

# Hamilton Health Team Update

August 9, 2019

## Hamilton Health Team proposal continues to build momentum

On July 18, 2019, the Hamilton Health Team (HHT) received formal notification from Deputy Minister of Health, Helen Angus, that the HHT is one of 31 teams invited to submit a full application as a next step towards forming an Ontario Health Team (OHT).

The initial proposal was developed based on work that began in 2016, led by members of the Hamilton Anchor Institutions Leadership (HAIL) group, as a way to strengthen and better coordinate health and social services in Hamilton, as a means to improve individual and community health.

More than 20 groups signed onto the proposal, and as development continues toward the Oct. 9 full application deadline, the team has expanded involvement of individuals with lived experience, primary care providers, and representatives from health and community service organizations, including volunteers, staff members and leaders.

**On Thursday, August 1, 2019**, more than 100 people representing these community members and stakeholders gathered to collaborate and come up with big ideas about how to create a healthier community and provide exquisite care as a system with a focus on HHT's three priority populations for Year 1:

- Adults with Mental Health and Addictions Concerns
- Children with Mental Health and Addictions Concerns
- Older Adults with Chronic Conditions

Bernice King, patient advisor and co-chair of the HHT said, "We were thrilled to have so many people come together, including nearly a dozen patient advisors from across the city. The level of interest and excitement in this initiative is inspiring!"



Event facilitator, Dr Cathy Risdon, professor & vice chair, McMaster University Department of Family Medicine, noted, "this was a remarkable opportunity to bring community members from across the city together to collaborate and to look at how to transform care in the community."



**Next Steps:** Over the summer, working groups will next focus on the priority areas of the Ministry-led application process: better connecting services and supports, HHT governance and data information systems, as requirement of the Ministry led application process.

**More information just a click away!**

Visit our webpage to learn more about the HHT [www.hamilton.ca/OntarioHealthTeam](http://www.hamilton.ca/OntarioHealthTeam)