

Date: March 14, 2024
To: GW OHT Core Steering Committee
From: Emmi Perkins, Director of Transformation
Subject: **GW OHT Core Steering Committee Key Messages – March 13, 2024**

Key Messages

The following are the Key Messages from the Guelph Wellington OHT (GW OHT) Steering Committee meeting on March 13th. They can be shared as appropriate with your staff, clinicians, boards, and partners.

- 1. Endorsement of Aboyne Rural Hospice** – Dr Sarah Gower, Co-Chair, Aboyne Rural Hospice spoke to the Steering Committee about the progress that has been made to bring hospice care closer to home for rural Wellington County residents including preparing a final application to the Ministry of Health and significant fundraising. Improving palliative care has been a priority of the Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team since its inception. GW OHT Steering Committee partners endorse and are grateful for the collaborative efforts and partnership of the Aboyne Rural Hospice Board of Directors and Advisory Committee.
- 2. Welcoming Wyndham House as an Enabling Core Partner** – Wyndham House submitted a ‘Commitment of Partnership’ as an expression of their interest to join the GW OHT as an enabling core partner. Working more closely with Wyndham House presents an opportunity for the GW OHT to broaden its partnerships into the youth supportive housing sector as a critical partnership in our collective efforts to integrate health and housing in Guelph Wellington. GW OHT Steering Committee partners look forward to having Wyndham House as an enabling core partner.
- 3. 2024/25 GW OHT Collaborative Quality Improvement Plan (cQIP)** – GW OHT partners have developed a plan to address the priorities in the Ontario Health Team cQIPs including:
 - i. Improving overall access to care in the most appropriate setting
Indicator: Alternate Level of Care (ALC) days
 - ii. Increasing overall access to community mental health and addiction (MHA) services
Indicator: Emergency department visit as the first point of contact for MHA-related care
 - iii. Increasing overall access to preventative care
Indicator: Percentage of screen-eligible people up to date with cervical, breast cancer and colorectal screeningThe plan will be submitted to Ontario Health and actioned by GW OHT partners and core staff throughout 2024/25.
- 4. Home Care Integration Leading Practice** – The Steering Committee received an update regarding work that is underway to support the launch of the Leading Practice in September 2024. Much work has/is being done at multiple primary care sites across Guelph Wellington to integrate community primary care services (in alignment with the IPCT model). In addition to this work, the Leading Practice will “launch” at 6 sites in September 2024. This “launch” will include:
 - GW OHT partners will assume accountability for delivering home care to approximately 1489 patients (across 6 IPCT sites) per year
 - HCCSS/Ontario Health at Home Care Coordinators will be formally deployed to the GW OHT to work as dedicated, integrated members of each IPCT

- SPO partners contracted to the GW OHT will be deployed to work as dedicated, integrated members of each IPCT
- GW OHT will assume oversight of a tenant CHRIS to enable required documentation, SPO payment processes etc.

The GW OHT Steering Committee discussed the opportunities, challenges, risks and mitigations associated with the GW OHT Leading Project. In light of the magnitude and complexity of the requirements of the Leading Practice Lead Agency, the Steering Committee discussed the need to both leverage existing expertise and infrastructure and build local capacity to manage and deliver home care. As such, the Steering Committee agreed that the GW OHT Leading Project will be best positioned for success with St. Joseph's as the Lead Agency and with GGH remaining a committed partner to support St. Joe's in this role. Over the coming days/weeks, work will be undertaken to transition the GW OHT Leading Practice Lead Agency status from GGH to St. Joseph's.

5. **GW OHT 2024/2025 Work Plan and Budget** – The Steering Committee received and approved the work plan and budget for 2024/25 as well as the 2023/24 discretionary partner contribution process.
6. **GW OHT Steering Committee Terms of Reference** – The Steering Committee reviewed changes to its Terms of Reference (as part of the annual review process) including a description of the rotating co-chair role, the inclusion and role of students at steering committee meetings and the addition of a “meeting without management” process. The revised Terms of Reference were approved.
7. **Strategic Priority Focus: Pandemic Recovery** - In support of GW OHT strategic priority goals, “Health care workers will feel valued and have access to health and wellness resources”, the Human Resources Working Group has identified the development of a ‘GW OHT Shared Staff Education Calendar’ as a priority activity within their 2024/25 workplan. Recognizing the breadth and diversity of initiatives offered across partner organizations, this calendar will include staff training, development, and wellness activities that partner organizations have planned for 2024/25 that they would be willing to open to staff from other core partner organizations. This calendar will also include planned educational offerings by GW OHT core staff.

In this spirit, GGH has extended an invitation to full day Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Leadership Training (developed and hosted by Malissa Bryan, EDI lead at Guelph General Hospital) to leaders from partner organizations.

In support of the GW OHT strategic goal “*Guelph Wellington will have a physician recruitment strategy to meet the needs of or growing communities*” the ‘GW OHT Physician Recruitment Task Group’ has asked GW OHT partners for their support in identifying an individual to develop of the strategy.

If you have any questions or comments, or would like to be involved in the Guelph Wellington Ontario Health Team, please contact Emmi Perkins (emmi.perkins@quelphwellingtonoht.com)