

UPDATE TO PRIMARY CARE and HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDERS

Central LHIN Investing Additional \$4.5 Million to Expand Inter-Professional Health Care Services

Increased Access and Services for Patients from North Toronto to York Region

May 3, 2018 – The Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) is pleased to confirm an investment of over \$4.5 million to expand inter-professional health care clinics and services to support primary care providers and their patients.

The expanded programs and services – which will include nurse practitioners, registered nurses, dietitians, mental health workers, social workers, respiratory therapists, psychologists, physiotherapists, chiropractors and other professionals – will be available to thousands of patients throughout North Toronto and York Region.

Enhanced programs and services will vary based on local patient needs. Patients will be able to contact the clinics directly and primary care providers may make referrals. The new funding will be distributed as follows (all figures have been rounded).

- The **Black Creek Community Health Centre (Black Creek CHC)** is receiving an additional \$2.4 million to expand services as follows:
 - \$1.2 million to expand hours of operation, introduce a new direct referral program for family physicians, and increase services at their Yorkgate Mall and Sheridan Mall clinics, which are located in the Central LHIN's **North York West** sub-region.
 - \$1.2 million to offer services at new partnership satellite locations, including at the Unison Health and Community Services Hub located at Finch and Bathurst Street in **North York Central**. These sites will also offer a new direct referral program so family physicians can connect patients with an expanded inter-professional care team.
 - Details on the **new direct referral program** which will allow family physicians to refer medically and socially complex patients to the CHC for “one-stop” inter-disciplinary health care services will be provided in a follow-up communication to requesting physicians.
- The **Vaughan Community Health Centre (VCHC)** is receiving over \$1.4 million to expand services as follows:
 - \$700,000 to expand services at their current clinic location in the Jane and Rutherford neighbourhood in **Western York Region**.
 - \$725,000 to establish a new inter-professional care clinic close to the Keswick and Sutton communities near Lake Simcoe in **Northern York Region**.

- The **Health for All Family Health Team** is receiving \$730,000 to increase access to inter-professional care services at their Church Street Clinic and at a nearby community hub for seniors, both of which are in **Eastern York Region**.

ENHANCED ACCESS, SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

This \$4.5 million additional investment will increase access to inter-professional team-based care to support patients with a broad range of health care needs including:

- Vulnerable patients with medically and or socially complex needs,
- Patients with chronic conditions, including those with mental health and addiction issues,
- Frail seniors, newcomers, or vulnerable populations who may be underserved, and
- Patients referred from Family Physicians or Emergency Departments.

Inter-professional care teams bring together a diverse group of health professionals – for example, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, dietitians, mental health workers, social workers, respiratory therapists, psychologists, physiotherapists, chiropractors and other professionals.

At these sites, patients are able to access a comprehensive range of services to meet individual and often complex needs of patients who are vulnerable or have multiple conditions. Specific clinical professionals or services may vary by clinic based on local community needs.

Patients may contact the clinics directly, or local family and primary care physicians can make referrals for the services available at the clinics in their practice area.

QUOTES

“This is a critical investment to help more patients access high-quality, team-based primary care that is closer to home. Collaborating with primary care providers in the Central LHIN is already having an impact in advancing equitable and integrated health care in our communities.”

– *Kim Baker, CEO, Central LHIN*

“Our commitment is to take a holistic approach to wellness for people of all ages and all backgrounds, and to remove stigma and barriers wherever possible. We work hard to connect with our communities – and are thrilled to have this opportunity to expand our team-based services in an entirely new neighbourhood to be able to help more people.”

– *Cheryl Prescod, Executive Director, Black Creek Community Health Centre*

“Through our array of medical and social services, we are proud to be advancing health and wellness. With this additional funding, we are offering expanded services at our main site and opening a new clinic further north to expand access to care to more people.”

– *Isabel Araya, Executive Director, Vaughan Community Health Centre*

QUICK FACTS

- Over \$4.5 million (\$4,589,280) is being invested to expand team-based health care clinics in the Central LHIN as part of provincial commitment to expand inter-professional care.
- Inter-professional primary care teams include: Family Health Teams, Nurse-Practitioner Led-Clinics and Community Health Centres.
- IPC teams connect patients with a range of health care professionals, typically including family physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, social workers, nutritionists, dietitians, chiropractors, respiratory therapists and other health care professionals
- Of the 1.9 million residents in the Central LHIN, almost 95 per cent have a primary care provider.

ABOUT CENTRAL LHIN

- The Central LHIN, a Crown Agency of the Government of Ontario, is responsible for planning, funding and integrating local health services, as well as delivering home and community care services to nearly 1.9 million residents in Etobicoke, northern Toronto, York Region and South Simcoe County.
- Central LHIN holds accountability agreements with over 80 Health Service Providers (hospitals, long-term care homes, community health centres, mental health and addiction services, and other community supports) and contracts with 20 Service Providers.
- The LHIN also works with primary care providers and public health to strengthen patient experience and outcomes across the continuum of health care.

KEY CONTACTS FOR THIS UPDATE

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**Please feel welcome to share this update
with interested primary care and health service providers.**

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