

GHHN HEALTH DAYS REPORT 2021- 2025

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**Greater
Hamilton
Health
Network**
ONTARIO HEALTH TEAM



*Building community
health together.*

2021-2025

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ABOUT THE GHHN HEALTH DAYS

Collaborative Drop-in Health Days

The Greater Hamilton Health Network (GHHN), an Ontario Health Team, is building a connected and equitable health care system centered around patients, families, and caregivers to strengthen local services, make it easier for patients to navigate the system, and create seamless transitions between providers.

In August 2021, the GHHN had a unique opportunity to collaboratively offer drop-in and barrier-free health and wellness services to those who may not access traditional healthcare for the first time. The GHHN has continued to offer Health Days providing care to 1266 individuals since the start. These events focus on building meaningful connections to those who are unhoused to prioritize proactive and preventative care, support, and with the intention to learn from participants. Women's Health Days provide safe quality care with the ultimate goal of building an integrated, responsive, and equitable healthcare system.

We are overwhelmed by the generosity of the community and look forward to offering more Health Drop-In Days in the future. If you are interested in supporting these future events, please contact Megan Lynch at megan.lynch@ghhn.ca.

Data and Priorities

The GHHN uses a health equity lens and local data to focus our integrated care work. We deliver care in a setting that individuals are familiar with, to reduce barriers of attending appointments in unfamiliar locations, and improve overall access to care.

Priorities and services include primary care and attachment, mental health and addictions, cancer screening, and other preventative health care services including vaccines, blood borne illness and sexual health screening, and referrals.

We have grown and learned a lot over 15 health days. We have expanded services, completed evaluations, and adapted to the needs of participants. We will continue to use data and an equitable health care lens to plan future events. We look forward to growing and building upon health days across the GHHN.



Megan Lynch
Senior Manager
Priority Populations

ABOUT THE SERVICES

What is offered at the GHHN Health Days?

Health Services:

Physicians, Nurse practitioners, registered nurses, social workers, counsellors and more offer cervical screening, mammograms, free contraceptives, mental health and addiction counselling, vaccines, blood borne illness and sexual health testing, and follow up supports and referrals.

Wellness Services:

The peer support, mental health and wellness activities, information on services in the community. Often activities such as yoga, bracelet making, colouring, puzzles, and mindfulness activities.

Wrap Around Supports:

Providers from Access to Housing, Housing Stability Benefit, and other similar supports are on site to answer information, complete referrals, and other supports.

Food and Giveaways:

Participants receive all service at no cost including food, weather appropriate clothing and shoes depending on the season the health event is offered, backpacks and purses, hygiene products, and other items as identified by host organization and provider partners.

Insights from the Participants



I was so worried I had that (illness) and I haven't seen a doctor in years now I know I am healthy.

I have never had that test before but I felt I could do it with your support.

Thank you for caring about me, no one else does.



ABOUT THE SERVICES

Replicating GHHN Health Days

Women's Health Days video

https://youtu.be/_F-IDs0x-lc

Women's Health Days Playbook:

<https://greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/WHD-Playbook.pdf>

Women's Health Days Evaluation:

<https://greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/McMaster-Research-Shop-Report-GHHN-Summer-2022.pdf>

Women's Health Days Blog

<https://greaterhamiltonhealthnetwork.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ICIC-Blog.pdf>

Insights from the Providers



The diversity in services we can offer, from the social housing needs, to the health needs to the exhilarate elements of clothing and food all of those are really complementary and fundamental to the conversation of health.

I think within the first half hour, we had 2 full screens, and then a few Point of Care HIV tests as well. So that would be highly successful and not heard of in the history of us being at this event.

There doesn't have to be an official record of someone's first and last name and date of birth, which a lot of services require, which is a big barrier. So right off the hop, we don't ask for any of that.



