Child Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County

KEEPING SIMCOE MUSKOKA DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT TOGETHER

WHAT?

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) provides an array of programs and services and works on policies and initiatives that protect and promote health for over 500,000 people in the region. Specific to child, youth, and family services, SMDHU annually engages 70 schools to promote optimal health, developmental potential, and learning, provides prenatal classes to over a 1,000 expectant parents, delivers nearly 5,000 home visits, and supports positive parenting to more than 500 families.

SMDHU has operated as an entity since 2005, coordinating services throughout Simcoe County, Barrie, Orillia, and the District of Muskoka. In May 2019, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) informed SMDHU that they would be restructured, with the District of Muskoka merging with other northeastern health units and Simcoe County, Barrie, and Orillia merging with the current health unit of York Region. In August 2019, the MOHLTC announced they would hold consultations on the restructuring of public health in Ontario, but details on the consultations have not yet been shared.

SO WHAT?

SMHDU has provided coordinated programs and services to Simcoe and Muskoka over the past 14 years. The Board of Health for SMDHU has stated that division of the health unit would disrupt and undermine program delivery, and that the provision of public health services in the District of Muskoka would be challenging in the very large public health entity that has been proposed.

The interconnectedness of Simcoe and Muskoka is reflected in the many members of the Child Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County that span these two areas: Child Advocacy Centre Simcoe/Muskoka, Gilda's Club of Simcoe Muskoka, John Howard Society of Simcoe & Muskoka, Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board, Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions, United Way Simcoe Muskoka, and the YMCA of Simcoe and Muskoka.

Fast Facts

- SMDHU has provided coordinated services for Simcoe and Muskoka for 14 years
- The MOHLTC has proposed splitting the health unit
- Consultations regarding the restructuring are upcoming

NOW WHAT?

The Child Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County has sent a letter to the Minister of Health supporting the Board of Health's position of Simcoe and Muskoka staying together in a new public health entity. With consultations upcoming, there is another opportunity to stress to provincial and municipal officials the value in keeping Simcoe and Muskoka operating in the same public health unit.

Contact
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The Child, Youth and Family Services (CYFS) Coalition of Simcoe County is a countywide alliance of organizations providing services to children, youth and their families in Simcoe County.

Vision

All children, youth and families thriving in a strong, nurturing community.

Mission

To maximize the capacity, effectiveness and cultural uniqueness of the child, youth and family service system through collective efforts.

Values

Integrity
Respect
Innovation
Collaboration

CYFS Member Agencies

Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle
Barrie Police
Barrie Public Library
Canadian Mental Health Association-Simcoe Branch
Catholic Family Services of Simcoe County
Catulpa Community Support Services
Child Advocacy Centre Simcoe/Muskoka
Children's Treatment Network of Simcoe York
Community Connection/211 Central East Ontario
Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir
Conseil scolaire Viamonde
County of Simcoe
CSC Chigamik CHC
E3 Community Services
EarlyON– Simcoe North
Elizabeth Fry Society of Simcoe County
Empower Simcoe
Georgian College
Gilbert Centre
Gilda's Club of Simcoe Muskoka
John Howard Society
Kerry's Place
Kinark Child and Family Services
La Clé d'la Baie en Huronie
Mackenzie Health
Morton Youth Services
New Path Foundation
New Path Youth and Family Services
NSM LHIN
Orillia Public Library
Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre
Seasons Centre for Grieving Children
Simcoe County District School Board
Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
Simcoe Muskoka Family Connexions
United Way Simcoe Muskoka
Waypoint Centre for Mental Health
YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka
Youth Haven

CHILD · YOUTH · FAMILY COALITION of/du COMTÉ DE SIMCOE COUNTY ENFANTS · JEUNES · FAMILLES

www.simcoecountycoalition.ca