

**Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network
Teleconference with Health Service Providers**

April 1, 2009

Questions and Answers

- Q: Can you describe more completely the voluntary integration you mentioned, including details of the community engagement process that was followed?**
- A: The voluntary integration of four mental health service providers began last March and involved all affected stakeholders. It entailed four groups merging into one and then aligning themselves under the organizational umbrella of Canadian Mental Health Association, Grand River Branch. Taking this action strengthens the capacity of the newly created Self-Help Alliance, not only to advocate for the needs of clients, but to voice a specific perspective at planning tables. This arrangement is unique in Ontario and reflects the exhaustive work undertaken to ensure all parties concerns were addressed.
- Q: Can the expectations of hospital spending be clarified?**
- A: The LHIN cannot release funding increases on April 1, 2009. The LHIN does not anticipate any funding changes at this point.
- Q: How does Long Term Care fit into this process?**
- A: The LHIN will be creating a group for LTC Homes that will work closely with the LHIN for a collaborative agreement and wants to be responsive to this new activity. LTC Homes must enter into an account agreement with the LHIN for 2010/12. These agreements will reflect the varied needs of the LTC Homes.