



Slaughter family announces historic \$30M for The Slaughter Family Foundation Seniors Initiative

TORONTO (October 1, 2019) – The Slaughter Family Foundation today announced that it will donate \$15 million to 13 Toronto hospitals and four national organizations in support of The Slaughter Family Foundation Seniors Initiative. The gift follows the June 2019 announcement of \$15 million to create the Allan Slaughter Seniors Fund at the United Way Greater Toronto, bringing the total to a historic \$30 million. The announcement coincides with the designation of October 1 as the UN International Day of Older Persons.

The Slaughter Family Foundation's Seniors Fund is comprised of three components:

- **The Community Component**, The Allan Slaughter Seniors Fund, led by the United Way Greater Toronto, will connect seniors, who have difficulty accessing health and social services because of poverty or other barriers, with community support.
- **The Hospital Component** will create new models of care between Toronto-based hospitals and community partners, enabling new and increased support to seniors. It is also aimed at reducing emergency visits of seniors to hospitals, providing needed support to caregivers and developing new models of healthcare using innovative technology to support seniors in their own homes.
- **The National Component** will create new and expanded services from four national organizations allowing for new models and mechanisms for seniors' support right across the country.

"Seniors are Canada's fastest growing demographic, yet a very under-supported and vulnerable population. Finding new ways of assisting seniors, particularly those who have trouble accessing our health and social services due to poverty or other barriers, is essential to helping keep people healthier longer and in their own communities," said Gary Slaughter of The Slaughter Family Foundation. "This gift is only possible due to our father Allan Slaughter's foresight, business acumen and philanthropic leadership. We hope these new models and programs will serve as change agents in moving support and care for our seniors forward for years to come."

"This investment from The Slaughter Family Foundation will mean expanded hospital and community partnerships, leading to innovative models of care and a better experience for our older patients," said Dr. Gary Newton, CEO of Sinai Health. "On behalf of Sinai Health and all the hospitals that will benefit from this initiative, thank you to The Slaughter Family Foundation for your generosity and support."

"We are thrilled to be a part of this important initiative to improve services for seniors, and honoured that Egale has been included in the funding from The Slaughter Family Foundation to address the specific and unique challenges that are faced by older and ageing LGBTQI2S people," said Helen Kennedy, executive director at Egale Canada. "The collective impact of this initiative, as a result of all the NGO undertakings that are included, will undeniably generate profound and positive outcomes for the well-being of seniors across Canada."

The Slaughter Family Foundation takes a strategic approach to philanthropy, addressing specific issues facing society in partnership with multiple organizations at the same time. The Slaughter Family Seniors Initiative is the fifth major funded initiative supporting numerous organizations on the same theme in hopes of gaining quicker and improved results in a variety of sectors. Previous initiatives included \$50 million in 2013 to five hospitals in Toronto to support the delivery of advanced healthcare; \$7 million in 2015 to seven Canadian NGOs to support Canada's lifesaving efforts in global humanitarianism; \$11 million in 2016 to support the healthy development of children and youth across Canada via 11 national organizations; and \$12 million in 2017 to 15 charities and national organizations working to improve the physical, mental and social well-being of Canada's Indigenous populations.



The Slight Family Foundation was established in 2008 by John Allan Slight. Allan Slight is known as Canada's broadcast pioneer, music leader and a prominent Canadian philanthropist. Through his generosity, the Foundation proactively supports charitable initiatives in the areas of healthcare, at-risk youth, international development, social services and culture.

The Slight Family Foundation Seniors Initiative will support:

COMMUNITY COMPONENT

With the Allan Slight Seniors Fund, United Way Greater Toronto will provide grants to a limited number of high quality, leading edge and evidence-informed programs that support our most vulnerable seniors to live healthy, active and connected lives in their homes and communities. For details on how to apply, visit unitedwaygt.org/funding-opportunities.

HOSPITAL COMPONENT

A unique formal partnership between hospitals and community service organizations across Toronto to develop, test and evaluate new models of care, use of technology to provide support and healthcare directly into seniors' own homes and programs to help caregivers.

Baycrest

Baycrest@Home is a suite of programs and services in partnership with Unison Health and Community Services for community-dwelling older adults with dementia and their unpaid care givers and includes: Safe@Home - smart home enhancements to increase the safety and independence of older adults; Help@Home providing practical services for caregivers to help them deliver and coordinate care; Connect@Home on demand access to programs to stimulate and entertain those with dementia and Health@home virtual and face-to-face clinical services with health care providers. Baycrest will also partner with CAMH on this initiative.

CAMH

In partnership with LOFT Community Services, CAMH will implement and test a model that combines cognitive training and brain stimulation to determine the positive impact of this approach on seniors' cognition in five senior housing units and its applicability over the long term. CAMH will also partner with Baycrest on this initiative.

Michael Garron Hospital

Michael Garron will work with both St. Michael's Hospital and WoodGreen Community Services to ensure socially isolated seniors in East Toronto can access healthcare and social supports needed by breaking down barriers between the hospital, primary care physicians and social service providers via a text messaging platform to stay in their own community and independent management plans for older adults and their caregivers.

North York General Hospital

North York General Hospital will develop an integrated care model within the North York community for homebound seniors with non-cancerous life-limiting diseases. Working in partnership with Better Living Health and Community Services, Alzheimer's Society of Toronto and LOFT Community Services, the initiative will extend palliative care across the primary care setting, hospital setting and a patient's home. A specialized nurse practitioner, acting as a health care navigator, will help ensure seamless and coordinated care across all settings, working closely with patients, families and caregivers.



