



Community Healthcare System Support Playbook and Toolkit Overview

The *Community Healthcare System Support Playbook* is a practical roadmap, created with funding from the Saunders Family Foundation and the Ministry of Health, that helps local governments, businesses, and community partners take meaningful action to strengthen healthcare access by supporting the attraction, retention, and well-being of healthcare and emergency workers. The *Playbook* provides an overview of a broad range of action a community can take, and the *Toolkit* includes examples of many technical, coordination and management elements that may be desired including draft housing agreements, strategies for establishing a healthcare committee, welcome wagon strategies, draft health strategies for developers, draft OCP language and many more.

The Playbook and Toolkit project is built upon the recognition that many of the largest barriers to recruiting and retaining healthcare workers and securing clinics and other healthcare services are not within the jurisdiction or responsibility of the Ministry of Health or Health Authorities – but are rather a local community consideration such as housing, transportation, economic development, real estate development, infrastructure, family recreation, daycare and many others. In a highly mobile labor market, communities compete with each other to attract and retain healthcare workers.

The *Playbook* and *Toolkit* lay out many creative types of initiatives and actions that a community can undertake including strategies, initiatives and ideas for action, and then provides easy action plans and templates for some of these ideas including:

Community actions	Municipal actions	Business community	Real estate developers
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating a Community Healthcare Action Committee• Healthcare worker recruitment strategy• Action coordinator role• Child/pet minding initiative• Fundraising strategies• Coordination of action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proclamation• Draft action strategy on healthcare• Draft OCP policies to support healthcare• Draft housing agreement prioritizing healthcare workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategies• Healthcare worker discounts• Support programs• Fundraising• Support for housing and medical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overall strategy for supporting healthcare• Amenity contribution strategy• Assistance for healthcare workers in housing• Healthy community framework for developers

Rather than shifting responsibility away from senior governments, the *Playbook* complements provincial healthcare strategies by empowering communities to address local barriers that directly impact healthcare workers' wellbeing, and thereby help residents get the healthcare services they need.