



SENIORS FOR SOCIAL ACTION (ONTARIO)

INFORMATION BULLETIN

AGING AT HOME INITIATIVES ARE FINALLY EXPANDING!

August 8, 2023

For three years now Seniors for Social Action Ontario (SSAO) has been advocating for PACE (Program of All Inclusive Care of the Elderly) and Hub and Spoke models, both of which take care to elders, rather than elders being uprooted and institutionalized to receive care (CBC The National, 2022).

Councilor Paul Sharman brought PACE to Burlington and it is expanding there.

Senior Link Peel introduced a Hub and Spoke model where an empowerment-oriented case manager goes into seniors' buildings and navigates the system to bring care to elders in those buildings and to those living within a radius of them.

Citizens of Kenora also lobbied for, and got, a Hub and Spoke model in a brand new seniors' housing building there (Ontario Government, 2022). Using language in its press release that SSAO has long been advocating Minister Calandra said:

“Our government’s investment in the new Kenora mixed-market seniors’ housing complex is an innovative way to help seniors who want to continue living at home and avoid admission into long-term care or hospital, but need support to do that,” said Paul Calandra, Minister of Long-Term Care. “We’re taking action so people can live and receive care where they can have the best possible quality of life, close to their family and friends.”

Now the North Toronto Ontario Health Team, Baycrest, and the Toronto Seniors' Housing Corporation are partnering to do the same for elders in North Toronto.

The Toronto Senior Housing Corporation (TSHC), Baycrest Hospital and North Toronto Ontario Health Team (NT OHT) have partnered to help low-income seniors age at home and improve their quality of life.

“This partnership will establish clinical rooms in TSHC buildings with local support teams and clinical services that will increase senior tenants’ access to services that they need, including healthcare, home care and social services. Service providers from NT OHT partners will support these rooms, working in the place where the tenants live. This new program will be complemented by digital solutions to create a barrier-free and responsive care system at the doorstep of TSHC senior tenants. To launch this initiative, TSHC has signed a lease agreement with Baycrest Hospital for clinical rooms located within eight TSHC buildings. Baycrest will be the lead collaborator on behalf of the NT OHT partners for this implementation. Work is already underway to initiate the program in four of the buildings, with plans to expand in the coming months.” (Baycrest, 2023).

Please keep advocating for these options locally. The key players are starting to hear us!

REFERENCES

Baycrest. (July 19, 2023). Baycrest, North Toronto Ontario Health Team, and Toronto Senior Housing Corporation partner to support aging at home. [Baycrest Centre - Baycrest](#)

CBC The National. (2022) Program aims to keep seniors out of nursing homes. <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1990992963636>

Ontario Government. (October 13, 2022). Ontario building new seniors' housing complex in Kenora". <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1002387/ontario-building-new-seniors-housing-complex-in-kenora>