Scarborough Health Network

In partnership with the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities, Scarborough Health Network will establish a transitional care program for senior patients that will expand access to day programs and community services post discharge. Through this new collaboration and the support of a dedicated service coordinator, patients with dementia, chronic disease or other co-morbidities will have expanded opportunity to attend community-based day programs during their hospitalization while encouraging and enabling their participation once released.

Sinai Health

Sinai Health is partnering with UHN, St. Joseph's Health Centre and Women's College Hospital as well as SPRINT Senior Care and Circle of Care to lead the creation and expansion of innovative programs to enable seniors to remain healthy, independent and engaged members of their community. This includes an expansion of the number of acute care for elders medical units at Mt. Sinai Hospital; provide hospital level acute care in the homes of eligible older patients; expand the emergency department based Geriatric Emergency Management (GEM) Nursing Program to weekends to help more seniors avoid unnecessary hospital admissions and harness technology to enable older adults and their primary care givers to access expertise of geriatrics specialists via the Telemedicine Consultation Services for homebound seniors using video-conferencing technology to facilitate face-to-face appointments between patients and their hospital-based specialists.

Sunnybrook

In partnership with SPRINT Senior Care, Sunnybrook will implement a new community care navigator role in the Emergency Department and across clinical settings to identify and help seniors with complex care needs return to their home. The care navigator will facilitate a seamless transition, coordinated and aligned to ensure seniors receive the full range of appropriate services to remain safely at home.

Unity Health Toronto

St. Joseph's Health Centre

Partnering with West Toronto Support Services, Circle of Care, Sinai Health System, UHN and Women's College, St. Joseph's will provide a social work navigator who will meet with patients in hospital and follow up as they journey back home to ensure they receive the supports they need when they return home, thus reducing the number of hospital revisits.

St. Michael's Hospital

In collaboration with WoodGreen Community Services, Michael Garron Hospital and others, St. Michael's Hospital will create and test a model of care that includes a geriatrician-led outreach team to assess and case manage clinically frail seniors in supportive housing and shelters who are at risk of losing resources that are essential for their basic social needs. Seniors will be provided with an assessment and a tailored, coordinated management plan to improve their quality of life and prolong their independence via an integrated model of health-care delivery.

University Health Network (UHN)

UHN OpenLab: Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities

This project will transform 25 Toronto high-rise apartment buildings into Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORCs) to support healthy ageing in place. 100 senior volunteers will be recruited to serve as ambassadors to co-create programs and services right in their own buildings. This will include transportation support, age-appropriate exercise programs, health navigation support and social activities that will reduce demand on long-term care spaces and divert unnecessary trips to the emergency department.



Dotsa Bitove Wellness Academy

Dotsa Bitove Wellness Academy will increase its staff and schedule to offer more programming and services to those suffering from mild to moderate dementia, as well as their caregivers. This includes expanded art, education, exercise, family engagement and social programs.

Toronto Rehab's Geriatric Community Integration Hub

Launching a Geriatric Community Integration Hub (GERI Hub) to be designed and run by Toronto Rehab in partnership with Sinai Health System and Circle of Care. The GERI Hub will become a single point of access to services for patients, as they navigate their post-hospital journey to their community; introduce innovative, tele-rehab models to allow seniors to rehabilitate in the comfort of their own homes; and offer a Geriatric Fellowship that will empower emerging leaders to inspire, invent, and deliver tomorrow's care.

Expanded Geriatric Oncology Program at the Princess Margaret

In partnership with Kensington Health, the program will expand its scope and overall impact to ensure older adults with cancer are not under or over treated for the disease and are connected to all the valuable resources at Princess Margaret and within their own community via personalized medical and supportive care plans.

Women's College Hospital

Partnering with long-term care and community care agencies, as well as Sinai Health System and Unity Health Toronto - St. Joseph's Hospital, Women's College Hospital will develop and house vSeniors, a virtual hub for geriatric care in the Toronto Central LHIN that will integrate technology in the home and between service providers. This new care model is intended to improve services, access and outcomes for seniors.

NATIONAL COMPONENT

Enabling national seniors' organizations to develop new programs and services and expand existing programs to better serve seniors' needs across the country.

Alzheimer Society of Canada

Expanding the Alzheimer Society's First Link program that connects people living with dementia and their care givers to the information, education, supports, programs and services they need as early as possible after diagnosis.

Canadian Red Cross

Expanding and developing the Red Cross Care Connections program with pilot programs in the GTA and New Brunswick by training volunteers to understand the range of health, social and community services available to vulnerable seniors and mobilizing these volunteers to help seniors identify the needs and services that match their particular needs.

Egale

Improving services to help LGBTQI2S seniors live independently and with dignity by building foundational, national level academic research, developing accessible resources based on this research into accessible training for care providers and increasing the visibility and validation of LGBTQI2S seniors and their live experiences through a public awareness campaign.



National Institute on Ageing at Ryerson

Developing the Slight Policy Series on Ageing focused at providing more home and community-based care that respects the individuality of each senior while helping governments rationalize expenditures, policies and programs aimed at helping seniors age in place of their choice. Series will include papers on diversity and ageing, age friendly communities, financial security and ageing and abuse, ageism and social isolation.

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For more information:

Jeri Brown, Media Profile

Jeri.brown@mediaprofile.com

Office: 416-342-1834

Mobile: 416-455-7188