

Health care partnership aimed at improving patient care for seniors in Dufferin County

Headwaters Health Care Centre and Dufferin Paramedic Services have entered a partnership with Toronto Grace Health Centre to help patients awaiting long-term care and minimize health issues for seniors living with chronic diseases in the community.

The Remote Care Monitoring (RCM) program provides eligible patients with 24/7 remote care monitoring using a variety of safety devices. The devices include two-way voice communication, fall and emergency alerts, geo-fencing, and outdoor locating via GPS. RCM utilizes both medical and non-medical monitoring to help with in-home care, including reducing slips and falls, monitoring of vital signs, preventing wandering, and providing medication reminders.

"We're excited to be expanding our existing program through this partnership with Toronto Grace Health Centre," said Dufferin Paramedic Services Chief Gary Staples. "This is an innovative program that will make a big difference in the lives of eligible patients, allowing them to stay at home in their communities longer or while waiting for long-term care."

Through the current Community Paramedic Program, Community Paramedics conduct scheduled wellness checks, safe home assessments, in-home bloodwork, and vital sign monitoring. The additional safety devices and monitoring services offered by the RCM program will enhance capabilities, improving healthcare outcomes for seniors, minimizing the demands on institutional long-term care and reducing emergency room visits for seniors through prevention.

Patients must be referred to the program by a healthcare professional or a social service agency involved in the patient's care.