



**--Newsflash--**

## **Health for Guelph**

### **Enhanced Health Services Project is launched**

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A new era in Guelph is about to begin.

The Guelph Family Health Team, which includes 73 local family physicians is partnering with local health service organizations to examine the local health system and find ways to improve the overall experience for patients, clients and residents. The aim is for better care, better coordination of care and better use of our health care dollars.

The Guelph Family Health Team has also accepted responsibility for the newly announced Ministry of Health and Long-term care initiative: Guelph *Health Link*, focused on ‘improving care for high-needs patients.’<sup>1</sup> *Health for Guelph* will incorporate the *Health Link* to focus on greater collaboration and coordination of health services and supports for all Guelph patients, clients and residents. The Waterloo-Wellington LHIN is a key supporter of this work.

#### **WHO IS INVOLVED?**

Everyone! - A critical component of this work is to reach out to local residents as well as to services in our community whose work is not seen as health care but impacts the health of our citizens. Examples include housing, immigration support, transportation and volunteer services. Community leaders, government representatives, education and research organizations and others will also be engaged. These key individuals and organizations will be involved in other ways such as work groups and key informant interviews in order for them to contribute to the model options developed.

A Project steering committee has been formed and includes:

<i>Alzheimer Society of Guelph Wellington</i>	<i>Homewood Health Centre</i>
<i>City of Guelph Police Service</i>	<i>Hospice Wellington</i>
<i>Family &amp; Children’s Services of Guelph &amp; Wellington</i>	<i>St. Joseph’s Health Centre, Guelph</i>
<i>Family Counselling &amp; Support Services</i>	<i>Trellis Mental Health &amp; Developmental Services</i>
<i>Guelph Community Health Centre</i>	<i>Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre</i>
<i>Guelph Family Health Team</i>	<i>Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health</i>
<i>Guelph General Hospital</i>	
<i>Guelph Independent Living</i>	

#### **NEXT STEPS – Get Involved**

The consultation phase will largely occur over the month of January in ways designed to gather community experiences and perspectives to help reshape the local health system. Also, please keep an eye out for posters, meeting times and dates posted on our Facebook page early in the New Year.

We are excited about having the opportunity to work together to drive health system transformation with our community and we look forward to your contributions in the New Year!

For further information regarding the process or how you can become involved please contact the project team at [healthforguelph@guelphfht.com](mailto:healthforguelph@guelphfht.com)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://news.ontario.ca/mohltc/en/2012/12/improving-care-for-high-needs-patients.html>