



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Alzheimer's Adult Day Program at Wesburn Manor

Date:	June 19, 2008
To:	Community Development and Recreation Committee
From:	General Manager, Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division
Wards:	Ward 3
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

Through the *Local Health System Integration Act, 2006*, the Ontario government changed the funding and delivery of health care services in Ontario to operate through fourteen (14) Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and local community-based health planning. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) established LHINs as “a critical part of the evolution of health care in Ontario from a collection of services to a true system that is patient-focused, results-driven, integrated, and sustainable”. The *Local Health System Integration Act, 2006*, placed significant decision-making power at the community level, focusing the local health system on individual community's needs, system integration and improvement of health results. In devolving authority to the LHINs, the MOHLTC set a mandate to facilitate the effective and efficient integration of health care services and make it easier for people to get the best care in the most appropriate setting, when they need it.

To fulfil this mandate, the MOHLTC required LHINs to develop integrated health service plans (ISHPs), through health system planning and community engagement. As of April 1, 2007, LHINs also assumed responsibility for funding a wide range of health service providers, and for managing the majority of service agreements with health service providers. The government continues to provide stewardship of Ontario's health system, setting direction, strategic policy, and system standards and delivering provincial programs and services.

In August 2007, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care announced a comprehensive ‘Aging in Place Strategy’ to expand community living options for seniors, through a wider range of home care and community support services, to enable people to continue leading healthy and independent lives in their own homes. The Aging in Place Strategy recognized that Ontario's population is aging. Recent estimates project the seniors'

population to double in the next 16 years, making it vitally important to ensure that there are resources available to assist those who wish to remain at home. Through the Aging in Place Strategy, the government of Ontario launched a three-year, \$700 million initiative designed to allow seniors to live healthy, independent lives in the comfort and dignity of their own homes.

The Minister of Health and Long-Term Care mandated the LHINs to lead this initiative on the MOHLTC's behalf, by identifying and providing funding for enhanced home care and community support services, as well as for innovative projects specific to the LHINs' assessed community need. Twenty percent of the funding was earmarked for innovative projects, with the objective of inviting proposals for new projects to support non-traditional partnerships and new preventive and wellness services.

Each LHIN released proposal calls for health system improvement plans (HSIP), based on the priorities identified in their own IHSP. All HSIP proposals were required to be developed in partnership with at least one (1) other service provider. HSIPs from single service providers were ineligible for funding. In the Mississauga-Halton LHIN, HSIP priorities included the provision of new community service options for seniors with mental health issues, including the provision of adult day services for seniors with Alzheimer's and other progressive cognitive disorders or dementia.

The Integrated Health Service Plan (IHSP) of the Mississauga-Halton LHIN, which serves a portion of Etobicoke including Ward 3, identified "growth, the aging population and cultural diversity as the critical drivers for planning and system design in the next decade". The IHSP contained two (2) key priorities related to the Aging in Place Strategy, namely:

1. to increase the overall supply of services that support seniors to stay healthy and live safely at home with independence and dignity, including community support services, home care, assistive devices, supportive living, long-term care and end-of-life care; and
2. to leverage change through innovation, such as new preventive and wellness services and partnerships with non-traditional providers.

In particular, the Mississauga-Halton LHIN expressed interest in expanding access to services to meet the needs of seniors with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. One in twenty Canadians over the age of 65 is affected by Alzheimer's disease. Statistically, this number is significant since the Mississauga-Halton LHIN is anticipating a 67 percent increase in seniors aged 65 years and older by 2018, making the LHIN the second highest rate in the province. At present, specialized adult day programs for individuals with Alzheimer's and other progressive cognitive disorders or dementia are limited within the Mississauga-Halton LHIN.

The Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division submitted a health system improvement plan (HSIP) for the development of an Alzheimer's Adult Day Program at

Wesburn Manor, 400 The West Mall. Partners in the submission were: (i) Etobicoke Services for Seniors, and (ii) Community Care Access Centre.

It is anticipated that the division will be informed about the results of this proposal call, prior to the July 4, 2008 meeting of the Community Development and Recreation Committee. A verbal update will be provided at that time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of the Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division recommends that contingent upon being awarded the HSIP for Alzheimer's Adult Day Program at Wesburn Manor:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager of the Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division to enter into the requisite agreement with the Mississauga-Halton Local Health Integration Network, as a condition of receiving the provincial funding allocation for the 2008-2009 fiscal year;
2. City Council authorize the General Manager of the Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division to negotiate terms and conditions for the required agreements with Mississauga-Halton Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) and Etobicoke Services for Seniors (HSIP partners) as required by the approved Health System Improvement Plan (HSIP) and in a form approved by the City Solicitor;
3. City Council authorize the General Manager of the Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division to pay Etobicoke Services for Seniors (HSIP partner) for the services purchased at the level and rate outlined in the approved Health System Improvement Plan (HSIP);
4. City Council authorize the General Manager of the Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division to renew agreements with the LHIN, Mississauga-Halton CCAC and Etobicoke Services for Seniors as required, acting as the agent for the City of Toronto and the HSIP partners in order to receive the authorized health services funding from the MOHLTC and Toronto Central LHIN and sustain the Alzheimer's Adult Day Program at Wesburn Manor in subsequent years;
5. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

Although the details and timing of funding flow have not yet been communicated to the division, contingent upon notification of the award, the funding will include base funding plus one time funding (start-up) for the Alzheimer's Adult Day Program at Wesburn Manor in the Province's 2008-2009 fiscal year.

