



Frequently Asked Questions

Enhancing Services for Medically Fragile / Technologically Dependent Children and their Families in Cambridge and Central / West Ontario

Transfer of children's respite programming to **Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services** from **Kids Country Club Cambridge Home**.



What's the story of the Cambridge Home?

Parents of Technologically Dependent Children of Ontario, also known as Kids Country Club, was founded by parents who met in the halls of the Children's Hospital of Western Ontario. Together, the parents wanted to address the need for respite care for medically fragile children. They opened their first respite home in London in 1994. Then, to make it easier for parents outside of London to access services, Kids Country Club acquired another home in Cambridge in 2001. The organization's goal has always been to provide the best services possible to children and much-needed, quality respite care for families.

Why was Sunbeam chosen to assume responsibility for the Cambridge Home and its programs?

Kids Country Club will transfer operations of their Cambridge children's respite home to Sunbeam Community & Developmental Services by the end of June 2021.

Sherry Groulx, Executive Director of Kids Country Club, approached Sunbeam "... because of Sunbeam's commitment to clients and their alignment with Kids Country Club's Mission of



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services. Kids Country Club has highly trained, skilled staff who provide excellent care, and with Sunbeam's long history of service in Waterloo Region, and its local complementary services, it is simply better positioned to sustain the quality of the services offered at the Cambridge Home."

The transfer of services for the Cambridge Home to Sunbeam will enable Kids Country Club to focus its resources on strengthening its already successful programs and services at their London children's respite location.

The two organizations have a well-established positive working relationship as local sector partners with both agencies offering specialized programming to support individuals living with medically fragile / technologically dependent care needs.

When will Sunbeam assume responsibility for the Cambridge Home and its programs?

The seamless transfer of property, programs and services from the Kids Country Club Cambridge Home to Sunbeam is expected to take effect by the end of June 2021. The transfer has been approved by the Ministry of Children, Community & Social Services (MCCSS), which funds both organizations.

Where is the Cambridge Home located?

This Cambridge Home is nestled in the Hespeler neighbourhood of Cambridge. It is easily accessible from Highway 401, and only a 15-minute drive from Sunbeam's main Kingsway campus in Kitchener.

Can you tell me more about the Cambridge Home?

The home is fully accessible, including an elevator, ramps, ceiling lifts and other specialized equipment. The home has seven bedrooms, three bathrooms, a Snoezelen room, two kitchens, and two living rooms. It provides a very comfortable home environment, while being properly equipped to provide for the complex care needs of the exceptional children supported.



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How will Sunbeam serve the children staying at the Cambridge Home?

Sunbeam has developed and will implement a thriving, sustainable, and innovative offering of respite services for exceptional children at the Cambridge Home, aligned with Sunbeam's already successful children's respite programming.

The Cambridge Home will continue to support children living with medically fragile / technologically dependent needs and who may also require specialized behavioural supports.

The close-by Sunbeam Kingsway campus has complementary programming, services and amenities which are readily available to children supported at any of Sunbeam's children's respite programs, including the newly added Cambridge Home.

The complementary programming, services and amenities include:

- An onsite in-person day program
- A seating clinic
- A therapeutic swimming pool
- A Snoezelen room and Snoezelen spa
- A specialized dental clinic (planned re-opening later in 2021)
- Access to other supports and resources

Who will staff the home?

Kids Country Club's Cambridge Home front-line staff have been invited to join Sunbeam's robust team of caregivers, which includes nurses, developmental service workers, and personal support workers. Children and families served by the Cambridge Home will continue to see the many familiar faces of the skilled and trusted direct support staff who know the home, the children and their families so well.

How can our family access any of the children's respite services offered by Sunbeam?

If your child is already connected with the Kids Country Club Cambridge Home, please call Laura Thies, Sunbeam's Chief Operating Officer, at (519) 741-1121 ext. 2225 or email to: l.thies@sunbeamcommunity.ca. Laura will be happy to assist you and your family with ensuring your continued access to programs and services offered by the Cambridge Home.

If you would like to make a request for a new referral for children's respite services, please call Children's Respite Intake at Sunbeam Developmental Resource Centre at (519) 741-1121.