

# Family Health Teams

## *Advancing Primary Care*

### Bulletin No. 2/April, 2005

## Family Health Teams – Moving Ahead

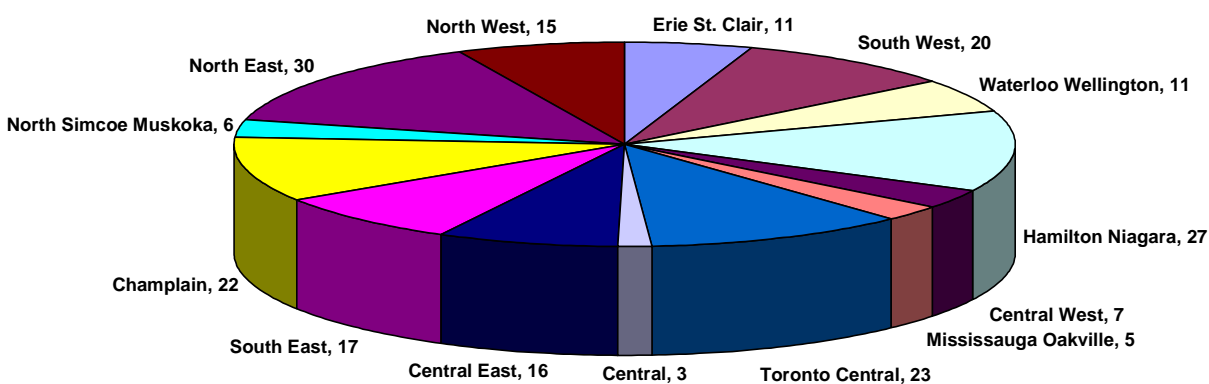
### Application Update

The Family Health Team request for information application process closed on February 15, 2005.

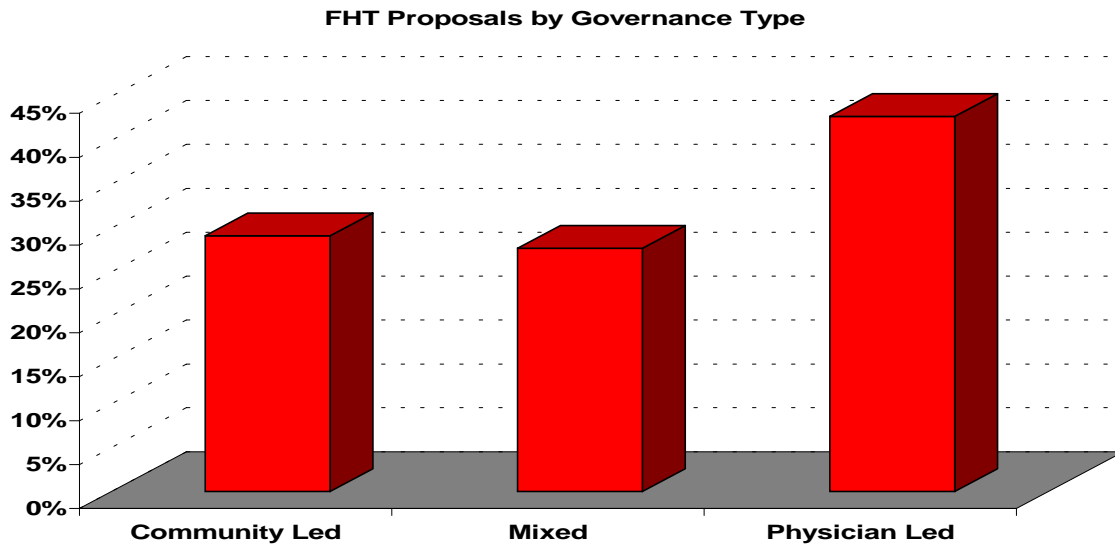
A total of 213 applications from across the province were received and we'd like to thank all of those applicants for their hard work and dedication. These preliminary FHT proposals showed both creativity and innovation from all of the applicants and illustrated a genuine excitement for improving primary care in communities across Ontario through this new model.

Listed below is the breakdown of the proposed number of FHTs by each Local Health Integration Network.

