

Local Health Care Providers Awarded Minister's Medals Honouring Excellence in Health Quality and Safety

NEWS

October 26, 2017

The Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN) is pleased to congratulate local recipients of the Minister's Medal, an annual recognition program that celebrates the collaborative efforts of Ontario's health care providers in improving care for Ontarians.

Two of the three recipients for this year's Minister's Medal were from the HNHB LHIN.

This year's Team Medal award went to the Hamilton Health Sciences' (HHS) Hospital Without Walls team. This team worked to transform where and how it provided care to vulnerable and under-served populations. The Hospital Without Walls team worked with system partners to coordinate care and develop patient action plans. The goal was to improve the overall management of care, and to involve patients and family members in the planning and delivery of all health care programs and services.

The 2017 Individual Champion Minister's Medal was awarded to Regan Anderson. Regan is the Chief Executive Officer of Wayside House of Hamilton, a community-based, not-for-profit charitable organization that is committed to residential addiction treatment and supportive housing for males and transitional male youth. He went beyond his leadership role at Wayside and expanded his engagement with the addictions sector of health care across Ontario by participating in numerous boards and committees.

In addition to the medal winners, local resident Gwen Piller was recognized as one of 14 Honour Roll members for her exceptional work in supporting high quality health care for patients and families. Gwen is a citizen member of the Quality Committee of the Board at Joseph Brant Hospital, and is a member of the hospital's Consumer Advisory Committee.

The Minister's Medal awards were presented by Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care and Julie Drury, Chair of the Minister's Patient and Family Advisory Council in Toronto on October 24, 2017. The theme of this year's awards is *Patients as Partners*, which focuses on the importance of addressing local health priorities and system issues in collaboration with the people they matter to most – patients, caregivers and their families.



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QUOTES

“Patients and families in our communities are benefitting every day from the exceptional work of the health service providers and individuals who were recognized for improving care through the prestigious Minister’s Medal recognition program. We congratulate award recipients Hamilton Health Sciences’ Hospitals Without Walls team and Regan Anderson, as well as Honour Roll member Gwen Piller on this recognition and for their outstanding leadership and commitment to putting patients at the centre of care. Thank you to the Hospital Without Walls team for providing coordinated care for patients who need it most and contributing to the sustainability of the health care system, and to Regan Anderson for helping to build the capacity of the health care system to address the needs of individuals affected by mental health and addictions issues. We also congratulate Margo Twohig from the Central LHIN for receiving the Patient, Family and Caregiver Medal.”

- Janine van den Heuvel, Board Chair, HNHB LHIN

“The Outreach Team collaborates with patients to optimize their health and quality of life by identifying needs and developing a coordinated care plan with primary care, specialists, acute care, community and social service partners. We work together to ensure our patients can fill their prescriptions, attend medical appointments, and access food and adequate housing. The team focuses on what is most important to the patient and what is most concerning to them about their health. Through this, patient engagement is high and a true partnership between the patients and the team is established, enhancing our patients’ experience.”

- Kelly O’Halloran, Director of Community and Population Health Services, Hamilton Health Sciences

”This recognition by the Minister of Health is an honour and a humbling experience. This speaks well of the achievements of Wayside House of Hamilton while emphasizing our client first philosophy. We know that continued investments by our LHIN will further our work and bring greater stability and hope to all those we serve.”

- Regan Anderson, CEO, Wayside House of Hamilton

QUICK FACTS

- This is the first time an individual and/or health care provider from the HNHB LHIN has been awarded a Minister’s Medal, and the sixth time an individual or team has been recognized as an Honour Roll member since the program’s inception in 2013.
- Local Honour Roll members for previous years include:
 - 2016: [Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Teams](#), [Screen for Life Mobile Cancer Screening Coach](#), [HNHB Behavioural Supports Ontario Hospital Clinical Leader Program](#)
 - 2015: [Divert Home Care Initiative - HNHB Community Care Access Centre \(CCAC\)](#)
 - 2014: [Caring for My COPD](#)
- The Minister’s Medal to honour excellence in health quality and safety is a competitive, annual recognition program that celebrates the collaborative efforts of Ontario’s health care providers in improving care for Ontarians.
- The medals are awarded to one team of providers, one individual provider, and one patient, family member, or caregiver that recognize the importance of embedding the

patient voice in the design and delivery of health care programs and services and enhancing patient engagement in their community.

LEARN MORE

- [Video: Minister's Medal 2017 Team-Based Winner – Hospital Without Walls](#)
- [Video: Minister's Medal 2017 Individual Champion – Regan Anderson](#)
- [Minister's Medal website](#)

For information about the HNHB LHIN, please visit: www.hnhblhin.on.ca.

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