



Extending thanks and appreciation to social workers

March 4, 2019 – Social Work Week provides an opportunity to recognize the important contribution of social workers whose expertise and skills are applied within the home care sector every day.

Social work is a regulated profession responsible for helping individuals, families, groups and communities to enhance their individual and collective well-being. The profession helps people develop their skills and abilities to use their own resources and those of the community to resolve problems.

Social Workers identify the social and emotional problems impacting the patient's medical condition, treatment plan or recovery. Social Workers are important members of the home care team contributing to optimized and coordinated care. For a full description of social work in Home Care, see: <http://www.homecareontario.ca/home-care-services/services/social-work>.

Home care services help people with acute, chronic, palliative or rehabilitative health care needs to live safely and independently in their community. A successful home care system appropriately utilizes and integrates all members of the team, enabling access to physicians, nursing, therapies, community pharmacists, and personal support. Each interdisciplinary member has a unique body of knowledge and scope of practice that is valued for the contribution to effective patient care.

Home Care Ontario is pleased to pay tribute to all Social Workers during Social Work Week.

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About Home Care Ontario

Home Care Ontario, *the voice of home care in Ontario™*, is a member-based organization with a mandate to promote growth and development of the home care sector through advocacy, knowledge transfer, and member service. For over thirty years Home Care Ontario has promoted the growth and development of home care as a key pillar of Ontario's health care system through advocacy, knowledge transfer, thought leadership, and member service.

In Ontario, service provider organizations are responsible for providing nursing care, home support services, personal care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, respiratory therapy, social work, dietetics, speech language therapy, infusion pharmacy and medical equipment and supplies in the home to individuals of all ages. An estimated 58 million hours of publicly and privately purchased home care service is provided annually across the province.

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