



**Canadian Mental  
Health Association**  
Huron Perth  
*Mental health for all*

**Association Canadienne  
pour la santé mentale**  
Huron Perth  
*La santé mentale pour tous*

*Our Vision: A society that values human dignity and enhances mental and emotional wellbeing for all.*

**Community Homes for Opportunity (CHO)  
Canadian Mental Health Association - Huron Perth  
Referral Form and Information Package**

**About the CHO Program**

The Community Homes for Opportunity Program offers more than just a place to live. It provides supportive housing with 24-hour supervision in a group home setting for individuals with serious mental health issues. CHO staff will ensure that each client's unique needs and choices are assessed and addressed.

The CHO Program in Huron Perth is accountable to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and services are provided by and administered through CMHA-HP. Homes within the CHO Program are independently owned and operated, however they are inspected annually by Fire, Public Health, and the CMHA staff. The ministry will then issue licenses based on the CHO Program Manager/Agencies recommendations. The CHO homes are in both a rural and urban area in Perth County located in St. Mary's Ontario.

**Referral Eligibility**

- **Minimum age of 18 years**
- **Diagnosis of a serious mental illness**
- **Voluntary agreement to enter the CHO Program**
- **Compliant with prescribed medication and follow-up**
- **Not abusing alcohol, drugs, or other substances**
- **Not requiring complex care normally associated with Long-Term Care facilities**
- **Medically stable**
- **Must be followed by a psychiatrist**
- **No recent history of uncontrolled violence that poses a safety risk to others**
- **No history of behaviors that poses a serious fire hazard**
- **Priority will be given to clients currently in hospital or individuals who are experiencing homelessness.**

**Forms and Information Required**

To process a referral for admission to the CHO Program, the following forms must be completed, and the information provided.

- Authorization for Release of Information
- CHO Resident Referral & Assessment
- Proof of Income all sources
- Revenue Canada's Current Notice of Assessment



### **Forms and Information Required (cont'd)**

- Medication Record (Mar Sheet)
- A copy of recent Psychosocial, Occupational Therapy and Nursing Assessments
- Psychiatric History Record
- Copy of Birth Certificate, Health Card and most recent ODSP stub
- A list of other community agencies the client is referred to

Once CMHA-HP receives the completed forms, and provided that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria. CMHA-HP staff will schedule a referral/intake meeting. A tour of the home and meeting with homeowner will be arranged to determine suitability to client's needs.

### **Placement Requirements**

Upon being advised that admission into the CHO Program has been approved, the following is additionally required:

- Medications:
  - a) A list of medications as of the first day of admission to CHO (indicating any changes that have occurred since initial referral package was submitted).
  - b) A one-week supply of medication and prescription to accompany the new client to his/her new home.
  - c) A list of upcoming medical and/or psychiatric appointments.
- Authorization for Release of Information form indicating consent regarding the specific home operator, family physician, and other key service-providers, tenant agreement, direct payment of rent from appropriate source of income support or trustee.
- Copy of care and crisis plan

Prior to consideration regarding the assessment for the CHO Program, CMHA-HP must receive all information and documentation.

Please forward your referral for consideration to:

CMHA-Huron Perth  
Community Homes for Opportunity  
Attention: Barb Pepper  
Program Lead, Case Manager  
540 Huron St.  
Stratford, ON  
N5A 5T9  
Phone: 519-273-1391 ext. 359  
1-888-875-2944  
Fax: 519-273-0505  
Cell: 519-200-2361