-set Alzheimer Disease or an acquired brain injury.

Expansion funding and service increases

The expansion funds will be utilized to augment the capacity of the Integrated Psychogeriatric Program to provide clinical assessments, treatment and care planning.

These funds will cover 100% of all direct costs associated with 1.0 additional permanent full-time intake worker, as well as start up and program expenses. The funds will also

provide for an increase to the service hours provided by medical services/specialists, occupational therapists, and nurse clinicians.

As a result of these increases, service will be provided to an additional 200 clients each year and will target meeting the needs of care providers with clients that have mental health issues with difficult and/or aggressive behaviours.

Relationship to Vision 2026

The additional expansion funding for Long Term Care Community and Outreach Psychogeriatric Services will contribute to the attainment of the Vision 2026 Goals of developing Quality Communities for a Diverse Population and Responding to the Needs of our Residents.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Table 1 provides a summary of the allocation of new funding provided by the Central Local Health Integration Network for 2008 together with the annualized impact. The new Central Local Health Integration Network funding will cover 100% of the costs associated with program expansion and will not have an impact on the net tax levy.

Table 1
Overview of Funding Increases

Program	2008 Budget Increase	Annualized Budget	FTE Increase
Expansion Funding:			
Intake Worker	\$ 11,960	\$ 50,000	1.0
Purchase of Services*	85,880	250,000	-
Mileage, Supplies, Training, etc.	18,827	50,000	-
One time Start-up Costs	58,333	-	-
Total	\$175,000	\$350,000	1.0

* Purchase of service for medical services/specialists, occupational therapists, and nurse clinicians

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

The utilization of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care funding will allow us to meet increasing needs for mental health services, continue to meet the needs of clients with greater service requirements and assist in safely maintaining at risk clients in the community through the provision of additional psychogeriatric services, support and

education for service providers and/or citizens needing these services in all local municipalities.

7. CONCLUSION

The approval of the recommendations regarding the receipt and expenditure of the additional subsidy from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care will enable us to more effectively support Long Term Care facilities and community agencies serving clients with greater/specialized mental health service requirements and increase direct service to those vulnerable individuals with mental health issues living in the community.

Early identification and on-going management of behaviours and mental health issues helps to avert and/or facilitate management of crisis so that these individuals can remain in their current place of residence, avoid unnecessary transfers and achieve effective and safe transfers when these prove necessary.

Delivery of this service is consistent with the Long Term Care and Seniors Branch Mission and Business Plan objective of meeting the demand for the provision of programs and services for clients with heavy, complex physical, cognitive and/or behavioural care requirements.

For more information on this report, please contact Shawn Turner, General Manager of the Long Term Care and Seniors Branch at 905-895-3628 Ext. 231.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.