

# Kids Health Alliance

**The pediatric health system is complex.** Children, youth and their families have told us how complicated it can be to navigate a poorly coordinated and fragmented system.

That's why SickKids, CHEO and Holland Bloorview came together to formally launch **Kids Health Alliance** in **June 2017**.

**Kids Health Alliance (KHA) is a not-for-profit network of partners working to create a:**

 **child, youth and family centred**  **high quality**  **consistent**  **coordinated**

**approach to pediatric health care. Our goal is to achieve a better child, youth and family experience, improve health outcomes and generate greater value.**



## **A Parent's Vision for True Collaboration**

**The Paravan Family**

*"What I hope for with the Kids Health Alliance is a **true collaboration between facilities... families... physicians and other professionals involved in children's care**... There is great potential for this program.*

*If we speak directly to physicians... nurses... therapists who are dealing day to day... with children who are involved with more than one facility, this program can be so helpful. Not only for the amount of time it will save...but also for the **safety of our children.**"*

*- Stephanie Paravan, mother of Matthew Paravan*






KHA partners collaborate to build sustainable, efficient capacity in the pediatric health system – all with a quality and safety lens.

**OUR VISION** is that KHA will grow collaborations across the continuum of care to include community hospitals, community pediatrics, home care services, child development and rehabilitation services, mental health and others.






Families, providers and funders will recognize KHA partners as organizations with a focus on excellence and expertise in pediatric care.



### WHAT CHALLENGES WILL KHA ADDRESS?

-  **Variation in access and health outcomes** for children and youth cared for by different providers
-  **A fragmented experience** for children, youth and families
-  **High coordination costs** for families and the system
-  **Inadequate information sharing** between care providers
-  **Inconsistent allocation and use of scarce resources** across the system

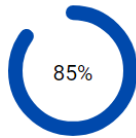
### WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

-  Improved child, youth, family and provider experiences
-  Enhanced capacity to deliver quality care closer to home
-  Coordinated, consistent care delivery
-  Clear, consistent and transparent communication between providers, patients and families
-  Superior value by achieving system efficiencies and economies of scale

**Better health outcomes for children and youth**

## Health care needs

vary by patient type, are changing, and span a broad continuum.



**Occasional**  
Healthy with self-limited injury or condition – return to daily function quickly, such as:

- checkups
- fractures
- appendectomy
- dehydration



**Perpetual**  
Low acuity chronic conditions managed by primary care physician, such as:

- asthma
- obesity
- diabetes
- inflammatory bowel disease
- epilepsy



**Complex Perpetual**  
Complex conditions requiring interdisciplinary care, such as:

- congenital heart disease
- cancer
- cystic fibrosis
- spina bifida



**Critical**  
Enter system critically ill. Ongoing post-acute care, such as:

- extreme prematurity
- septic shock
- respiratory failure
- trauma
- post-op transplants

## Who provides care for Ontario children and youth



Children's hospitals  
(6)



Community and small hospitals  
(~100)



Community pediatricians  
(~1,000)



Family physicians  
(~14,500)



Children's rehabilitation services  
(21+)



Mental health providers  
(400+)



Home nursing agencies  
(24+)



Schools  
(~5000)

\*Numbers are estimates

## Navigating a complex system

Here is one family's experience with navigating multiple sectors to receive care.



Education

- Augmentative communications program/equipment
- Enhanced learning support
- REACH vision therapist
- School



Healthcare

- Vision impairment clinic
- Pediatrician
- Family physician
- Neuromotor clinic
- Orthopaedic surgeon
- Neurosurgeon
- Pump clinic
- Orthotist
- Pharmacy
- Ophthalmology clinic
- Dental clinic
- Gastrointestinal clinic
- Neurology
- Seating clinic



Community

- Adapted van
- Equipment suppliers
- Funding agencies
- House accessibility renovations
- Wheelchair accessible transit



Social Supports

- Abilities Society
- Camp Easter Seals
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- Cerebral Palsy Association
- Respite support
- Summer aide

## Founding Member Hospitals

**SickKids**

**CHEO**

**Holland Bloorview**  
Kids Rehabilitation Hospital

If you are interested in learning more about KHA, please contact Lauren Ettin, Executive Director ([Lauren.Ettin@KidsHealthAlliance.ca](mailto:Lauren.Ettin@KidsHealthAlliance.ca)).