

Strengthening community based care

Improving access to Mental Health and Addictions supports

Peel's population of 1.6 million is expected to increase significantly over the next decade, and the already increasing pressures on Mental Health and Addictions (MHA) services are expected to continue.

Peel Region appreciates recent provincial investments, demonstrating a commitment to collaboratively transforming the MHA system.

This includes:

- \$53 million investment over three years to expand supportive housing initiatives linked to MHA services.
- \$303 million over three years to stabilize community-based mental health and addictions services and support crisis services and addiction recovery programs.
- Expansion of Mobile Crisis Response Teams.
- Implementation of Ontario's Roadmap to Wellness and base funding increases in the MHA community sector.

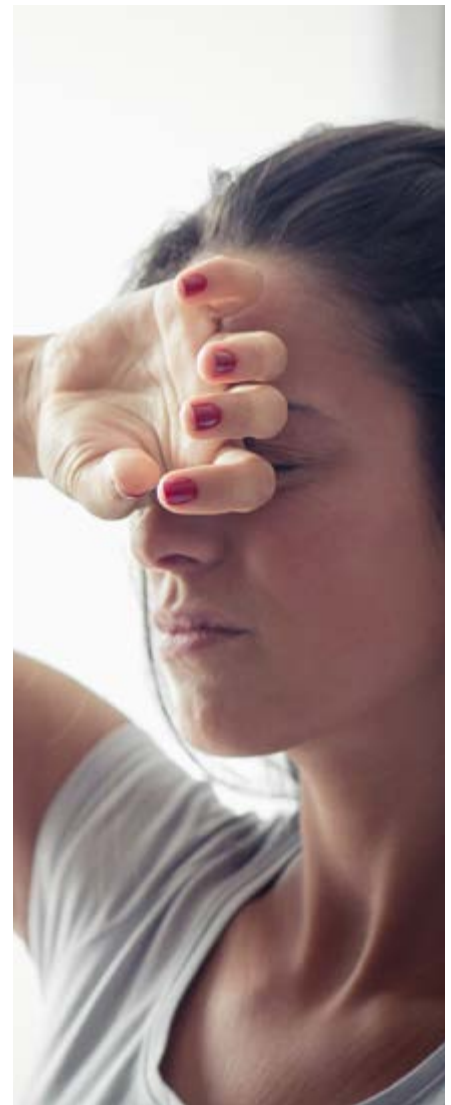
Peel Region pressures

Despite recent provincial investments, MHA service capacity has not kept pace with demand, leading to long wait times, workforce challenges, and increasing reliance on high-cost services, such as emergency departments and hospitals. As waitlists for community MHA support continues to grow, particularly for children and youth, the downstream impacts are noticed in hospitals.

Long-standing inequities in per-capita funding for Peel community-based services and the absence of population-based funding models have left critical prevention and early intervention services under increasing reliance on costly acute care.

Addressing these pressures requires sustained provincial investment in community-based services, establishment of a Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub in Mississauga, and adoption of population-based funding that reflects growth, vulnerability, and inflation.

Peel's proposed approach directly supports the Ontario government's objectives to improve access to care, reduce hallway medicine, and shift services upstream.



3 MHA solutions

- Expand Mobile Integrated Health—Community Paramedicine Mental Health and Substance Use
- Fund a HART Hub in Mississauga
- Adopt a population-based funding approach

Support for improved access to care

Solutions to support mental health and addictions

To address system-wide challenges, Peel is seeking provincial support to advance three complementary solutions that align with provincial priorities and deliver measurable value to the broader health system:

- **Expand Mobile Integrated Health—Community Paramedicine Mental Health and Substance Use.** This investment enables a shift from reactive, high-cost care to proactive, community-based intervention.
- **Fund a HART Hub in Mississauga.** The Brampton HART Hub cannot adequately meet the needs of a region as large and diverse as Peel. An investment of \$1.8 million in start-up costs and \$6.3 million in annual operating funding for a second hub in Mississauga would extend access to integrated, wraparound services across Peel Region.
- **Adopt a population-based funding approach.** This ensures resources are directed where they generate the greatest impact and cost efficiency.



Key takeaway

Investing in upstream, community-based mental health and addictions services in Peel will improve access to care, reduce pressure on hospitals and emergency departments, and deliver better outcomes for one of Ontario's fastest-growing and most diverse regions.

