

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Greater Hamilton Health Network
Patient, Family and Care Partner Leadership Network

To: Patients, Family members, Care Partners (caregivers)
From: Melissa McCallum, Director, Greater Hamilton Health Network
Date: November 10, 2021
Re: Recruitment of Patient, Family, and Care Partner Advisors (Engagement)

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
November 26nd, 2021

The Greater Hamilton Health Network is issuing an Expression of Interest for membership of the Patient, Family, and Care (PFAC) Partner Leadership Network and Patient Advisor roles.

The GHHN's vision is for a healthier community that provides an equitable and seamless continuum of care that actively improves population health and meets the individual needs of our community. A population that is:

- Healthier, with lower rates of chronic illness;
- Activated, informed, and empowered to navigate the system;
- And Treated equitably

The GHHN will form active partnerships with patients, families, and care partners and meaningfully engage them as decision makers in their own care, as well as at the program and system levels. The GHHN is engaging patients, families, and care partners, community organizations, the community and primary care to co-design an equitable and culturally safe health care system in the Greater Hamilton area that is connected and patient centred.

The Patient, Family, and Care Partner Leadership Network Patient Advisors will work with the GHHN Partnership Council, Executive Council, member organizations, and staff team until March 2023 with the following mandate:

Mandate:

- 1.1 To provide consultation, advice, and feedback to the Greater Hamilton Health Network in the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the GHHN Engagement Strategy

1.2 To ensure GHHN initiatives are consistent with the GHHN Engagement Strategy and Patient, Family and Care Partner Declaration of Values

1.3 To provide critical analysis and advice in serving the identified population-specific communities outlined in the Health Equity Framework and Action Plan.

We are looking for Patients, Family members and Care Partners with lived/living experience from the greater Hamilton areas (Hamilton, Haldimand and Niagara North West) who have diverse experiences and perspectives as users of the healthcare system.

To ensure we have voices and perspectives of peoples and communities most impacted by health and systemic inequities, as well as experience in engagement, the GHHN has issued this Expression of Interest process.

Criteria for Membership

1. Each member of the Patient, Family, and Care partner Leadership Network will:
 - a. have a commitment to and understanding of engagement and co-design (The GHHN will offer Engagement training and onboarding),
 - b. lives or works in the GHHN catchment area (Hamilton, Haldimand, Niagara North West).
2. Collectively, the Leadership Network will be reflective and inclusive of the people in the greater Hamilton areas, especially those communities who experience barriers to good health. Specifically, the Leadership Network will consist of members who bring a diversity of lived/living experience, including those who are from the following populations groups or communities:
 - Indigenous
 - Francophone
 - Racialized
 - Refugees and Immigrants
 - 2SLGBTQ
 - People who live in poverty, have mental health challenges and who are socially isolated
 - People who use drugs
 - Rural communities
 - People who have accessed the healthcare system
 - People who are disengaged from the healthcare system

3. Collectively, the Leadership Network will consist of members who have experienced the healthcare system and bring the perspectives from across the continuum including public health, primary care, community services, mental health and addictions, home and community care, long term care, hospital and acute care.

We welcome candidates that meet more than one of the criteria and we encourage applications from individuals who reflect this diversity.

Once appointed, members are expected to reflect on and understand the ways in which their perspectives are informed by their lived experiences, opportunities for this will exist within the onboarding process.

Each Member acts in a position of trust for the broader community and especially for those who often do not have a voice at decision tables. This means that each member must be prepared to demonstrate their commitment to engagement, co-design, and health equity, diversity and inclusion

The Council will consist of 10-12 members, and there are various opportunities for Patient Advisors to be engaged with the GHHN. Two positions will be designated as the linkage to the GHHN Executive Council.

This appointment will last until March 2023. There will be a review of the Leadership Network's mandate and activities no later than March 31, 2023. Applicants should anticipate at least one meeting per month for two (2) hours, and we estimate 3-5 hours per month of related work.

Please see attached the Application Form and the Letters of Interest.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sarah Precious, Manager, Engagement and Communications, sarah.precious@ghhn.ca.

If you are interested and this expression of interest form and the application is a barrier, we want to hear from you, and would love to set up a call to discuss your involvement. We would like to reduce any barriers to applying and look forward to speaking with you.

GHHN Patient, Family, and Care partner Leadership Network Selection Process

Phase 1: Expression of Interest/Application Process

- The Expression of Interest has been issued. Please feel free to share with people who you believe meet the criteria. Deadline for Nominations: 12:00 PM (noon), Friday, November 26, 2021.
- Interested candidates are asked to review the criteria in the Expression of Interest.
- Interested candidates are required to complete an Application Form including a Letter of Interest and send in confidence to Sarah Precious, GHHN, sarah.precious@ghhn.ca
- If you are interested and this expression of interest form and the application is a barrier, we want to hear from you, and would love to set up a call to discuss your involvement. We would like to reduce any barriers to applying and look forward to speaking with you.

Phase 2: Bias-Free Recruitment Process

- The GHHN will review all applications using bias-free recruitment techniques, which prioritize specific knowledge, expertise and/or lived experience as stated in the Expression of Interest.
- If required, follow up interviews may be held.
- If gaps remain, the Patient, Family, and Care partner Leadership Network has the option to approach candidates outside the nomination process.

Phase 3: Appointment of Steering Committee Members

- The GHHN will recommend candidates consistent with the Leadership Network composition to the GHHN Executive Committee for approval.