

## **ESSENTIAL HEALTH and SOCIAL SUPPORTS (EHSS) Help for people not receiving social assistance**

The Essential Health and Social Supports Program (EHSS) helps low income Ottawa residents pay for health related items or services that are needed in order to maintain independent living within the community.

### **Services and benefits that may be offered:**

- Emergency dental care and dentures – Under 17yrs are eligible for Health Smiles Ontario
- Eye exams and glasses for children and adults
- Utility and rent arrears, deposits and reconnection fees
- Assistive Devices Program (ADP) 25% consumer contribution
- Medical, diabetic supplies and mobility aids
- Direct Disposition, Cremations and burials

### **Eligible for EHSS:**

To be eligible, a family's income and assets cannot be greater than the Low Income Cut-off (LICO) amounts for their family size. In addition, assets must be under \$5000 for single person and \$7500 for a couple, plus \$500.00 per child.

### **Low Income Cut-off (LICO) Amounts\***

<b>Size of Family</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Yearly</b>
1 person	\$1,838.36	\$22,060
2 person	\$2237.39	\$26,849
3 person	\$2786.07	\$33,433
4 person	\$3475.83	\$41,710
5 person	\$3957.91	\$47,495
6 person	\$4389.44	\$52,673
7 person or more	\$4820.96	\$57,852

\* Subject to change

If you receive or earn a low income and have limited savings, we may be able to help. Income and assets include:

- Pension income, employment insurance, support payments, Registered Retirement Savings Plan and Retirement Income Funds
- Cash, inheritances, and investments such as properties and life insurance

## How to apply for EHSS

- Call 3-1-1, select 1 for English, 2 for French and option "4" for Social Services.
- You will have a **telephone interview** to start your application and they will explain what forms you will need to bring to your appointment.
- If it appears you qualify, within a few days you will have an **intake appointment** with a case worker at one of our four Employment and Social Service Sites (ESS) to review and sign your application. If you are spousal, both partners will be required to sign the forms.
- A case worker must make a decision on your application and the City of Ottawa will not pay for an item or service that has already been purchased.
- If you are in a crisis or emergency, explain your crisis during your phone interview for a possible priority appointment.

## Employment and Social Service Sites

<b>ESS CENTRAL</b>	<b>ESS EAST</b>	<b>ESS SOUTH</b>	<b>ESS WEST</b>
370 Catherine Street (between Bay & Percy)	2339 Ogilvie Road (Beacon Hill Shopping Centre)	2020 Walkley Rd. (at Conroy Road)	100 Constellation Dr., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor (Woodroffe & Baseline)