WHAT IS HOME CARE?
Home care provides health and support services in homes, retirement communities, group homes, and other community settings to people with acute, chronic, palliative, or rehabilitative health care needs. Home care programs are designed to complement, not replace, the efforts of individuals to care for themselves, with the support of carers.

WHO IS A CARER?
A carer (also referred to as a caregiver or family caregiver) is a person who takes on an unpaid caring role for someone who needs help because of a physical or cognitive condition, an injury or a chronic life-limiting illness.

CARERS CONTRIBUTE
$25 billion in unpaid labour to our health care system or 11% of 2009 public health care spending

90% of Canadians say it is important to be able to age at home

Carers provide 7 hours of help to family and friends for every 2 hours of professional home care

28% of carers look after a loved one with age-related conditions

60% of home care clients are 65+

8.1 million Canadians = 1 in 4 are carers

90% of patients with chronic conditions receiving home care have a carer who provides 70% of the home support services

Only 4% of publicly funded health care dollars are spent on home care services

More than 2 million Canadians can live safely in their homes because of the support of carers

26% take a leave of absence
15% reduce work hours
6% quit their jobs
10% turn down job opportunities

Carers can experience an array of negative emotional and health outcomes

Carers spend $100 to $300/month on expenses directly related to caring

HOW CARING IMPACTS THEIR LIVES
WORK
FINANCES
HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Statistics Canada. 2014. Receiving Care at Home.

Carers Canada (formerly known as Canadian Caregiver Coalition), established in 2000, is an alliance of diverse partner organizations that work collectively and autonomously to identify and respond to the needs of carers in Canada. Carers Canada’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for carers through synergistic partnerships and global advocacy that strengthens and honors the voice of carers. www.carerscanada.ca