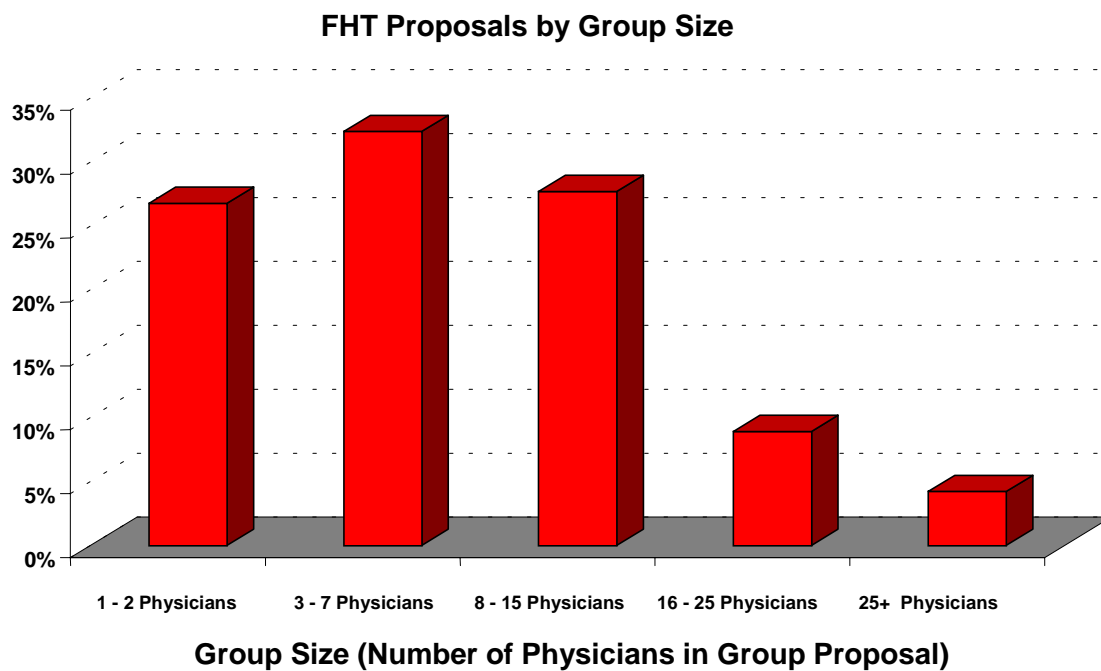
**Proposed # of FHTs per LHIN**



Applicants proposed a variety of governance models.



The application groups were diverse in size. They ranged from small groups that included a handful of health care professionals to very large community groups that included a network of teams working together.



## The Evaluation Process

With advice from the multi-stakeholder FHT Action Group the ministry developed a set of explicit criteria to review the applications across 5 theme areas:

1. population health needs – degree of underservicing, special needs area
2. appropriateness of services – meet FHT objectives, logical to population need
3. health human resources – proposed provider mix appropriate to services
4. partnerships/service integration – degree of community partnership and support
5. readiness to operate – providers on board, space, recruitment plans

The Ministry is in its final stages of evaluation and will take into consideration the above factors while balancing geographic distribution and mix of proposals in terms of size, governance and programming.

## What's next?

1. Final decision on the selection of the initial group of applicants
2. Formal announcement by the Minister.
3. The selected applicants will receive approval from the Minister to advance to the project development and implementation stage.
4. Each of the successful applicants will receive a letter outlining how to proceed in development of their FHT and will be provided with a “FHT coordinator” from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to guide them through the development and implementation process.

These first announcements will occur this month.

## Support for you

### Development of Tools, Check Lists and Guides

The ministry is working with the Action Group and other advisors to develop a series of tools to assist groups through the implementation process of Family Health Teams.

These will include:

- 1) **A Check List:** Successful applicants will be provided with a check list that will set out the stages or phases of FHT development.
  - a. Formative Stage – governance formation
  - b. Planning – determining services and programs
  - c. Business Plan – submit detailed funding request
  - d. Pre-operational – this is only if required, renovations, IT etc.
  - e. Operational
- 2) **Guides:** A series of guides are being developed that will provide more information on FHT implementation including governance models and choices, collaborative interdisciplinary care, provider compensation, FHT funding, one-time developmental funding assistance and information technology.

These tools and guides will begin to be made available during the months of April and May and will be posted on this website as well as being distributed to successful applicants.