

BRIGHT LIGHTS AWARDS

2021

Nomination: Integrated care for older adults living with complex health conditions

Couchiching FHT

One Door, Open to All: Amalgamation of services for frail seniors in the Couchiching region



The Couchiching region has been fortunate to have access to comprehensive geriatric assessments and treatment for frail seniors living in the area. This service has been provided by the Couchiching Family Health Team (CFHT) for those with a Primary Care Practitioner (PCP) in the FHT. Those who are not affiliated with the CFHT can access these resources through Specialized Geriatric Services (SGS) at Waypoint Centre for Mental Health. Those with an out of region PCP or no PCP at all struggle to figure out how (and where) to access care. Both SGS and the CFHT have access to a variety of allied health clinicians, but neither has the funding for a full complement of the necessary clinicians to comprehensively assess and treat the frail senior. The CFHT and SGS saw the disparity between programs, the difficulty for PCP's, patients, and caregivers in terms of accessing the correct service, and the duplication of service that was happening within the region. The solution? Full amalgamation of both organization's services for frail seniors.