

PRESS RELEASE



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Community Living Campbellford/Brighton Begins the Process of Identifying Candidates for Community Hub Residential Model

Community Living Campbellford/Brighton has initiated steps to identify candidates for the Community Hub Residential Model (CHR Model) underway in Northumberland County in partnership with Campbellford Memorial Hospital.

In August, 2014, the Minister of Community and Social Services announced that Community Living Campbellford/Brighton would receive \$400,000 over the next two years to create, in collaboration with Campbellford Memorial Hospital, a centralized 'hub' of support and services for aging individuals with intellectual disabilities that will allow them to continue living independently in rural areas.

"This initiative recognizes that there is a growing number of seniors with intellectual disabilities and developmental services must evolve to better serve them. The project aims to assist people who require a significant level of support but don't necessarily need someone with them for 24 hours a day" explains Nancy Brown, Executive Director, Community Living Campbellford/Brighton.

Community Living Campbellford Brighton has begun the process of identifying the six candidates selected from the existing residential wait list who meet the pre-determined criteria for support. Appropriate candidates will be identified through a provincial process with Developmental Services Ontario. Ideal matches for this CHR Model are people who:

- Have immediate needs requiring higher levels of support and more frequent assistance than the typical Supported Independent Living Program can provide (i.e. people who require approximately 15 – 24 hours of support per week).
- Do not require the medical monitoring of 24 on-site supervision that would be provided in a group home or long-term care home.

The CHR Model is designed to allow Direct Support Professionals based in a central 'hub' to provide pre-determined booked hours of support, as well as spontaneous support on a 24 hour basis, for people in numerous housing locations within a 20 km radius of the 'hub'. Available supports include, but are not limited to:

- Financial management
- Help managing an apartment
- Assistance with all activities of daily living
- Developing community connections.

“Campbellford Memorial Hospital is pleased to be partnering with Community Living Campbellford/Brighton to assist in providing ‘wrap-around’ care and other services for eligible CHR candidates. Our intent is to ensure that comprehensive support is provided to people with intellectual disabilities as well as aging caregivers. We anticipate a role for the Geriatric Intervention and Assessment Network (GAIN), Trent Hills Family Health Team, the Campbellford and District Community Mental Health Centre and other community-based organizations,” says Brad Hilker, President and CEO, Campbellford Memorial Hospital, adding: “This is a mutually beneficial partnership because Community Living Campbellford/Brighton can provide our organization and partners with insight into the needs of people supported within the developmental services sector. As well, these individuals will benefit from our medical professionals who have specialized training beyond the scope of Community Living Campbellford/Brighton’s training.”

It is anticipated that the innovative Community Hub Residential Model will prevent pre-mature admission to long-term care, reduce avoidable emergency department visits, improve care and quality of life, assist people in finding affordable housing and increase capacity to meet the needs of people on the residential wait list.

“This project recognizes that the CHR model is an ideal residential support option for a large number of people with intellectual disabilities who require a level of support that falls between the Group Home Supported Independent Living programs,” concludes Nancy Brown.

The Community Hub Residential Model partnership complements another collaboration between Community Living Campbellford/Brighton and Campbellford Memorial Hospital. The hospital is also participating in job trials for Community Living’s clients.

For the past three years, Campbellford Memorial Hospital has hosted learning experiences for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Community Living works with the hospital’s staff members to develop the learning experiences, learn the job and tasks before the training begins, and supports CMH staff and the trainee once they are serving in a participatory role at the hospital.

“This program enables our people to learn new skills, build confidence, and develop an understanding of what it means to be a reliable and dependent worker,” explains Brown.

“We’re really pleased to be partnering with Community Living in this way. We’re proud to be able to provide a positive learning experience for someone with an intellectual disability, while encouraging kindness and understanding and dispelling stereotypes associated with a disability. Program participants bring a positive attitude and take pride in their contribution to Campbellford Memorial Hospital,” adds Hilker.

Campbellford Memorial Hospital has recently expanded the learning experience to include a role in its Finance Department. The educational experience will include inventory management, delivery of supplies to departments, recycling, photocopying, document and mail sorting/delivery and other administrative tasks.

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