



SENIORS FOR SOCIAL ACTION (ONTARIO)

INFORMATION BULLETIN - PARTNER ORGANIZATION

A MESSAGE FROM THE SOUTH EAST GREY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

February 26, 2024

Community Health Centres are one of the most overlooked resources in Ontario's health care system and one of the best possible sponsors of in-home and medical and nursing assistance to elders.

Founded in 2011 as an interdisciplinary primary care organization South East Grey CHC provides care to over 9000 patients.

It has family physicians and nurse practitioners who conduct home visits, including palliative care, physiotherapists, registered dietitians, social workers, a chiroprapist and three specialists on-site.

It also offers softer services – yoga, tai chi, walking programs, pilates, coffee and social drop ins, community gardens and cooking classes – in other words, preventive health care services.

Now that's what you call a comprehensive community health service!

So why doesn't every single community in Ontario have one? For too long the Ontario government's priorities have been hospitals and long-term care institutions instead of good quality community-based health care services.

How Will Ontario Health Teams Use This Community Resource?

As the government moves to Ontario Health Teams and reviews how Home Care is delivered through a process of Home Care Modernization, community health centres could play an important role in system transformation. They also have critical insights to share on what is wrong with the health care system and how it could be fixed.

SSAO recently heard from the South East Grey Community Health Centre in an excellent presentation supported by careful research.

If you would like to hear from them too in a Zoom session, please contact us at seniorsactionontario@gmail.com