

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUNE 2024

Ashnoor Rahim
Executive
Director



GENERAL UPDATES

OUR KW4 OHT TEAM

From all of us at the OHT, we wish you all a safe and fun filled summer. The ED Report will resume in September. We will share any updates or news by email during July and August.

On June 19, 2024, members of the team attended a meet and greet at Hospice Waterloo Region. It was a great opportunity to learn about the robust services offered in support of community members as they near end of life and their families. Hospice Waterloo Region has an 11 residential palliative care beds and a variety of community outreach services to support families in their homes including volunteer visiting and transportation to medical appointments. Thank you to Judy Nairn, Executive Director of Hospice Waterloo and the entire team for sharing their time and knowledge with the OHT back-office team.

GOVERNANCE

The Steering Committee continues to move forward with the governance refresh work and expects to have a nominations committee in place shortly to undertake a recruitment process for Board of Directors positions.

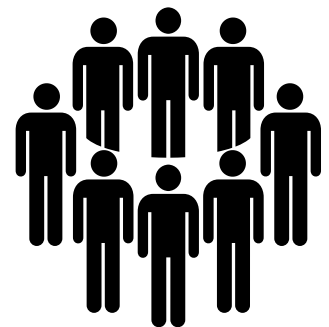
COMMUNICATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)

Since its inception we've had a community engagement committee that has supported and advised KW4 OHT on how best to engage the community in health care design and decision making. The members represent communities from across the OHT and have been instrumental in helping co design many of our initiatives and with the development of the strategic plan.

Our Committee is now evolving to broaden the OHT's ability to engage with more communities that may wish to engage in this important work but cannot because of systemic and other barriers. Using a network of networks model allows CAC members to act as ambassadors of the OHT and engage different groups where they already meet, thereby giving the OHT a broader reach and ensuring a health equity approach.

The OHT has released an expression of interest through our networks and will have a few current members review interested applicants for membership. We anticipate this process to be completed by the end of the summer and will convene the new committee in early fall. Information on the Community Advisory Council and expression of interest forms can be found here: [Link](#)



THE 4TH CLINICIAN SUMMIT

On Wednesday, June 5th, 54 attendees joined together at RIM Park in Waterloo to increase engagement and connection across the clinician community. Primary care, specialists, nurse practitioners, hospital leadership from Grand River and St. Mary's General Hospitals, and representatives from Ontario Health, dined together, and learned about the exciting work happening in our area. Attendees learned more about the KW4 Primary Care Network, Seamless Care Optimizing the Patient Experience (SCOPE), the Building the Future of Care Together project, preventative cancer screening with the Waterloo Wellington Regional Cancer Centre, and services offered by the eHealth Centre of Excellence.

At the event, we discussed:

- KW4 OHTs 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and 2024-2028 Strategic Plan
- Pediatric services in our region including the Rapid Assessment Clinic for Pediatrics
- Mental health and addictions services provided by Starling Community Services (formerly Lutherwood)
- The development of the KW4 Primary Care Network
- The upcoming hospital merger from a clinician perspective
- The role of Artificial Intelligence in medicine and how to use digital technologies to improve clinical practices

The lively discussions continued long after the end of the event. We are reviewing takeaways and themes we heard to determine our next steps. We want to extend our gratitude to everyone who participated and supported this event.

THE 4TH CLINICIAN SUMMIT



INDIGENOUS SHARING CIRCLES



On Monday, June 3, 2024, we were privileged to attend an Indigenous Sharing Circle for Cancer Care, facilitated by Elder Myeengun Henry at the Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre. The Indigenous community shared how cancer has impacted their lives, their experiences with accessing cancer care, and the racism they and their loved ones experienced when trying to access services. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to participate and want to thank the participants for their honesty and openness. We are reflecting on the conversations we had at this event and discussing what actions we can take to support positive change.

