

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY HEALTH TEAMS OF ONTARIO

BRIGHT LIGHTS AWARDS

Nomination

Integrated care and community responses

Couchiching Family Health Team

Seniors First: Meeting the needs of this vulnerable population during the COVID-19 pandemic



North Simcoe Muskoka

Specialized Geriatric Services

Across the province, COVID-19 assessment centers were created to provide easy and safe access to testing for the virus. The COVID Assessment Centre in the Couchiching sub-region was created through a partnership with the Couchiching Family Health Team (CFHT), the Couchiching Family Health Organization (CFHO), the Orillia Family Health Organization (OFHO), and Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital (OSMH). As locals arrived for testing, it was noted that a large proportion of these individuals were seniors. Orillia and the Couchiching sub-region are known for its large aging population and given the current pandemic, that population is quite vulnerable. The CFHT, in partnership with OSMH, reached out to Specialized Geriatric Services (SGS) at Waypoint Centre for Mental Health to ensure that this vulnerable population is not at even greater risk due to the pandemic. These groups worked together to create and implement a program to ensure that the health of our seniors was addressed during COVID-19.