

Continuing Care programs and services help people live safely in the place they call home. There are a wide range of services available including home support, home nursing, home oxygen services, community occupational therapy and physiotherapy, caregiver benefit program, family relief and respite, personal alert assistance program, self-managed care, community wheelchair loan program, bed loan and long term care.

Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) is responsible for intake, assessment, placement and coordination of these services. Care coordinators assess needs, identify the programs and services that best meet them, set up these services and work on an ongoing basis with individuals and families to ensure they receive the care they need.

NSHA contracts with private agencies, licensed and/or approved by the Department of Health and Wellness, for the delivery of continuing care services. We also deliver some services including home nursing and long term care, operating 146 long term care beds at seven facilities.

By the Numbers 2016-17:**Home Care**

- \$255 million annually (net)
- ~28,000 clients
- 3 million home support hours
- 1 million nursing visits
- 20 private agencies (for-profit & not-for-profit)
- 4 oxygen vendors
- 2 equipment vendors

Long Term Care

- \$565 million annually (net)
- 7,851 beds serving ~11,000 people annually
- 6,923 nursing home beds
- 927 residential care facility beds
- 1 community based option bed
- 137 facilities (for-profit, not-for-profit, NSHA)

More Nova Scotians are accessing Continuing Care programs and services and getting their care sooner than before. We've achieved this by working collaboratively with the Department of Health and Wellness, service providers, unions and employees to make changes to policy and practice.

Some highlights:

- In March 2015, there were 890 people waiting for home support compared to 148 people waiting on September 15, 2017 – an 83% reduction.
- In March 2015, there were 2,480 people waiting for initial placement in long term care compared to 1,240 on September 27, 2017 – a 48% reduction
- In March 2015, the median wait time for long term care was 350 days compared to 193 days in June 2017 – a 45% reduction.

For more information or to make a referral for you or your loved one call us toll free at 1-800-225-7225