

Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (WWLHIN) Questions and Answers Document for Year 2 Aging at Home (AAH)

Questions were generated from the September 5, 2008, Year 2 AAH Teleconference

Introduction

Stewart Sutley, Senior Director of Planning, Integration and Community Engagement, provided an overview of the Year 2 AAH proposal process. He invited teleconference participants to support the broad strategic directions noted in the WWLHIN's Year 1 AAH Directional Plan (2007), along with its three focus areas, which were identified as:

- **Services for Frail and Complex Seniors**
- **Supportive Housing Services**
- **Seniors' Health and Wellness**

The Year 2 Call for Proposals creates an additional requirement that all proposals demonstrate a measurable, positive impact on **Emergency Department wait times and/or Alternative Levels of Care (ALC) pressures**. These targets, set by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), reflect the provincial mandate of "*Reducing wait times with a particular focus on emergency departments and delivering access to family healthcare for all Ontarians*". Please follow the link below to learn more about Ontario's healthcare priorities:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/media/speeches/archives/sp_08/sp_20080423.html

Funding

The total funding allocation for Year 2 of Aging at Home (\$11.9 million [M]) will be divided and allocated as follows:

Initiative	Funding
Call for Proposals for Year 2 AAH	\$2.0 M
Funding reserved pending the outcome and review of Year 1 planning initiatives, currently underway	\$2.5 M
Funding reserved for Year 2 funding of Year 1 projects	\$7.4 M
Total	\$11.9 M

Projects to be considered for funding in the Call for Proposals Year 2 AAH must conform to the process and criteria outlined on the WWLHIN Website (www.wwlhin.on.ca).

Planning projects funded in Year 1 AAH should not submit proposals for Year 2 funding where project deliverables are dependent on the outcomes of Year 1 planning, still to be completed. It is expected, however, that the planning projects funded in Year 1 will continue to develop their plans and meet performance outcomes and deliverables noted in their respective implementation plans. Those projects are:

- Tele-home Monitoring for Seniors
- Multicultural Planning
- Integrated Seniors Service (ISS) Planning (with GEM nurses)
- End of Life Medications in Long-Term Care
- Specialized Behaviour Unit
- Supportive Housing Planning
- Transportation Planning

Proposal Template

The proposal template is based on the Year 1 implementation plan template, and is designed to provide WWLHIN proposal evaluators with clarity on how the project will be implemented (including the identification of risks, mitigation strategies, performance outcomes and specific deliverables). The Year 2 proposal template will also enable the WWLHIN to identify resources required to support the project on an ongoing basis.

Questions and Answers:

- 1. Should the GEM (Geriatric Emergency Management) Nurses Planning Project submit a restated Integrated Seniors Service Proposal? We also request that the GEM nurses be reflected as a component of the Integrated Senior Service (ISS).**

The ISS planning was one of seven initiatives for which the WWLHIN has provisionally earmarked \$2.5M for further funding of planning projects underway in Year 1. It is expected that ISS planning and the other six initiatives will consider and reflect the two new Ministry-set targets of addressing Emergency Department wait-times and/or Alternative Levels of Care pressures.

- 2. Does the WWLHIN require signed board resolutions by all parties to enter into a collaborative agreement for Year 2 AAH?**

The WWLHIN recognizes the short turnaround time for proponents to complete the template – board resolutions are not required for the September 30, 2008 deadline. Agreements may be submitted after September 30, 2008, but the WWLHIN expects that partners provide some evidence (e.g., letter from Chief Executive Officer or Executive Director) prior to the deadline that theirs is a collaborative project. The WWLHIN will not accept proposals submitted by single organizations.

- 3. If my Year 1 proposal was not supported by the WWLHIN Board of Directors in February 2008, when it made its decisions, is it still eligible for Year 2 funding? Specifically, may I resubmit a supportive housing proposal that is not included in the Supportive Housing Collaborative? Whom do I talk to about more information about supportive housing?**

The WWLHIN seeks integrated, system-wide solutions to support the broader objectives of the AAH strategy. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals aligned with the criteria on the Website, and current planning activities in the area of supportive housing. For information about the Supportive Housing Collaborative, please contact Gail Carlin at cgail@region.waterloo.on.ca.

- 4. Is there a maximum amount of funding for any one proposal?**

The WWLHIN will not accept a lone proposal that exceeds the \$2M allocation for new, Year 2 proposals.

5. How much information should be submitted by applicants in the evaluation section of the proposal template?

Section 9.2 of the template does not require applicants to provide the detail of any specific evaluation information. The purpose of this section is to enable the WWLHIN to note or discuss any potential opportunities with applicants about project performance, based on the achievement of negotiated key deliverables and service numbers, success of risk mitigation efforts, and anticipated ability to achieve outcomes.

6. Is the WWLHIN accepting innovative ideas?

The WWLHIN encourages innovation aligned with the criteria noted on the [website](#). The MOHLTC recently reviewed all LHIN AAH Year 1 projects against its definition of innovation. Of the total number of projects funded by the WWLHIN in Year 1, 40.3% met that definition – exceeding our required minimum of 20%.

7. If we are one of the seven initiatives noted in the reserved fund of \$2.5M, do we need to resubmit our initial proposals to access those reserved funds?

Planning projects funded in Year 1 are expected to complete the plans and reflect the deliverables indicated in the associated implementation plan. The \$2.5M is held in reserve pending review and acceptance of the plan by the WWLHIN.

No allocation decisions have been made for any projects in years 2 or 3 of AAH. You are welcome to submit any proposals for Year 2 that align with the criteria noted on the Website.

8. Does the supportive housing allocation allow for a rent subsidy?

The WWLHIN will fund programming for seniors, but not rent subsidies.

9. Are the criteria of ED wait times and ALC pressures separate from the three AAH focus areas of Services for Frail and Complex Seniors, Supportive Housing Services, and Seniors' Health and Wellness?

To be considered for funding, all proposals must demonstrate an impact on either or both ED wait times and ALC pressures, in addition to one or more of the three focus areas.

10. Since transportation planning is acknowledged but not an organized project from Year 1 AAH, who do I contact to submit a proposal?

The WWLHIN recognizes the recent investment of seven vans to transport seniors to medical appointments. The WWLHIN would welcome collaborative proposals with regional and other system partners.

For more information please contact Sonal Garach, AAH Program Support at sonal.garach@lhins.on.ca.