



# Staff Report to Council - for Information

**Title:** Community Paramedicine Update June 2025

**From:** Steve Schaus, Director/Chief, Paramedic Services

**Date:** June 5, 2025

**Report Number:** PAR-2025-004

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## Report Purpose:

This report is for information.

## Report Summary:

This report outlines the work and impact of the Community Paramedicine Program to date.

## Background/Analysis:

In 2024, the Community Paramedicine Program structure and target populations remained the same as previous years, however the program continues to see greater demand for service locally. While this demonstrates success, stakeholder confidence, and patient satisfaction.

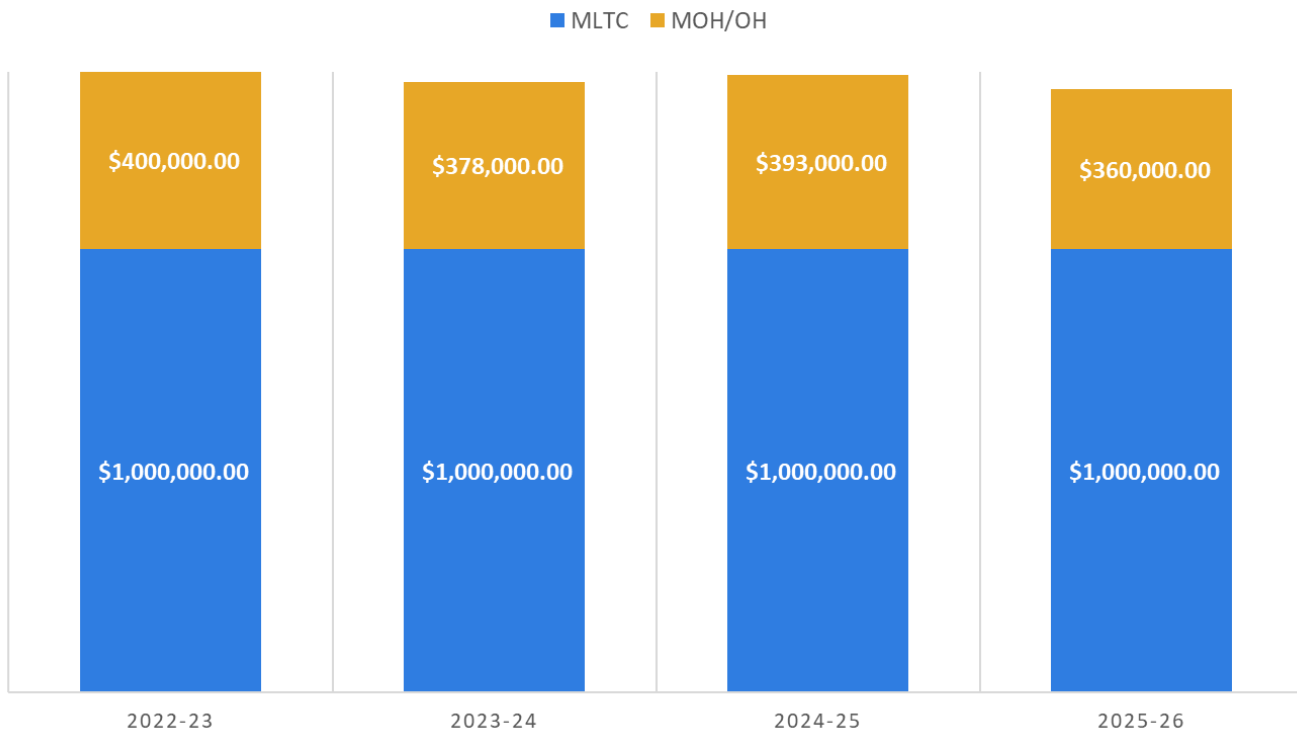
The Community Paramedicine Program continues serving the local community through our established five program pillars, Palliative Care, Community Care, CP@ Clinic, 911 Referrals, and Outreach. While also actively looking at gaps in community services where Community Paramedicine could be leveraged to improve access and health outcomes.

