



# GHHN presents at ICIC22 Denmark

In November 2021 the Greater Hamilton Health Network submitted two abstracts to the International Conference on Integrated Care. The first focussed on Women's Health Days: a community approach to integrated care for women, trans and gender diverse persons experiencing homelessness, a priority of the collaborative work of the Women's Health working group. The second centred around the GHHN Engagement Strategy: Engaging People in Co-Designing Healthcare, a strategy developed in partnership with GHHN patient advisors to guide and ground our work in transforming healthcare.

Melissa McCallum, GHHN Executive Director, represented the Women's Health working group at the ICIC, delivering a presentation that shared important insights into the development, implementation and approaches needed to meaningfully and intentionally bring multiple service providers together to deliver care to women experiencing homelessness in ways that are low barrier, trauma informed and person centred.

Women's Health Days is made possible because of the dedication, leadership and commitment from local community organizations and people coming together to find new ways to offer care for vulnerable populations. Meeting women in spaces they are familiar with once a season to offer a combination of health and community services, peer support, food, giveaways and so much more has allowed us to serve 220 women over six half days for approximately \$300 dollars per day.

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This story (Women's Health Days), and this journey starts with the women's stories, many stories begin with data, process, and randomized control trials, that is not where we started this work. We started with these stories, direct insights from women experiencing homelessness in our catchment area.

# GHHN takes home ICIC22 top award!

On behalf of the Women's Health working group Melissa McCallum accepted the top award at the International Conference on Integrated Care and shared her gratitude for the many staff (special mention to Megan Lynch for her leadership), organizations, community leaders, volunteers, and supporters who make this work possible.

This includes the Alzheimer Society of Hamilton Halton, Carole Anne's Place, Canadian Mental Health Association Hamilton, City of Hamilton, De dwa da dehs nye>s Aboriginal Health Centre, Empowering Dementia-Friendly Communities, Good Shepherd, Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton Paramedic Service, Hamilton Police Services, Hamilton Public Health, Hamilton Housing Services, Keeping Six, Marchese Pharmacy, McMaster University, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, Shelter Health Network, The AIDS Network, Willow's Place (Mission Services), YWCA Hamilton, the many Primary Care practitioners and GHHN staff.



Melissa McCallum, GHHN Executive Director, accepts top award for Women's Health Days on behalf of the GHHN and The Women's Health Days Working group



A special thank you to McMaster Sustain 2SS3--Advocating for Sustainability Students and community project champion Violetta Nikolskaya, for their important work on the GHHN Women's Health Days Playbook, a resource to support other organizations and communities interested in replicating this initiative in their community.

If you are interested in learning more about Women's Health Days, and are considering bringing this practice to your local area please email us at [info@ghhn.ca](mailto:info@ghhn.ca) and visit our website to learn more about our Women's Health Days.

# GHHN Engagement at ICICI22

Sarah Precious, Manager of Engagement and Communications, represented the GHHN Patient, Family, CarePartner Leadership Network at the ICIC conference sharing the GHHN Engagement Strategy and the approaches that will be used to engage with our communities to co-design healthcare.

The strategy focuses on a four prong model that includes Network Engagement (engaging with existing community groups who are already doing and leading in various areas of this work), Patient Family CarePartner Leadership Network (a committee co-led by patient advisors to address GHHN /Patient Engagement Priorities), Patient Engagement Pool (a network of patient advisors who would like to be engaged in project specific opportunities), and Online Engagement (we have EngageGHHN an online platform that allows us to engage forward facing with the community and privately with our partners).



*Bernice King, David Cooke, Ike Agbasi, Anita Hill, Barbara Dolanjski, Leila Ryan, John Fleming, Janice Dudakosar, Phyllis Fehr, Murray Walz, Bonnie Pataran, Angela Frisina, Sue Wilkins, Ruth Morris, Angie Tracz, Jodi Rock*

We have an incredible group of patient advisors who are embedded into every area of our governance structure, who lead the work, who have taken various trainings, and are foundational to our Ontario Health Team making meaningful changes to healthcare.

Thank you for all that you did to prepare and co-develop the ICIC22 presentation, and for your ongoing leadership and support.



The GHHN believes that programs, services and systems are more equitable, accessible, fiscally responsible and more likely to be utilized when people using the services are engaged and empowered to co-design at the personal, organizational and system levels.



# *Building community health together.*

All of our work is grounded in our [Health Equity Framework](#) and approaching healthcare transformation through an equitable and anti-oppressive lens.

We are proud of our partners, patient advisors, primary care practitioners, staff and communities who are truly committed to building community health together.

If you are interested in signing up for our bi-monthly newsletter or have questions about our Women's Health Days or Engagement Strategy please email us at [info@ghhn.ca](mailto:info@ghhn.ca).



[greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca](http://greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca)



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