

March 8, 2022

### **Haldimand Family Health Team expands services and programs in Haldimand to bring healthcare services closer to home**

The Haldimand Family Health Team provides family centred primary care to people in Haldimand County with clinic locations in Caledonia, Dunnville, and Hagersville.

Since our inception in 2006, the Haldimand Family Health Team has continuously grown the affiliated physician complement to offer expanded access to interprofessional patient-centred primary care to much of Haldimand County. Over 70% of the primary care physicians in Haldimand are affiliated with the HFHT. The HFHT provides a variety of programming that covers health promotion, disease management and prevention for all age groups.

The Haldimand Family Health Team recognizes and has been working to reduce the inequities of healthcare in rural settings, and is excited to announce that the Ministry of Health approved increased annual funding to support the further development of interdisciplinary primary care in Haldimand.

“Our government made a commitment to improving access to primary care services for our most vulnerable patients,” said Toby Barrett, MPP for Haldimand-Norfolk. “Through this funding we are ensuring that patients have access to the care they need when they need it, right here in the Haldimand area.”

This funding is part of the government’s investment of \$6.2 million across 32 primary care teams to improve access to primary care in high needs communities across the province.

“This funding will allow the HFHT to expand services and programs in Haldimand to better serve our communities by moving healthcare services closer to home and offering integrated services that are connected and easier to access,” Barbara Klassen. Our newly expanded services will provide us with the capacity to meet the current need for services and offer a wider variety of programs and clinical services from a multidisciplinary clinical team working together to support Haldimand across all three sites.

We know that providing more accessible and available primary care services in rural communities is foundational to better overall health outcomes for our patients. We will continue to work closely with our community partners, Haldimand Health, and the Greater Hamilton Health Network to align health care priorities and community needs. Our partnerships have grown during the pandemic and allowed us to build stronger relationships to better understand the patient, family and caregiver needs, system level gaps, and build on each of our organizational strengths in order to provide more comprehensive care. We look forward to the ways this funding will allow us to make important changes to improve access to care and increase programming to better serve community needs.

“We are grateful for the ongoing leadership and dedication of our staff in delivering compassionate and quality care to those we serve and look forward to growing our team and portfolio of services and programs for our Haldimand communities,” Barbara Klassen.

“This is a monumental step forward for healthcare in Haldimand and we look forward to providing our communities with accessible healthcare, when and where they need it,” Barbara Klassen.

**Quotes:**

Barbara Klassen, Executive Director, Haldimand Family Health Team

**Glossary of Terms**

GHHN- Greater Hamilton Health Network

HFHT- Haldimand Family Health Team

**For more information please visit:**

<https://www.haldimandfht.com>

<http://greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca>

**For more information or to book an interview, please contact:**

Sarah Precious

Manager of Engagement and Communication

Greater Hamilton Health Network

sarah.precious@ghhn.ca