## Pillars of Community Paramedicine in Bruce County



We continue to receive our funding from two streams - one from each the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Long-Term Care. The Ministry of Health funding is administered by Ontario Health and accounts for approximately 1/3 of our overall funding. This funding stream continues to be base funded, and there have been in-year increases to account for inflation and staffing costs. The Ministry of Long-Term Care funding continues to be considered multi-year one-time funding that is guaranteed until the end of fiscal year 2025-26 (March 31, 2026)

## YEAR TO YEAR FUNDING



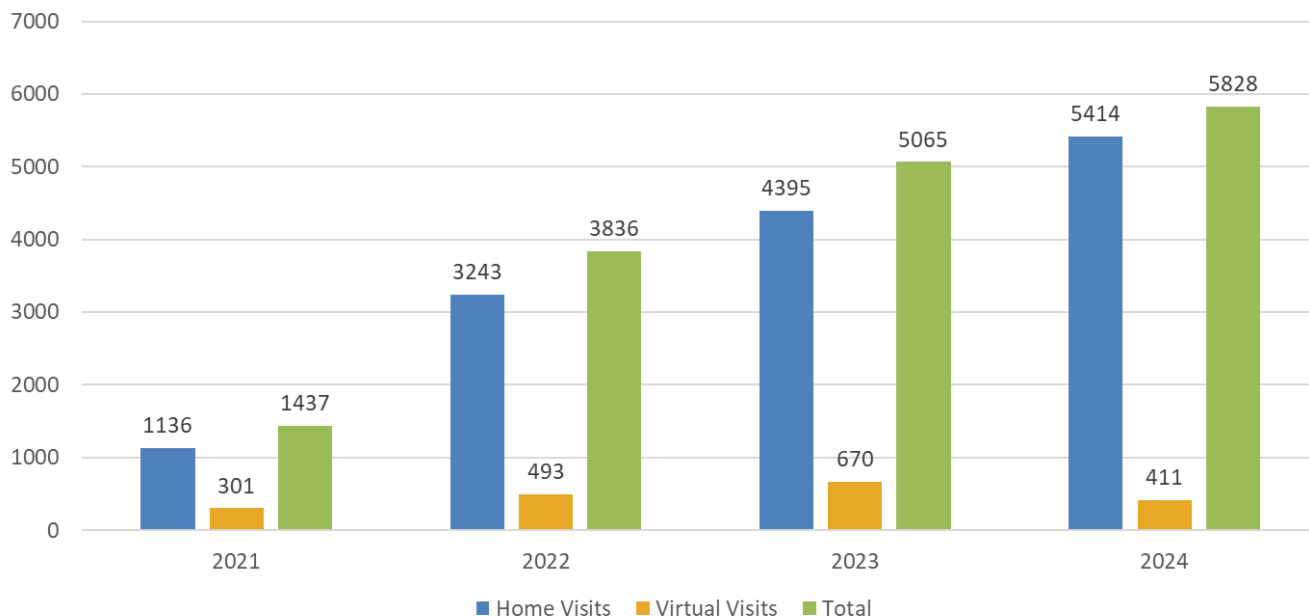
Collaboration continues to be crucial to the success of the program over the past year. We continue to cultivate and develop new partnerships with new and existing community partners. From ensuring homebound individuals have access to annual Influenza vaccinations to working through challenging situations in community, the Community Paramedicine team continues to be looked upon and referred to for their adaptability and problem-solving abilities.

During 2024, the Community Paramedicine team has completed 5800+ visits, sent 250+ referrals to Home and Community Care Support Services or Home and Community Support Services Grey Bruce, administered 100+ annual Influenza vaccines to staff and patients, completed 150+ point-of-care blood analysis in home with a further 180+ blood draws in community for homebound residents. All these interventions result in care being provided in the client's home and ensures easy and efficient access to care in the community.

