

Meeting Date: August 10, 2021

Submitted by: Dustin Carter, Superintendent - Community Paramedicine, Middlesex-London Paramedic Service

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE UPDATE - PROGRAMMING

BACKGROUND:

Community Paramedicine (CP) is a model of community-based health care where paramedics use their education and expertise in non-emergent mobile integrated response, to provide immediate or scheduled primary, urgent, and/or specialized healthcare to vulnerable patient populations while focusing on improving equity in healthcare access across the continuum of care.

ANALYSIS:

Due to a significant increase in investment by community partners and stakeholders in CP programming, the Middlesex-London Paramedic Service program has rapidly expanded as a specialized division within Professional Standards to include the following:

- Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care (CPLTC)
- Palliative Care Outreach Team (PCOT) Response
- Health Outreach Mobile Engagement (HOME)
- Community Outreach and Support Team (COAST)
- COVID-19 Response Team
- Community Support Service (CSS)

CPLTC: Mandated by the Ministry of Long-Term Care to provide 24/7 access to community paramedicine for non-emergent procedures and services for patient's who are waiting for placement in a long-term care home, patients who are soon to be eligible for long-term care, or patients with specific circumstances or conditions.

PCOT Response: To support the work of the Home and Community Care Support Service South West and South West Hospice Palliative Care Network, the MLPS Community Paramedicine team has been delegated an expanded scope to provide crisis

and symptom management (24/7) for palliative patients in their home when resources are in demand.

HOME: The HOME program is a multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral mobile response to improve the health outcomes and health equity of highly marginalized individuals who are experiencing homelessness, or are insecurely housed, or are rostered with the London InterCommunity Health Centre. HOME provides primary care, harm reduction, support with substance use, basic needs, and wrap-around care services directly to individuals where they are at.

COAST: St. Joseph's Health Care London (SJHC), Canadian Mental Health Association Elgin-Middlesex (CMHA), London Police Service (LPS), and MLPS have partnered to develop a proactive Crisis Outreach and Support Team (COAST) to provide a community crisis response strategy for individuals experiencing mental health crisis to assist with medical assessments, de-escalation techniques, diversion from medical intervention where appropriate, and facilitation of transition to acute care when required to ensure positive outcomes for the individual.

COVID-19 Response Team: The COVID-19 Response Team is comprised of dedicated community paramedics assigned to special operations throughout the Middlesex-London area. The COVID-19 Response Team works in fixed, mobile, and pop-up clinic locations designated to perform COVID-19 screening, assessment, and nasopharyngeal swabbing, and vaccine administration under the Middlesex-London Health Unit Associate Medical Director.

CSS: CSS is a bundled service collaboration between Cheshire Just in Time Supports, Meals on Wheels (meals and transportation), VON Home Help and Home at Last, Dale Services caregiver supports, and Community Paramedicine. The bundle provides wrap around transitional supports to patients for one month post hospital discharge.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The MLPS CP program has secured external funding for all programming as follows;

- CPLTC (year ending March 2024)
- PCOT Response (annualized funding)
- HOME (year ending March 2023)
- COAST (year ending March 2022)
- COVID-19 Response (Ministry of Health cost recovery)
- CSS (Q3 ending 2021)

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS:

Strategic Focus	Goals	Objectives
Cultivating Community Vitality	Advance a diverse, healthy, and engaged community across Middlesex County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote and support community wellness• Innovate social and community services
Promoting Service Excellence	Innovate and transform municipal service delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anticipate and align municipal service delivery to emerging needs and expectations• Collaborate with strategic partners to leverage available resources and opportunities• Build organizational capacity and capabilities

RECOMMENDATION:

That the update regarding the Community Paramedicine programming be received for information.