



INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	December 4, 2020
SUBJECT:	Social Navigator Program (SNP) Additional Funding (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Paul Johnson General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

On December 3, 2020, the City of Hamilton received LHIN funding approval to expand the capacity of the Social Navigator Program (SNP) through to the end of March 2021.

The SNP is a cooperative Police and Paramedic Service program intended to address health and social issues for vulnerable individuals that are often suffering from mental health and addictions issues. Many are marginally housed or homeless and further challenged by multiple social determinants of health issues. These individuals have great difficulty accessing social and healthcare services which in turn exacerbates their pre-existing conditions and leads to risky behaviour including criminality.

SNP works to provide equitable access to health care by providing wellness checks, referral to shelters, connecting them to Mental Health and Addictions services, housing/employment/financial supports and ensuring they meet any court mandated requirements.

With increases in the at risk population during the COVID pandemic we requested LHIN funding to assist in social engagement and reduction of social isolation for more individuals entered into the SNP program. Yesterday, we received approval for additional \$136,000 LHIN funding to fully cover additional SNP paramedic staffing.

This funding will provide two full time paramedics and expands the service availability window to seven days a week through to the end of March 2021.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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If you have any questions with respect to this, please contact Chief Michael Sanderson at 905-546-2424 extension 7741 or at michael.sanderson@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None