There will be no net impact on the approved 2008 operating budget as this new Alzheimer's Adult Day Program will be fully funded by the MOHLTC. However, this new funding may result in a minor year-end revenue and gross expenditure variance for the division, which will be explained in the year-end report. The total annualized impact of this funding will not be realized until 2009. The 2009 budget submission will be developed to include this new allocation.

The Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial impact statement.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Through the Province of Ontario's *Local Health Integration Act*, Local LHINs assumed authority to plan health services on a local basis. There are five (5) LHINs serving various geographic areas of the City of Toronto, including the Mississauga-Halton LHIN that serves part of Etobicoke.

On August 28, 2007, the Province of Ontario announced the Aging at Home Strategy to expand community living options for seniors through a wide range of home care and community support services, with funding to flow through the LHINs. Each LHIN developed their own priorities for enhanced health services to meet the objectives of the Aging At Home Strategy in their geographic areas as part of their Integrated Health Service Plans (IHSP) and released calls for HSIPs.

The Mississauga-Halton LHIN released a call for HSIP proposals for the operation of Alzheimer's Adult Day Programs. The Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division developed and submitted a HSIP for an Alzheimer's Adult Day Program, to operate out of Wesburn Manor, 400 The West Mall, in collaboration with Etobicoke Services for Seniors and the Mississauga-Halton Community Care Access Centre (CCAC).

This submission focused on the creation of an Alzheimer's Adult Day Program that would provide meaningful daytime activities for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other progressive cognitive disorders or dementia and respite for family caregivers, using a prosthetic approach to assist clients in compensating for cognitive deficits.

COMMENTS

This program will include a focus on health, wellness, therapeutic services and social activities for people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, while supporting seniors to remain in the community. In addition, the program will provide daytime respite for family caregivers.

Both Wesburn Manor and Etobicoke Services for Seniors have established linkages with cultural communities and the new program will build on these linkages to ensure diversity practice. The program also provides an opportunity to enhance the role of long-term care within the health care system by strengthening linkages and partnerships that better meets the complex needs of community members.

Components of the submission include:

1. funding for start-up costs, to create a physical space that is safe, comfortable and appropriate for the functioning of the adult day program;
2. a purchase-of-service agreement with Etobicoke Services for Seniors for the day-to-day provision of all aspects of the adult day program; and
3. staff education related to dementia care.

As noted above, staffing for day-to-day service delivery in this new program will be provided by Etobicoke Services for Seniors. Access will be managed by the CCAC. Wesburn Manor will provide the space, meals and support services. The Alzheimer's Adult Day Program will serve a maximum of ten (10) seniors per day and will operate five (5) days per week. Based on experience, it is not anticipated that clients will attend all five days, resulting in the adult day program being able to serve additional clients, based on the average weekly attendance. Although initially restricted to 0800-1630 hr., the centre could operate extended hours from 0800-1800 hr., if this need is identified following start-up. Transportation will be provided by families or a community agency. This new program will provide a significant benefit for seniors in Etobicoke, particularly in Ward 3 where the program will be located.

This new program demonstrates innovation and integration by enhancing existing partnerships, building new partnerships and linkages with service providers and optimizing the use of existing resources to further enhance community development.

The Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division has an established working relationship with Etobicoke Services for Seniors through the homemakers and nurses services program. Etobicoke Services for Seniors has been providing adult day services and respite for caregivers for over twenty (20) years and has a well-established and respected reputation as a quality service provider.

The accountability agreement executed between the Mississauga-Halton LHIN and the City of Toronto Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division will fund this collaborative project between the Long-Term Care Homes and Services Division, Etobicoke Services for Seniors and the Mississauga-Halton Community Care Access Centre.

The Aging at Home Strategy expands services to help seniors stay healthy and live in their homes, such as community support services, home care, assistive devices, supportive housing, long-term care and end-of-life care. The Aging at Home Strategy breaks new ground with its focus on innovation – finding new ways to provide the supports and services that seniors require in order to spend more of their final years living “where they want, the way that they want”.

The goals of the Aging at Home Strategy are: ensuring that seniors' homes support them; that seniors have supportive social environments; that senior-centered care is easy to access; and identifying innovative solutions to keep seniors healthy. The Alzheimer's Adult Day Program at Wesburn Manor meets the goals of the Aging at Home Strategy and responds to the City of Toronto's priority related to opportunities for all by creating an innovative and collaborative model of care that serves a segment of the seniors' population generally not well-served by other options in a safe, comfortable, neighbourhood environment.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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