

Chatham-Kent Ontario Health Team (CKOHT)

Background

Chatham-Kent (CK) is a rural community with a proud history of collaboration, innovation and integration. Building on this success, a Chatham-Kent Ontario Health Team (CKOHT) will engage patient advisors and clinicians to design and deliver a system that will enhance patient experience, improve health outcomes and provide value for the funds entrusted to the team.

Providers in CK are ideally positioned to create a model that will be transferrable to other rural areas of the province. CKOHT will be nimble and responsive with a geography and population that are large enough to have impact on outcomes and small enough that relationships matter and flexibility is possible.

CKOHT's intent at Phase 1 maturity is to support our area of the province with a focus on older adults with chronic disease and those who are frail and complex. Our group of providers has a longstanding history of collaborations and partnerships with a prime example being the CK Health Links which works to enhance primary care transitions for the most complex patients. The work of CK Health Links led to the natural identification of the most complex and frail seniors and those with chronic disease to be the Year 1 population (Y1P) for CKOHT. Future Phases up to maturity would include expansion to include all populations, e.g. children's services.

The following Phase 1 partners will support the Y1P: Chatham-Kent Community Health Centres (CKCHC); Chatham-Kent Family Health Team (CKFHT); Chatham-Kent Health Alliance (CKHA) including Fund 2 Mental Health & Addictions; Chatham-Kent Hospice; Erie St. Clair LHIN Home & Community Care (H&CC); March of Dimes Canada; St. Andrew's Retirement Residence; Thamesview Family Health Team (TVFHT); Tilbury District Family Health Team (TDFHT); and Westover Treatment Centre. TransForm Shared Service Organization (TSSO) is committed to provide procurement and digital infrastructure to support CKOHT. A Self-Assessment has been completed to determine this group's readiness to form an Ontario Health Team.

On April 27, 2019, CK providers including patient advisors, board members, physicians and administrators came together voluntarily to co-design our vision - "Achieving the best health and wellbeing together." This principle will follow through as we move towards implementation. Each of our organizations are aligned in supporting the province's directions upholding the Patient Declaration of Values for Ontario comprising: 1) Respect and Dignity 2) Empathy and Compassion 3) Accountability 4) Transparency.

CKOHT will leverage existing examples of integrations between partners including: shared leadership St. Andrew's Retirement Residence and CK Hospice; Co-location/shared positions between Canadian Mental Health Association LK & CKHA; back office consolidation with CMHA LK & CKCHC; H&CC Nursing flex clinics at CKHA Wallaceburg Site; and Embedding H&CC in all FHTs and CHC. The CKOHT is an opportunity to further demonstrate our providers' willingness, capabilities and ability to improve care

delivery through a proven track record of person-centred care, performance, quality improvement and accountability, championing a more efficient system that is easier to navigate.

CKOHT's Self-Assessment was submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care on May 15, 2019 as part of the first call for applications from across the province. The Ministry is expected to identify the teams ready to proceed to the next stage of the process in June and will offer support to teams who require further assistance with development work.

The act of submitting a Self-Assessment to become an OHT does not mean CK providers will undergo any changes to organization structures, services or governance at this time. Our immediate focus will be on voluntarily collaborating to improve the patient experience throughout our partner organizations.

Phase 1 Contacts

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