First Women's Health Day



40
Participants



15
Staff

Date: August 2021

Location: Willow's Place



Second Women's Health Day



84

Participants



45

Staff

Date: December 2021
Location: YWCA



Third Women's Health Day



80

Participants



56

Staff

Date: March 2022
Location: YWCA



Fourth Women's Health Day



86

Participants



50

Staff

Date: July 2022

Location: Good Shepherd



Fifth Women's Health Day



5

Participants

15
Staff

Date: November 2022

Location: SWAP Hamilton



GHNN interviewed by CHCH



Sixth Women's Health Day



76
Participants



32
Staff

Date: January 2023
Location: YWCA



Seventh Women's Health Day



78
Participants



42
Staff

Date: April 2023

Location: Good Shepherd



Eighth Women's Health Day



97

Participants



32

Staff

Date: July 2023

Location: Willow's Place



Ninth Women's Health Day



71
Participants



30
Staff

Date: October 2023

Location: Good Shepherd



Tenth Women's Health Day



97

Participants



34

Staff

Date: February 2024
Location: YWCA



Eleventh Women's Health Day



66

Participants



43

Staff

Date: June 2024

Location: Good Shepherd



Twelfth Women's Health Day



84

Participants



57

Staff

Date: September 2024
Location: Willow's Place



Thirteenth Women's Health Day

30
Participants



48
Staff

Date: February 2025

Location: Putman's YWCA

*Day 2 canceled due to
inclement weather*



Fourteenth Women's Health Day

92
Participants



37
Staff

Date: May 2025

Location: Good Shepherd



Fifteenth Women's Health Day

91
Participants



42
Staff

Date: August 2025
Location: Willows Place



First Men's Health Day



141
Participants



35
Staff

Date: September 2023
Location: The HUB



*Most participants seen
at a single event*





16
HEALTH
DAYS

1266
SERVED

75
PARTNERS

**COMING TOGETHER TO
SERVE YOU BETTER**



**TOTAL
HEALTH
SERVICES
PROVIDED**

**466
Cancer
Screenings**

**332
Pharmacy
Services**

**260
Newcomer
Refugee
Health**

**232
Smoking
Cessation**

**59
PAPs**

**38
Contraceptives**

**650
Naloxone
Training**

**40
Wound Care**

**350
Pharmacy
Services**

**290
Mental Health
& Addictions**

**137
Hep C Testing**

**45
Dental**

**77
STI/HIV Testing**

**300
Vaccines**

**TOTAL
SOCIAL SERVICE
SUPPORTS
PROVIDED**

This infographic uses a honeycomb pattern of hexagons. The central white hexagon contains the total count. Surrounding it are six teal hexagons, each representing a different service category with its respective count. The hexagons are arranged in a staggered grid, with some overlapping at the edges.

Category	Count
Feedback Engagement	1000
Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence	429
Housing and Financial Services	54
Recreation Services	220
Clothing and Hygiene Donations	1201
Food Provided	1437
TOTAL	4341

1000

Feedback Engagement

429

**Sexual Assault and
Domestic Violence**

54

**Housing and
Financial Services**

220

Recreation Services

1201

**Clothing and
Hygiene Donations**

1437

Food Provided

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS WHO MAKE THESE HEALTH DAYS POSSIBLE:



Hamilton Partners

- Alzheimer Society of Hamilton Halton
- Barrett Centre
- Carole Anne's Place (YWCA Hamilton)
- Canadian Mental Health Association- Hamilton
- Crowne Point Midwives
- De dwa da dehs nye>s Aboriginal Health Centre
- Empowering Dementia-Friendly Communities
- Good Shepherd
- Greater Hamilton Health Network
- Hamilton Health Sciences
- Hamilton Paramedic Service
- Hamilton Police Services
- Hamilton Public Health Services
- Hamilton Housing Services
- Hamilton Urban Core Services
- HAMSMaRT/Keeping Six
- HNHB Regional Cancer Centre/Mobile Coach
- Marchese Pharmacy
- McMaster University
- Mission Services
- Positive Health Network (The AIDS Network)
- Refuge Newcomer Health St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton
- Shelter Health Network
- SOPEN (Substance Overdose Prevention and Education Network)
- Starbucks, Dundas
- Stairways Cafe and Catering, Goodwill
- The HUB
- Wayside House of Hamilton/Hep C Team
- Willow's Place (Mission Services)
- YWCA Hamilton



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO MAKE THESE HEALTH DAYS POSSIBLE:

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- Dr. Ashleigh McCullagh-Cheung
- Dr. Liz Shaw
- Julie Kingma, NP
- Brittany Stukas-Gallant, NP
- Melissa Germann, NP
- Kate Demers, RMW
- Chelsea Futers, RWM
- Mona Abdel-Fattah, RWM
- Faisal Khawaja
- Rami Safi
- Mary Vaccaro
- Violetta Nikolskaya
- Bill Terhijan
- Misty Thaler
- All our student and other volunteers
- And of course the GHHN staff!



Building community health together.



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