



**Harinder Malhi, MPP  
Brampton-Springdale**

# ***NEWS***

## **Support for Caregivers Making a Difference to Families in Brampton**

*Ontario Funding Respite Services to Help Families Care for Loved Ones*

**NEWS**

April 4, 2017

This year, Ontario increased access to respite services for Central West LHIN families, including families in Brampton, by increasing supports for people who care for loved ones at home.

A caregiver is someone who takes on the unpaid role of helping a family member or loved one with their physical or cognitive condition, injury or chronic life-limiting illness. Today, on National Family Caregiver Day, Brampton Springdale MPP Harinder Malhi thanks caregivers across Central West LHIN communities for the work they do to care for their loved ones.

More specifically, these expanded supports have enabled the Central West Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) to expand their services to families within the Central West LHIN including Brampton.

Upon his return home, after an extended length of stay in hospital following neurosurgery and rehabilitation, Mr. Vickress was waitlisted for home care services that could provide important assistance and respite to his wife, who cares for him at home. Tending to the very basic activities of daily living was a difficult task for his ageing lifelong companion. Coping as best she could, Mrs. Vickress' situation was unsustainable.

Additional provincial funding has enabled the Central West CCAC to provide patients and caregivers like the Vickress' with the supports needed to improve their overall health and wellbeing. For Mrs. Vickress, assistance with activities associated with daily living allowed her to take time for herself, giving her back the strength and energy to help her husband deal with the challenges of recovery.

Ontario's support has allowed for approximately 600,000 additional hours of respite services for caregivers across the province this year.

Supporting patients and their caregivers is part of the government's plan to build a better Ontario through its Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care. This plan is providing patients with faster access to the right care, better home and community care, the information they need to stay healthy and a health care system that's sustainable for generations to come.



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## **QUOTES**

“Improving home and community care is one of our government’s most important health care priorities. Informal caregivers, like family members and friends, contribute to more than seventy per cent of their loved ones’ caregiving needs, and we know how stressful that can be. We want to ensure caregivers are supported and able to take rests from providing care to their loved ones.”

- Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

“Improving home and community care is an important health care priority for Brampton families. Provincial support for informal caregivers, like family members and friends, has helped to relieve some of the stress placed upon these individuals who provide invaluable care to their loved ones. Today, on National Family Caregiver Day, we thank family caregivers across Brampton for the work they do every day.”

- Harinder Malhi, MPP, Brampton-Springdale

“Improving home and community care is an important health care priority for Brampton West families. Informal caregivers, like family members and friends, provide significant contributions to the caregiving needs of their loved ones. Expanded provincial supports have ensured that these individuals can get the help they need, so as to help their friends and loved ones in need. Thank you to the countless family caregivers across Brampton West for the work they do every day.

- Vic Dhillon, MPP, Brampton West

“With a rapidly growing and ageing population, continued investment in and expansion of Home and Community Care services is both relevant and appropriate in the Central West LHIN. This investment has placed the needs of patients and their caregivers first by helping to ensure LHIN residents receive high-quality, patient-centered care in the comfort and familiarity of their homes and communities for as long as possible.”

- Maria Britto, Board Chair, Central West LHIN

“The Central West CCAC serves one of the fastest-growing regions in the province with one of the highest incidences of chronic disease in the country. With that comes increased need to support people to remain healthy and independent in the community and in their homes. This investment has helped us continue to provide care and support to the region’s most complex and vulnerable patients, as well as their caregivers and families.”

- Cathy Hecimovich, CEO, Central West CCAC



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# NEWS

## QUICK FACTS

- Informal caregivers represent approximately one in five Ontarians.
- The province has invested \$3.9M to better support caregivers across the Central West LHIN
- Ontario invested \$100 million last year to enhance support for home care clients with high needs and their caregivers.
- The investment provided \$80 million to support enhanced care for clients who are most in need and \$20 million for caregiver respite, allowing caregivers who need it the most to take rests from providing care to their loved ones.
- Through consultations with people in Ontario and members of Ontario's Patient and Caregiver Advisory Table, the province recently established a [Statement of Home and Community Care Values](#). This Statement reflects the needs and priorities of home and community care clients and their caregivers and ensures their values are reflected in the care they receive.
- These initiatives support the commitments made in [Patients First: A Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#).

## LEARN MORE

- [Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care](#)
- [Patients First: A Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care](#)
- [Bringing Care Home](#)
- [Ontario's Dementia Strategy](#)

### For more information contact:

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