

NORTH SIMCOE MUSKOKA LHIN INVESTING IN MORE CARE FOR SENIORS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

May 19, 2009

The North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is receiving 2009/10 funding 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 ALC patients to leave 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 the hospital ER.

Aging at Home Strategy

The North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN is receiving \$7.4 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 \$4.4 million from 2008/09.

The money will help increase the range and quantity of services available to seniors and help relieve pressures in hospitals and long-term care homes. 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.

Year Two Programs (2009-2010) – New			
Service Provider	Service Location	Project Description	Funding
Alzheimer Society, Greater Simcoe County	Muskoka	Expansion of the Year One by adding a Coordinator in Muskoka.	\$35,500
Victorian Order of Nurses - Ontario Branch, Simcoe County	Barrie	Expansion of Year One Falls Prevention Strategy will target isolated seniors requiring exercise to reduce their risk of falls and falls-related injuries.	\$275,993
Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital	Orillia	Inter-professional falls clinic. The established Day Hospital at Soldiers' will be expanded to support the development of the LHIN's first Falls Clinic. The clinic will provide services to seniors who have fallen or who are at risk of falling.	\$389,560

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Service Provider	Service Location	Project Description	Funding
Helping Hands	Orillia	To provide 'attendant care' in order to reduce the number of ER and acute care beds which are being occupied due to a lack of appropriate and available beds for seniors requiring a care worker.	\$107,204
Simcoe County Association for the Physically Disabled	Barrie	Expansion of Year One coordination of assistive devices information and supports.	\$20,003
Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital	Orillia	Regional Geriatric Emergency Management (GEM) Program. Regional advanced practice nurse is part of the centralized core of the integrated seniors health care system. With a specific focus on falls, this individual is responsible for linking the various falls-related services, developing a standardized approach to care across the region and mentoring providers in the delivery of specialized services.	\$962,176
Mental Health Centre Penetanguishene	Penetanguishene	Behavioural Intervention Response Team (BIRT) is intended to provide a 'wrap around' service those residents of long-term care homes in the NSM LHIN who have a significant cognitive impairment coupled with behaviours that are considered to be severe and high risk.	\$413,394
Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle	Barrie	Regional Aboriginal Seniors Cultural Support Program is a preventative - long-term impact intervention. The program will provide culturally focused and holistically based support to Aboriginal seniors/elders living in their own homes throughout the LHIN.	\$118,062
Barrie Community Health Centre	Barrie	Primary health care access - A Foundation for Geriatric Outreach will enhance the capacity of the North Innisfil Health Service's current primary health care program to provide comprehensive clinic based care as well as outreach services to seniors living in the North Innisfil catchment area.	\$210,600
Royal Victoria Hospital	Barrie	A RVH nurse practitioner will travel to long-term care homes to work with staff to provide comprehensive geriatric assessment and intervention through utilization of specially trained health care professionals and medical directives. Long-term care staff will access the RVH nurse-led outreach team when a patient is in need of medical attention prompting early action to avert the need for an ER visit.	\$329,000
North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC	Barrie	Assessing the health and social care needs of 12 - 15 ALC/LTC seniors by building a community care package to meet their needs. Balance of Care aims both to estimate the proportion of at-risk seniors that could be safely maintained in the community with better outcomes.	\$400,000

Service Provider	Service Location	Project Description	Funding
North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC	Barrie	This initiative provides caregivers with the services, skills and supports to more effectively manage the needs of their loved ones, and to achieve better health and social outcomes for all involved. These charitable, in-home services include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customized respite care • Counseling and support • Health care education emphasizing health and stress management, prevention, holistic care and care giving instruction • E-learning for caregivers and care recipients • Publications and resources for caregivers • Linkages to community support services 	\$141,050
Year One Programs (2008-2009) – Continuing			
Service Provider	Service Location	Project Description	Funding
Deaf Access Simcoe	Barrie	To provide clinical and home support services to hard of hearing, deafened and deaf seniors, as well as their families and caregivers, in Muskoka.	\$110,591
Muskoka Seniors Home Assistance	Huntsville	To provide for an increase in the overall supply (quantity and range) of 5 current programs: congregate dining, transportation, frozen meals on wheels, friendly visiting and telephone security/reassurance	\$64,152
Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle	Barrie	To have a dedicated part-time driver to provide transportation for Aboriginal and Métis seniors in support of active lifestyles	\$11,000
Canadian Red Cross, Muskoka District Branch	Bracebridge	The expansion of Canadian Red Cross, Community Health Services - Transportation Program will promote and assist services for frail, elderly and disabled seniors as well as those living in more rural locals within NSM LHIN.	\$34,470
Victorian Order of Nurses - Ontario Branch, Simcoe County	Barrie	The Home at Last (HAL) program enables a safe and smooth transition from hospital to home for frail at risk elderly patients.	\$539,675
Alzheimer Society, Greater Simcoe County	Barrie	To provide access for individuals with ADRD and their caregivers to comprehensive and coordinated services by identifying and reaching out to them as early as possible. First Link aims to accomplish this goal by enhancing partnerships and linkages between the diagnosing primary care physician and other primary care providers, diagnostic and treatment services, community service providers and the Alzheimers Society	\$193,600

