

Above and Beyond – Caregiver Recognition Program



Do you know a caregiver(s) that lives the Home and Community Care Support Services Values (collaboration, respect, integrity and excellence)?

The **Above and Beyond** - Caregiver Recognition Program celebrates and honours caregivers (family members, friends, neighbours, etc.) whose kindness, dedication, and support enables people to live at home despite the impacts of age, illness or disability.

Nomination Criteria:

- The caregiver(s) must live in Ontario
- The caregiver(s) must be providing care to a patient who is receiving Home and Community Care Support Services
- Excludes paid or registered volunteer caregivers
- Submissions for 2024 will close December 2023

CATEGORY	CRITERIA
Young Caregiver	This award recognizes the extraordinary efforts of a friend or family member under the age of 30 who has gone above and beyond to support the needs of a loved one.
Caring with Courage	Through encouragement, empowerment and support, this caregiver has directly brought about positive change to their loved one's quality of life.
Caring and Sharing	This caregiver is giving back to their community by helping and guiding others through sharing the knowledge and experience gained from their journey.
Caregiver Team	Group of people (care team) that come together to support an individual in their home or community.
Caregiver Innovation	This caregiver(s) uses innovative and creative strategies to support an individual in their home or community.
Partner in Care	This caregiving partner has provided long standing and continued support to an individual in their home or community.

FAQ

1. Why are paid or volunteer caregivers not included?

While we recognize that all caregivers are important members of a patient's care team, organizations that have paid and volunteer caregivers often have their own recognition programs to honour those individuals. Our focus for this recognition program is to highlight the invaluable contributions of our patients' family, friends, neighbours etc., whose kindness, dedication, and support enables people to live at home despite the impacts of age, illness or disability.

2. Why do I need to get the caregiver's permission prior to submitting their name for recognition?

The purpose of this program is to recognize, honour and celebrate caregivers. To do that, we require the caregiver's consent so that we can contact them and share their stories/photos in the program materials, as well as on the Home and Community Care Support Services website and social media platforms.

3. If I'm not able to complete the online submission form, is there another way I can submit the form?

Those who are unable to use the online submission form can call us toll-free at 1-855-276-3096 and one of our Home and Community Care Support Services Engagement team members will assist you in completing the form.

4. What if there is more than one caregiver involved in caring for the patient, is there a way to recognize them all?

The Caregiver Team category was created to help recognize a group of people (care team) that come together to support an individual in their home or community.

5. I'm not ready to recognize this year, will this take place again?

Yes, we look forward to recognizing and celebrating the important role of caregivers on an annual basis. If you are not ready to put a submission forward this year, please consider recognizing them next year.

6. What if more than one category applies to the caregiver?

If you feel that your caregiver may fit into multiple recognition categories, please feel free to select all that apply within your submission form and our evaluation committee will take that into consideration.

7. How will caregivers be recognized?

We are pleased to share that each caregiver will receive a token of recognition. Those selected under each of the nomination categories will receive an additional acknowledgement.

8. Will I have to speak at the event?

At the Above and Beyond Caregiver Recognition event, participants will not be asked to speak during the event program. Some finalist recipient stories will be shared by event staff, with advance consent. Caregivers will be recognized during the event, for example their preferred name and city will be included in the presentation.

What will the Caregiver Recognition Event involve?

The Above and Beyond Caregiver Recognition event will take place the afternoon of April 2, 2024. Event locations will be informed by the submission and evaluation phases. This will be a hybrid event with several locations simulcasting live across the province opportunities for both in-person and virtual participation. The event format will involve greetings and remarks from Home and Community Care Support Services leadership, recognition of the category recipients and presentation of tokens of recognition, and will conclude with light refreshments and an opportunity to network with Home and Community Care Support Services leadership and caregiver peers.

9. Where are the events taking place?

There will be one event broadcast across the province, with the opportunity to attend in-person at various Home and Community Care Support Services office locations or to join online. Event locations to be confirmed at a later date, as informed by the submission and selection process.

10. Can nominees bring a guest to the event (i.e. the individual they are supporting, other family members, etc.)?

Planning for the events will allow for nominees to bring a guest(s) and event locations will be selected to ensure accessibility. Event locations and attendance thresholds will be informed by the submission and evaluation phases. All caregivers will be contacted and will receive further details, including a Save the Date in advance of a formal invitation once event details are confirmed.

11. Can staff attend the April 2nd event?

Further direction will be coming from leadership, however, if you are interested in joining online please connect with your manager.

12. What will the parking situation be at the event? Is accessible parking available?

All event locations will have free parking available as well as accessible parking options.

13. Who were the 2023 Above and Beyond Caregiver Recognition nominees and recipients?

The list of 2023 caregivers and category recipients, as well as more information about the program, can be found on our [website](#).

For further questions or more information please contact 1-855-276-3096 or email engagement@hccontario.ca.