

Community Paramedicine in Ontario

Proactive, non-emergency care that brings paramedic expertise into people's homes and communities - helping people stay well, remain independent and connect with the care they need.

56 LAND AMBULANCE SERVICES OPERATING CP PROGRAMS	6 INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE PROVIDERS	81,000+ PEOPLE SUPPORTED THROUGH CP FOR LONG-TERM CARE	310,000+ HOURS OF DIRECT CARE SINCE 2020
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WHAT IS COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE?

What is Community Paramedicine?

Community Paramedicine (CP) expands the role of paramedics beyond traditional emergency response. Community paramedics are certified paramedics with additional training for preventive, primary and community-based care.

They work collaboratively with primary care, home and community care, hospitals, specialists, social services and other local partners. CP complements existing care; it does not replace other healthcare professionals.

THE
GOAL

The right care, in the right place, at the right time - with more people supported safely at home.

WHO MAY BENEFIT?

Who may benefit?

People who may be supported • Older adults and people living with frailty • People managing chronic or complex health conditions • People receiving palliative care • People waiting for long-term care assessment or placement	People facing barriers to care • People without regular access to primary care • People who are homebound or vulnerably housed • People living in rural, remote or underserved communities • People at risk of avoidable 911 calls or hospital visits
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Flexible care shaped by local needs

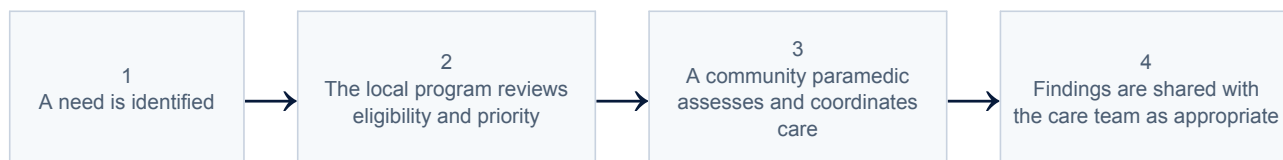
Programs vary by community, available resources and the needs of the people they serve. Care may be delivered through home visits, clinics, outreach, virtual support or remote monitoring.



REFERRALS AND ACCESS

Referrals and access

Referral pathways and eligibility differ across Ontario. Referrals may come from primary care, Ontario Health atHome, hospital and discharge teams, paramedic services, community support organizations, mental health and addictions services, or local outreach. Some programs also accept self-referrals.



QUALITY, SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Quality, safety and accountability

Community paramedics work within their education, competencies and authorized scope. Programs use medical direction, clinical pathways, policies, continuing education, documentation, privacy safeguards and quality-assurance processes to support safe care.

Community Paramedicine is not an emergency service. If a person has an urgent or life-threatening concern, call 911.

From local innovation to province-wide care

Community Paramedicine has grown through collaboration among paramedic services, health-system partners, municipalities, Indigenous communities and provincial leaders.

2014	Ontario launches 30 pilot projects. Programs explore home visits, wellness clinics, assessments, referrals and other ways paramedics can address local care gaps.
2018	The Ontario Community Paramedicine Secretariat (OCPS) launches. Its mandate is to support strategic direction, consistent approaches, capacity, quality improvement, partnerships, implementation and evaluation.
2020	Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care begins. The program helps older adults remain safely at home while waiting for - or potentially delaying the need for - long-term care.
2025	Ontario makes the long-term care program permanent. The commitment supports continued delivery and expansion, including services in First Nations communities.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE

Supporting Community Paramedicine

Ontario Community Paramedicine supports continued advancement across the province by bringing together paramedic services, health-system partners and subject-matter experts. This work focuses on:

CONSISTENCY Processes, measurement and reporting	CAPACITY Learning, resources and quality improvement	PARTNERSHIPS Integration across the health system	GUIDANCE Implementation and evaluation support
LEARN MORE Ontario Community Paramedicine www.ontariocommunityparamedicine.com To ask about eligibility or referrals, contact the Community Paramedicine program operated by your local paramedic service.		IMPORTANT Local programs differ Available services, eligibility, hours and referral processes vary by community. Confirm local program details before referring.	

Sources

Government of Ontario. Ontario Expanding Community Role for Paramedics (January 21, 2014).
<https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/28189/ontario-expanding-community-role-for-paramedics>

Government of Ontario. Community Paramedicine for Long-Term Care permanent program announcement (August 5, 2025).

Ontario Health, Provincial Palliative Care Program. An Introduction to Community Paramedicine (November 19, 2025), slides 6, 8, 10-13 and 79-86.

Prepared July 2026. Confirm current local program information before distribution.