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North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC	Barrie	Community Connection - Volunteer 211. To provide a single point of access to coordinate the recruitment, selection and retention of volunteers in NSM LHIN. Volunteer 211 was created to connect health and human service organizations that need volunteers with people who are potential volunteers living in NSM.	\$80,300
Simcoe County Association for the Physically Disabled	Barrie	To provide a resource centre in Simcoe County and Muskoka to assist individuals requiring assistive devices and accessible renovations.	\$55,050
Canadian Red Cross, Simcoe County	Barrie	To provide services and housing to maximize the functioning and autonomy of frail elderly persons and people with disabilities or chronic disease.	\$399,511
Helping Hands	Orillia	To provide on-site 24/7 supportive housing services for seniors in an existing apartment complex which houses a significant number of elderly tenants	\$250,000
Victorian Order of Nurses - Ontario Branch, Simcoe County	Barrie	Falls Prevention Strategy - To provide education for health care providers, a falls resources inventory, group physical activity outreach program and "SMART" program implementing a best practice model for volunteer-led-in home exercise visits	\$77,370
County of Simcoe	Barrie	To provide Assistive Devices Program (ADP) assessments using a clinic-based service delivery model.	\$52,906
North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC	Huntsville	Integrated Intensive Case Management - This is an innovative project building upon the successes of Resource Integration for Seniors in the Community (RISC), which was piloted in Ottawa. This program provides intensive case management for seniors living in independent settings in the Huntsville area, who are at risk of hospitalization or admission to long-term care homes.	\$85,240
North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC	Barrie	Re-ACT is a telehealth home care delivery system for people living with chronic disease. Through wireless technology, clients have access to a nurse who is able to monitor their status and medication compliance while providing assessment, support, information and adjustments to their care plan.	\$159,374
North Simcoe Muskoka CCAC	Christian Island	The unique geographical designation of Beausoleil First Nation (community is situated on Christian Island, accessible by ferry only, and ice-roads throughout the winter months) requires specific Assistive devices: Bathing assistive devices: 4 Walkers, 2 Hydraulic Lifts, 4 Hospital beds	\$175,350

Service Provider	Service Location	Project Description	Funding
Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle	Barrie	This initiative will provide an increased basket of services to those currently available through the Georgian Bay Métis Council (GBMC) Long Term Care program by increasing the frequency and range of services provided. This project will be delivered in a manner that is culturally sensitive to the accustomed lifestyle of Aboriginal/Métis senior citizens that reside in this area of the province. The PSW transports clients to cultural and social events within the community and environs. These outings help to decrease feelings of isolation while allowing them to connect with other seniors, community services and the community at large.	\$91,349
Canadian Red Cross, Simcoe County	Barrie	This project will provide a comprehensive transportation program across North Simcoe Muskoka. NSM LHIN is experiencing an increase in demand for transportation to medical appointments. Transportation to medical appointments outside of the NSM LHIN remains a critical need. This project will integrate and coordinate the four funded Health Service Providers currently providing transportation services across all geographic boundaries in NSM.	\$316,392

Urgent Priorities Fund - Addressing ALC Pressures

The North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN is receiving \$844,000 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.

To date, the following initiatives have been approved for funding in 09/10.

Service Provider	Location	Program	Funding
Collingwood General and Marine Hospital	Collingwood	Transitional Care Beds	\$56,815
Roberta Place - Roberta Place Retirement Lodge	Barrie	Transitional Care Beds	\$426,880
Roberta Place - Bayfield House	Penetanguishene	Transitional Care Beds	\$46,570
Villa Homes Corporation - Villa Retirement Lodge	Midland	Transitional Care Beds	\$190,160

Increasing Home Care Services – CCAC Service Maximums

The North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN is receiving \$2.5 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 North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN is receiving \$250,000 for a nurse-led outreach team that has been 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.