



## SENIORS FOR SOCIAL ACTION (ONTARIO)

### *INFORMATION BULLETIN*

# OUR ADVOCACY IS PAYING OFF – \$2 BILLION MORE FOR HOME CARE IN THE ONTARIO BUDGET

March 27, 2024

Several months ago Seniors for Social Action Ontario (SSAO) filed a comprehensive Freedom of Information (FOI) Request asking the Ministry of Health questions about funding for Home Care. The results of that FOI can be found here, reported in our last Information Bulletin.

[https://www.seniorsactionontario.com/files/ugd/50033d\\_7d9f7a7bb54f4d0aa80b8cccc671f507.pdf](https://www.seniorsactionontario.com/files/ugd/50033d_7d9f7a7bb54f4d0aa80b8cccc671f507.pdf)

In yesterday's budget, the Ontario Treasurer announced \$2 Billion more for Home Care. He also used SSAO's own language in describing this investment: "I don't know many people who don't want to age at home with their loved ones in familiar surroundings" (Casey, 2024).

Significant home care staff recruitment efforts are underway with millions invested in increasing wages in this sector to attempt to stabilize the Home Care workforce.

SSAO will continue monitoring where these funds are being spent to ensure that this investment results in higher direct service hours to Home Care recipients, and Home Care Modernization efforts that include PACE (Program of All Inclusive Care of the Elderly) programs across the province. See: <https://alzda.ca/pace-wellness-hub/>

SSAO will also continue its efforts to ensure expansion of the Family Managed Home Care direct funding program to empower individuals and their families to obtain their own supports and services, and will demand that the government ease the current criteria that discriminate against people with disabilities on the basis of age. See: <https://healthcareathome.ca/home-care/family-managed-home-care/>

### REFERENCES

Casey, L. (March 26, 2024). Billions in new funding for health care in Ontario budget. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-budget-health-ford-peter-bethlenfalvy-1.7156231>