



Overview of DSO HNR

Emergency and Community Services Committee
Thursday, November 7, 2019

YOUR ACCESS POINT FOR

Adult Developmental Services



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dsontario.ca

What is the DSO?

Developmental Services Ontario (DSO):

- Helps adults with developmental disabilities find services and supports in their community
- There are nine DSOs located across Ontario
- Your local DSO is **DSO Hamilton - Niagara Region**

***Hamilton, Niagara, Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk, Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation and, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation**

The DSO wants to work in partnership with the City of Hamilton to:

- Be responsive to mutual clients that may be homeless or in a crisis
- Make certain the City of Hamilton knows how to refer people to the DSO who have or may have a developmental disability
- Ensure the City has the information needed to include people with developmental disabilities in planning and forecasting
- Ensure the DSO has the most updated information about local housing resources and/or initiatives in order to promote options to stakeholders
- To continue to exchange information and inform any future non profit housing partnerships

DSO Key Functions

- Information provision
- Eligibility confirmation using provincially consistent criteria (age 16+)
- Administer, update and re-administer the standardized Provincial Application Package (age 16+)
- Make service recommendations (Ministry funded and other)
- Service Navigation activities include:
 - Referrals to MCCSS funded services (age 18+)
 - Matching to declared MCCSS funded resources (age 18+)
 - Recommending and linking to other community based services and supports
- Linkage and support through the Urgent Response process (age 18+)

The DS Adult Application Package...

- One application for all MCCSS adult developmental services
- Can be updated as often as required; reapplication can be completed if needs change significantly
- Applicant is engaged and supported to be as involved as possible
- Consent and supported decision making is secured
- Informs service recommendations and referrals (funded and unfunded)
- Informs priority for services when they become available
- Supports fair and equitable access to MCCSS funded services

Ministry Funded Residential Services

- Group living
 - Intensive supportive living
 - Supported independent living
 - Associate living
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- Level and intensity of support vary between types and within types

DSO Housing Navigation

<https://www.dsontario.ca/resources/housing/welcome-to-the-dso-housing-toolkit>

- New toolkit provides resources to help adults with developmental disabilities, and their caregivers create a housing plan
- Local Housing Inventories provide local resources and contacts
- DSOs connect people with family support networks
- We encourage families to start planning early and build skills with their sons and daughters
- Offering information sessions to families and service providers

QUESTIONS?

Connect with DSO HNR

Phone 1-877-376-4674

Ask to speak with a member of the DSO HNR team

Email housing@dsohnr.ca

Websites dsohnr.ca and dsontario.ca