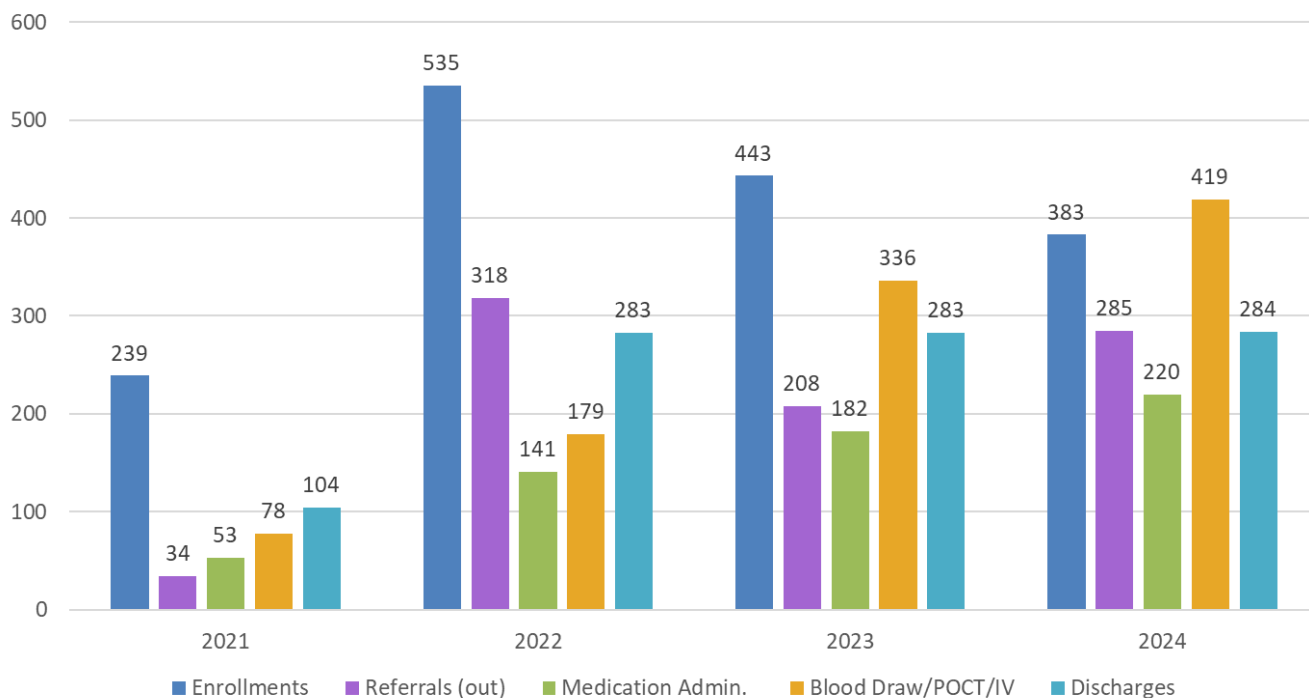
In early 2024, the Ministry of Long-Term Care released its provincial evaluation of the Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care (CPLTC) program, examining impacts of the program on 911 calls, Emergency Department (ED) visits, Hospital admissions, long-term care waitlist stabilization, and client/provider satisfaction. Unsurprisingly, the data shows a reduction of 911 calls by 22-32% for enrolled clients, less transition of clients to a "crisis" designation on the long-term care waitlist, and less deterioration of health conditions. Subsequently, "clients, their caregivers and family members are very satisfied with the program and felt that the program was accessible, reactive, proactive, and safe" (Ministry of Long-Term Care, 2023, p. 3). We continue to work with our electronic medical record provider

to develop and implement performance dashboards and review local data to illustrate the impact of the Community Paramedicine Program in Bruce County.

Year to Year Visits Completed



Year to Year Interventions



The Community Paramedicine Program continues to collaborate with the Human Services department in the development of Bruce County Outreach. Bruce County Outreach creates opportunities to meet residents on their terms, at pre-established community gatherings, to connect vulnerable individuals with community and County services. Currently, there are pop-up sessions happening weekly to monthly in Walkerton, Kincardine, Port Elgin and Wiarton. These pop-up sessions allow individuals to connect with community services such as Bruce County Housing, Ontario Works, Public Health, CMHA, the YMCA, or the United Way to wrap care around those in our communities who may face barriers in accessing services or have difficulty navigating the health or social service systems.

Community Paramedicine continues to be an active participant with our local Grey Bruce Ontario Health Team (OHT) over the past year. This has included responding to calls for proposals, as well as supporting partner proposals that aim to improve health and social services in Grey Bruce. The OHT continues to grow and mature in Grey Bruce, and Community Paramedicine remains engaged and collaborative with this work to improve the health and outcomes of residents.

Further, Community Paramedicine continues to work collaboratively with the Regional Geriatric Program of Southwestern Ontario, and the Kincardine Family Health Team, to build an Interdisciplinary Falls Intervention Team. This is an Ontario Health Team supported project that seeks to build formal pathways for those individuals who have a fall in our community, but choose to not go to Hospital. Intended outcomes are reduced 911 utilization and ensuring individuals have proper care in the community post fall.

#### **Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:**

Program Funding was described in the background of the report. Staff continue to submit proposals for eligible funding for Community Paramedicine as opportunities arise. There are no specific staffing, legal, or IT considerations associated with this report.

#### **Interdepartmental Consultation:**

None

#### **Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:**

Community and Partnerships - Enhance and grow partnerships

#### **Link to Departmental Plan Goals and Objectives, if any:**

Service Excellence - Community Paramedicine

#### **Report Author:**

Brad Jackson, Commander Community Paramedicine

**Departmental Approval:**

Steve Schaus, Director/Chief

**Approved for Submission:**

Christine MacDonald, Chief Administrative Officer