

Public Health Services in Simcoe Muskoka

Information for community partners and groups assisting with Ukrainian evacuees and newcomer settlement

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) promotes and protects health and prevents disease and injury to ensure the health of our residents and communities. The health unit provides a variety of public health programs and services (listed below) that are available for Ukrainian newcomers. **Individuals do not require a health card or need to have a doctor to use these services.** Please feel free to share our service information with your clients, patients and those who are seeking your support. Visit our [website](#) for more information.

Health Connection

Health Connection is the health unit's free, confidential health information and advice service, available Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **All health unit programs and services can be accessed by calling Health Connection at the contact information below:**

- Phone: 705-721-7520 press 2# or 1-877-721-7520 press 2#
- Email: HConnect@smdhu.org
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/simcoe.muskoka
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/smdhealthunit

If English is not your first language, simply tell one of the public health professionals that you would like to speak in your own language and immediately you will be connected with a professional interpreter over the phone, at no cost to you.

Using an interpreter will not affect your right to privacy or confidentiality but will assist you to make decisions about your own health based on the best possible information.

Immunization

The health unit offers immunization clinics in the following health unit offices: Barrie, Midland, Orillia, Cookstown, Collingwood, Huntsville and Gravenhurst. Immunization services include COVID-19 vaccine, routine childhood immunization and adult immunization. Appointments are necessary. Schedules for each office clinic and information on how to book an appointment can be found on our [website](#) or by calling Health Connection.

□ **Barrie:**
15 Sperling Drive
Barrie, ON
L4M 6K9
705-721-7520
FAX: 705-721-1495

□ **Collingwood:**
280 Pretty River Pkwy.
Collingwood, ON
L9Y 4J5
705-445-0804
FAX: 705-445-6498

□ **Cookstown:**
2-25 King Street S.
Cookstown, ON
L0L 1L0
705-458-1103
FAX: 705-458-0105

□ **Gravenhurst:**
2-5 Pineridge Gate
Gravenhurst, ON
P1P 1Z3
705-684-9090
FAX: 705-684-9887

□ **Huntsville:**
34 Chaffey St.
Huntsville, ON
P1H 1K1
705-789-8813
FAX: 705-789-7245

□ **Midland:**
B-865 Hugel Ave.
Midland, ON
L4R 1X8
705-526-9324
FAX: 705-526-1513

□ **Orillia:**
120-169 Front St. S.
Orillia, ON
L3V 4S8
705-325-9565
FAX: 705-325-2091

COVID-19 vaccination

COVID-19 vaccines for all eligible individuals are available through our office clinics noted above, as well as at community clinics, pop-up and GO-VAXX clinics, local pharmacies, and some healthcare providers offices and clinics. Please check our [Get Vaccinated](#) webpage for information on where and how to access COVID-19 vaccine. The health unit has created a fact sheet with key information about COVID-19 vaccination that has been translated into Ukrainian. It is available on our website [here](#). In addition, a key message document is available [here](#) in English and Ukrainian in both text and image format to make it easier to share these messages.

Dental Health Services

The health unit offers [dental health services](#) to eligible children and adults. They include:

Children and Teens

- **Dental Screening at School**

Children are screened at elementary schools during [annual dental screening](#) to determine if a child has dental needs. Families will be notified if their child has any dental needs and if they might be eligible for dental services. Children and teens can also receive free dental screenings at health unit offices by appointment.

- **Healthy Smiles Ontario Program (HSO)**

The Healthy Smiles Ontario Program covers preventive, routine, and emergency dental care for eligible children 17 years and under. Children in refugee or evacuee families who are under the [Interim Federal Health Program \(IFHP\)](#) are eligible for the HSO Program. Benefits are coordinated with the federal government. Alternatively, families interested in applying for HSO can do so by visiting the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care [Healthy Smiles Ontario site](#). Those that require help completing the [enrolment form](#) can contact the health unit to arrange a time for assistance.

- **Emergency and Essential Services** – Children and teens with emergency or essential dental conditions may be eligible for dental care. They must be screened by a SMDHU dental hygienist, meet dental eligibility criteria, attest to financial hardship, or go to a local dental office that accepts HSO clients, after health unit hours, for emergency care.

- **Preventive Services** – Children who meet criteria for preventive services at the time of dental screening can have their families apply to enroll them for preventive services care (topical fluoride, sealants, and scaling of teeth). Families must attest to financial hardship. These services are provided by the health unit dental hygienists, upon availability based on location.

Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP)

This program provides comprehensive dental care to eligible low-income seniors. These services include preventative, routine, and emergency dental care. Dentures are partially covered by this plan.

Eligibility for this program is based on income criteria for those 65 years and older who are residing in Ontario and do not have any other form of dental benefits. Those interested in applying can do so by visiting the [Ontario government website](#) to complete the form. You can also contact the health unit if you need help in completing the form. For those without a Social Insurance Number or who did not file a tax return, click [here](#) for information. Please contact the health unit for assistance with guarantor or

any other information. Services offered under the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program are provided at the health unit dental clinics only in Barrie and Gravenhurst.

Dental Clinics for Adults and Children

Refugees and evacuees (adults and children) with [IFHP](#) coverage, HSO or OSDCP coverage for dental care can access treatment at one of the health unit's Healthy Smiles Ontario [dental clinics](#) in our Barrie or Gravenhurst location. Care can also be accessed at dental providers in the community registered with the federal government to provide services to refugees and evacuees with IFHP or HSO coverage. Proof of coverage is required. Under IFHP adults have limited dental coverage for emergency exams and related urgent treatment. Children may be able to access treatment through IFHP and through HSO, if eligible.

Sexual Health Services

The health unit provides education, counselling and referral at our [sexual health clinics](#), as well as current information on a variety of sexual health issues. Nurses offer confidential counselling and information about:

- Birth control, including the emergency contraceptive pill
- Pregnancy testing and counselling
- Sexually transmitted Infections (STIs), including testing and free treatment
- HIV testing, including anonymous testing
- Sexuality and relationship issues

Child and Family Supports

The health unit provides advice and assistance for [parents](#) and [parents-to-be](#) through prenatal classes and other services and supports about breastfeeding, infant feeding, child nutrition, parenting and much more.

Online Breastfeeding Peer Support Program

This weekly online group for parents offers support as well as an opportunity to ask questions from a public health nurse about breastfeeding, infant and child health, developmental stages and parenting. Registration is required. Visit our [website](#) for more information.

Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program

[Healthy Babies Healthy Children](#) (HBHC) is a voluntary program for women and their families in the prenatal period and families with children from birth until their transition to school. HBHC offers support in the home (assessment, teaching, referral and service coordination) for children and parents identified with challenges in order to help parents with healthy pregnancies, nutrition and feeding (including breastfeeding), healthy child development, safety, adjusting to parenthood, accessing community resources, and more.

Smoking and Vaping Cessation Support

The health unit offers quit smoking and vaping services, including:

- Consultation with a public health nurse.
- Individual support throughout your quit period.
- No-cost nicotine replacement products.
- Quit tips and information.

For more information related to quitting visit our [website](#).
