

## Helping More Seniors Get Care They Need at Home

*Ontario Improving Access to Home and Community Care in the Kingston Area*

NEWS

October 11, 2013

Seniors and residents in the Kingston and southeastern Ontario region are receiving better access to home care and community supports to help them live independently and at home longer.

Ontario is providing nearly \$12 million to support home care for 3,000 more seniors and for expanded community health care services, including mental health supports, in the South East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

This investment will support programs that reduce unnecessary emergency room and hospital readmissions, including:

- Home First, which ensures that seniors can be safely discharged from the hospital and cared for in their own homes.
- A new Assisted Living Pilot Project, which provides supports that help seniors live independently at home while reducing wait times for long-term care.
- Behavioural Supports Ontario Mobile Response Team, which travels to support seniors with challenging and complex behaviours, such as those living with Alzheimer's, in Kingston, Brockville and Trenton long-term care homes.

Improving access to home care and community supports is a key priority of [Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care](#) and helps to provide the right care, at the right time, in the right place. This is part of the Ontario government's economic plan to invest in people, invest in infrastructure and support a dynamic and innovative business climate.

### QUOTES

“Providing seniors with more timely access to health care in their homes and communities ensures our health care system works better for everyone, improving access for all who need care, where they need it.”

— Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“We are investing our health care dollars in services that help Kingston and The Islands residents get the care they need at the right time, in the right place. This means better access to quality and timely care for patients, and especially our seniors.”

— John Gerretsen, MPP, Kingston and the Islands

“This investment will support many valuable programs in the South East LHIN — programs we know will provide the care that our seniors need to help them live independently in their communities and in their homes.”

— Paul Huras, CEO, South East Local Health Integration Network

## QUICK FACTS

- Last year's home care and community support investments got measurable results across the South East LHIN. In August 2013, patients spent 452 fewer days in the hospital waiting for community service than in August 2012, freeing up an average of 15 hospital beds each day.
- More than 637,000 people currently receive home care across Ontario.
- Over the next 20 years, the population of seniors aged 65 and over in Ontario will more than double from 1.9 million today to 4.2 million in 2036.

## LEARN MORE

[Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care.](#)

[Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors.](#)

Dr. Samir Sinha's report [Living Longer, Living Well.](#)

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## Helping More Seniors in the South East Get Care in the Community

October 11, 2013

Ontario is providing an additional \$11,806,500 to support home care and community services in the south east region. These investments are a key part of the province's [Action Plan for Health Care](#), which is providing patients with the right care, at the right time, in the right place.

This additional support will help more seniors to live independently at home and will reduce home care wait times, as well as increase access to community supports including mental health services.

### More Support for Seniors in the South East Region

Project	Service Provider	Project Description	2013/2014 Funding
Personal Support Services	South East Community Care Access Centre	Support for clients and seniors with complex and long-term conditions who require ongoing health and personal care, reducing the risk of re-hospitalization and helping them live independently and safely in the community.  Expanding services for new and existing clients receiving personal support services.	\$2,891,400
Additional Complex Clients	South East Community Care Access Centre	Support for additional complex clients as part of Home First, ensuring that seniors can be safely discharged home from hospital and cared for in the home.	\$1,500,000
School Supports	South East Community Care Access Centre	Support and increased care for students with complex needs for occupational therapy and speech language pathology services.	\$844,000

<b>Project</b>	<b>Service Provider</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>2013/2014 Funding</b>
Mobile Response Teams	Providence Care	Specially trained staff based out of long-term care homes in Trenton, Brockville and Kingston travel throughout this region to help elderly patients who demonstrate challenging and complex behaviours.	\$1,800,000
Seniors Managing Independent Living Easily (SMILE)	Victorian Order of Nurses	Funding will provide services to additional clients through SMILE, a program that assists seniors with a range of daily activities and helps them to stay in their home longer.	\$1,200,000
Assisted Living Pilot Project	Community Support Providers	Development of Assisted Living Pilot sites throughout the South East LHIN as determined by population need and growth, resulting in decreased wait times for long-term care.	\$2,500,000
Increased Volunteer Transportation	Community Support Providers	Increase of 12,000 volunteer transportation trips annually allowing seniors to meet Independent Activities of Daily Living requirements that will allow them to live independently in the community.	\$300,000
Other projects	TBD	Other community sectors including mental health and addictions, community health centres and Health Links	\$771,100
<b>Total</b>			<b>11,806,500</b>