INDIGENOUS SHARING CIRCLES

SHARING
CIRCLE

Hosted By: Waterloo Wellington Older Adult Strategy

COME SHARE YOUR PERSONAL
EXPERIENCES WITH DIABETES

WHO:

For Indigenous older adults and their families and health service providers who have experience managing diabetes

WHEN:

Wednesday, June 12th 10AM – 1PM (10-10:30 mingling)

WHERE:

Maryhill Community Centre
58 Charles Street East | Maryhill, ON | N0B 2B0

On June 12, 2024, the KW4OHT attended the Indigenous Sharing Circle focused on Diabetes. The circle was hosted by the Waterloo Wellington Older Adult Strategy and was attended by over 35 people, including Indigenous peoples with lived experiences and health service providers. The event was an opportunity for collaboration and learning as each member of the circle had a chance to identify a challenge, a solution, and/or a commitment related to the prevention and management of diabetes. Many attendees expressed a desire for the identified solutions and commitments to translate into action.

2024 YOUTH CONFERENCE FOR BLACK AND INDIGENOUS YOUTH



We were excited to attend the 2024 Youth Conference Ga'nigqhi:yo Gbe Ifokànbalè hosted by Healing of The Seven Generations and Kind Mind Family Wellness. From the drumming circles and dancers opening the day to the wide variety of workshops offered, the two-day event highlighted and celebrated the experiences of Black and Indigenous youth. Workshop leaders shared the intersectionality of their experiences, navigating their identities through sports, the arts, and connecting with their cultural histories and practices. We would like to extend our gratitude to the organizers as well as the Black and Indigenous communities for the invitation to join such an impactful event.

BUILDING THE WATERLOO WELLINGTON REGIONAL CANCER PLAN

The KW4 OHT attended the “Building the Waterloo Wellington Regional Cancer Plan” event on June 18, 2024. The focus of the planning session was to identify the region's priorities in line with the goals of the Ontario Cancer Plan 2024-2028. Interesting facts and data about population growth and demographics of the region were shared. The achievements of the 2019-2023 Regional Cancer Plan were discussed, followed by a detailed exploration of the goals of the Ontario Cancer Plan 2024-2028. There was then an opportunity for participants to identify regional initiatives and opportunities aligning with the provincial goals. At the end of the session, participants prioritized the ideas and opportunities discussed. A draft regional plan is expected to be presented in the Fall. Thank you to the Waterloo Wellington Regional Cancer Program for inviting us to participate in these important discussions.

KEY AND EMERGING ISSUES

PROGRESS AND RESULTS

Quarterly Performance Report

As part of KW4's September 2020 application to become an OHT, we were required to describe how our team will measure and monitor our success. Members endorsed the measures shown in the snapshot of our performance below, which we now report on quarterly.

KW4 OHT is performing at or better than the targets we have set for two of our performance measures including caregiver distress among home care clients and alternate level of care (ALC) days.

KW4 OHT continues to have challenges meeting performance measures for hospitalization for ambulatory care sensitive conditions and frequent emergency room visits for mental health and addictions.

Table 1 below provides a summary of this quarter's performance.

#	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Reporting Period	Proposed Target	Current Performance (lower is better)	Status	Change since last report
1	Caregiver distress among home care clients	%	Mar 2024	<= 56%	52.5%		 Improvement from 53.3%
2	Hospitalization rate for conditions that can be managed outside hospital (asthma, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, heart failure, hypertension, angina and epilepsy)	Rate per 100,000 population	Feb 2024	<= 20.4 monthly (61.2 quarterly) (244.8 annually)	22.0		 Slippage from 18.3
3	Total ALC (Acute and Non-Acute)	%	Mar 2024	<=16.7%	16.7%		 Improvement from 17.7%
4	Frequent Emergency Room Visits for Help With Mental Health and/or Addictions	%	Mar 2024	<=10.0%	11.8%		 Improvement from 13.3%

Performance Corridors:  Greater than 10% of Target  Within 10% of Target  Meets Target

The full report, including contributing factors and initiatives currently underway, or planned for the near future is available [here](#).