



FINAL STEPS TAKEN IN DURHAM COMMUNITY INTEGRATIONS Focus on “Community First” has led to an even stronger community health services sector ready to meet the needs of our growing communities.

NEWS

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People who need hospice care, young people and at risk clients who rely on their local Community Health Centres and frail seniors will all benefit as four agencies in Durham Region take the final steps to implement their board-approved integration plans

This was the outcome after today’s meeting of the Central East LHIN Board of Directors after the Board Chairs from the Oshawa Community Health Centre (OCHC) and The Youth Centre (TYC) presented an integration and transition plan that will see their two organizations amalgamate into a single Community Health Centre by October 2015

Also representatives from Durham Hospice and the Victorian Order of Nurses Canada – Ontario Branch presented a transition plan detailing how accountability for the delivery of hospice services will now be seamlessly transferred from Durham Hospice to VON effective April 1, 2015.

Today’s presentations were part of a process that first began in February 2012, when the Board of the Central East LHIN launched its Community Health Services (CHS) Integration Strategy with an overall aim of improving client access to high-quality services, creating readiness for future health system transformation and making the best use of the public’s investment.

With a goal of leveraging the strength and expertise of both Durham Hospice and VON, the LHIN Board was told that “VON Durham Hospice Services” will become a Centre of Excellence for Hospice Palliative Care in Durham Region and will continue providing compassionate, client-centered, cost-effective support in the community.

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In their presentation, the Board Chairs of both the Oshawa Community Health Centre and The Youth Centre stated that their Boards agreed that the creation of an integrated Community Health Centre, that builds on the combined strengths and capacities of both organizations, will allow a new organization to achieve a continuum of consistent, quality services and resources for clients in South Durham including Whitby and Pickering.

With the Board of the Central East LHIN approving the facilitated integrations to go forward and providing the funding to support the necessary transition costs, the four organizations will now move ahead to implement the integrations in partnership with their respective volunteers, staff, clients and communities.

QUICK FACTS

- Over the past three years, the staff of the Central East LHIN has worked with hospital and community-based providers in Durham Region, Peterborough City and County, Northumberland County, Scarborough, Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes to develop new and innovative integrated service delivery models as part of the CHS Integration Strategy.
- In Durham Region, these CHS integrations have led to improvements in the delivery of congregate dining and supportive housing services in Oshawa, a Durham North Zone partnership and strategic alliance that shares funding to ensure services are delivered locally and better co-ordination of volunteer visiting services in Durham Region.
- In Peterborough City and County, strengthened front line and back office partnerships between local community providers are focused on the delivery of community services, caregiver supports and aboriginal cultural awareness.
- The creation of a single entity in Haliburton County to deliver acute and community-based services has allowed the LHIN to make significant investments in new and expanded services so that inter-disciplinary teams will now be providing more community health services to individuals with complex medical, social and/or cognitive issues.

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- In the City of Kawartha Lakes, local clients and their caregivers will soon have streamlined access to Adult Day Programs and the sharing of some clinical and back-office services and administrative leaders between Haliburton Highlands Health Services and Ross Memorial Hospital is leading to more services that can be delivered close to home.
- The ongoing development of a second Central East LHIN Rural Health Hub in Trent Hills and the identification of best practices for program standards, intake and referral process and procurement in Scarborough are learning opportunities that are being shared across the LHIN and the province.

QUOTES

“Through extensive engagement with their communities – including clients and caregivers, staff, volunteers and other health care partners – the organizations involved in the LHIN’s Community Health Service Integration Strategy have taken bold steps to redesign how services are delivered, without any disruption to their clients and many times with a positive impact on their front line staff who will have enriched training and development opportunities,” said Deborah Hammons, CEO of the Central East LHIN.

“The governors and volunteers from all these organizations are to be congratulated on their leadership in participating in this LHIN-facilitated process. Because of their dedication to their communities, together we are delivering on the LHIN’s strategic focus of “Community First” and helping Central East LHIN residents spend more time in their homes and their communities,” said Wayne Gladstone, Chair, Central East LHIN Board of Directors.

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