

MEDIA RELEASE

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Combined Partnership Expands to Improve Community-Based Support Services for Ontarians with Complex Needs

In fall 2019, two not-for-profit agencies, DeafBlind Ontario Services and PHSS (Participating, Housing, Supports and Services), formed an integrative partnership to jointly advocate for and provide high quality, holistic and robust community supports to individuals who have highly specialized and unique needs across Ontario. Recently, Community Living Chatham-Kent was granted membership into the integrative partnership.

The partnership will be an excellent opportunity to create the best possible supports, and services for people and their families. The agencies will continue to be valuable components of their respective communities, and together, they will have a stronger voice at the provincial level.

The partnership will enhance the ability of Community Living Chatham-Kent, DeafBlind Ontario Services, and PHSS to share specialized expertise for the benefit of the people who receive support. The agencies will be working together to promote the unique needs of persons who require access to integrated services, and health care across the province.

“We are pleased to welcome Community Living Chatham-Kent to this partnership,” said Roxanna Spruyt-Rocks, CEO of DeafBlind Ontario Services. “The combined services of the three agencies provides long-term value through quality, specialized support for individuals with multiple, complex needs,”

“Community Living Chatham-Kent continues to be a very progressive organization within Ontario. We look forward to joining forces with like-minded, accredited agencies like DeafBlind Ontario Services and PHSS,” said Ron Coristine, Executive Director of Community Living Chatham-Kent. “Our focus will be on sharing knowledge and finding efficiencies, recognizing that the people who place their trust in our organizations are the number one priority.”

The objective of the partnership is to develop opportunities to integrate administration, systems and approaches that will allow for more efficient, person-focused services while operating in a more cost-effective manner. The partnership will enhance the ability of the three agencies to promote the unique needs of populations who require access to integrated support services and health care in remote communities and urban centers across Ontario.

“Given significant changes underway in Ontario’s health and social support systems, the partnership will help ensure that the complex needs of those with significant disabilities will continue to be recognized and addressed,” said Brian Dunne, President and CEO of PHSS.

DeafBlind Ontario Services is a not-for-profit organization that provides accessible residential and customized support services in remote communities and urban centres across the province. Their holistic approach to Intervenor Services empowers people with deafblindness to achieve their goals and dreams.

Established in 1988, PHSS (Participating, Housing, Support and Services) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting people with developmental disabilities and/or complex physical needs so they can live in their own homes, participate in the community, and enjoy life with family and friends. Providing 24-hour care in residential homes, day and overnight respite, recreational programs, PHSS supports more than 200 individuals in more than 50 locations throughout Ontario, whether for those living with complex medical needs or individuals living at home with their families.

Community Living Chatham-Kent is a non-profit charitable organization enriching the lives of people who have diverse abilities by providing quality services, and meaningful and inclusive opportunities. For 65 years, the agency has been ensuring that all people live in a state of dignity, share in all elements of living in the community and have the opportunity to participate effectively.

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Community Living Chatham-Kent provides supports, and services to more than five hundred and fifty people who reside within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent.

To learn more about Community Living Chatham-Kent please contact Tammy Chouinard, Manager of Community Relations, at tchouinard@clc-k.ca or 519-352-1174, extension 232.