

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.**

January 2023

**Mississauga** – Family Services of Peel (FSP) and Peel Elder Abuse Prevention Network (PEAPN), were awarded a 2022 Change Fund grant from the Region of Peel to address the issue of the increase abuse of older adults in the Region of Peel. The goal is to strengthen political (federal, provincial, regional, and municipal) and community ties, and “step in” to address issues impacting the wellbeing of seniors in the Region.

Family Services of Peel is a non-profit, charitable, and multiservice agency providing counseling, educational programs, employment support services, and development of violence prevention programs. The research arm of FSP is the Peel Institute of Research and Training (PIRT), an interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral collaborative in the Region of Peel, established as a central, regionwide initiative, focusing on the prevention of all forms of violence.

PEAPN is a network of agencies serving seniors, service providers, and community advocates. Its objective is to educate, raise awareness, and develop a more collaborative approach to Elder Abuse.

Peel Region’s senior population is increasing at three times the rate of the rest of Ontario and Canada.

Our initiative aligns to the Regional Priority of Elder Abuse, a social issue that has been defined by the United Nations (2020) as follows: “A single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person”.

The objectives of the project are to:

1. Update, collect, analyze, and summarize existing evidence of the needs of seniors in the Region of Peel, by applying quantitative and qualitative methods.
2. To strengthen advocacy by building and expanding the network of organizations and volunteers, and to search for solutions of the documented needs of seniors in the Region.

We encourage you to become involved in this project by becoming a member of the Peel Elder Abuse Prevention Network or the Seniors Project Advisory Committee.

For more information about the ‘Seniors Project’, contact:

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