

News Release

**For Immediate Release
June 15, 2016**

Weaving a Mosaic of Support: Caregiver Respite in the Mississauga Halton LHIN

*Mississauga Halton LHIN honoured with 2016 3M Health Quality Team Award:
Quality Improvement Initiative Across a Health System*

NEWS

Oakville (June 15, 2016) – The [Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network \(LHIN\)](#) was recognized for its Caregiver Respite Program with the prestigious 3M Health Care Quality Team Award in the category of Quality Improvement Initiative Across a Health System. 3M's national awards ceremony held in Ottawa on June 7, 2016 encourages and recognizes innovation in health services.

CEO Bill MacLeod of the Mississauga Halton LHIN said, "We know that many caregivers are overwhelmed and exhausted. The Caregiver Respite Program is providing services and supports that enable caregivers to care for their loved ones and also take care of themselves."

The Caregiver Respite Program, developed through several partnering organizations, has transformed fragmented and siloed services into care that is coordinated and integrated for those caring for loved ones at home. The doorway to everything you need to know about taking care of your personal needs while knowing your loved one's care is in the best of hands, the respite program offers five services: emergency respite; out-of-home respite (short stay); adult day respite (day, evening and bathing service); in-home respite and caregiver counseling; and knowledge exchange and support. Caregivers can access all five services. In-home respite hours are based on assessed need and can be used by the caregiver as the caregiver chooses.



The program has a centralized intake which makes it easy to access services. Once admitted, respite advisors counsel and educate on the services available to the caregiver and coordinate entry into one or more services.

Through the [Mississauga Halton LHIN Regional Learning Centre](#), educators provide in-class or in-home education to caregivers in areas such as positioning, turning, feeding and changing dressings to enable caregivers to feel supported in their care. Educators also train and educate respite provider staff in a variety of caring skills for those with dementia, Alzheimer's, difficult behaviors, etc.

Bill MacLeod points out the Caregiver Respite Program's positive impact, "Focused on the caregiver and designed around what caregivers told us they needed to continue to provide care at home, we now have a much needed program which integrates current with new services that empower caregivers, delivering better access, quality and value for patients and our local health system."



Partners come together at the 3M Quality Team Initiatives to receive the 2016 3M Health Quality Team Award: Quality Improvement Initiative Across a Health System

Left to right: Susan Owen, Canadian College of Health Leaders; Matt Pepe, 3M Canada; Lisa Gammage, Nucleus Independent Living; Judy Bowyer, Mississauga Halton LHIN; Beverley John, Nucleus Independent Living; Karen Heffernan, Able Living; Allison Price, Links2Care; Greg Bechard, Home Instead; Ray Racette, Canadian College of Health Leaders.

Mississauga Halton LHIN

The Mississauga Halton LHIN brings together local health care partners from a number of sectors including hospitals, community care and support services, mental health and addictions, community health centres, long-term care and primary care to develop innovative, collaborative solutions to improve access and enhance the experience of patients and clients.

The Mississauga Halton LHIN has a clear, achievable regional plan to improve our local health care system that reflects the needs of our local community and the realities of the local service environment. The Mississauga Halton LHIN is responsible for planning, coordinating, monitoring and funding (\$1.46 billion) 73 health service providers who deliver programs and services to the over 1.2 million people living in the Mississauga Halton LHIN communities of Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, Mississauga and South Etobicoke.

LEARN MORE

Questions about the Caregiver Respite Program?

To learn more about the Caregiver Respite Program and to discuss whether or not this is the right option for you, connect with a Respite Advisor at 905-829-7002, by email at respiteadvisor@centralregistry.ca or by visiting www.mhlhinrespiteprogram.com.

The client (the caregiver) can access the program directly, or via referral from their physician or CCAC.

Watch the video for more information: [Mississauga Halton LHIN's Caregiver Respite Program](#).

MEDIA CONTACTS

For more information or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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