Vancouver Coastal Health provides a vast range of existing health care programs and services in the community for residents of all ages, including Vancouver’s West End/Downtown communities.

VCH is working closely with Providence Health Care to ensure residents in the West End/Downtown continue to have access to the health care services they need after St. Paul’s Hospital relocates to the new Station Street site in Vancouver’s False Creek Flats. VCH will continue to serve the current needs of area residents through its existing services, while expanding, enhancing and improving access to primary, home and community services to meet future needs, and to help reduce demand for hospital and residential care services.

The West End/Downtown’s Three Bridges Clinic serves close to 4,000 clients, with over 30,000 visits annually. The primary care at this clinic focuses on people who have the greatest difficulty getting access to care.

That said, VCH operates many types of health care for everyone in the West End/Downtown. Altogether, the programs and services at Three Bridges Community Health Centre serve over 20,000 people in the community annually.

**VCH existing health services and programs serving the West End/Downtown**

Many VCH-Vancouver programs serve the West End and local neighbourhoods in the home, in schools, on the street, and in other settings. Some services are outreach rather than site-based to serve the entire city, so are also available to West End residents as needed. Important to note is that all existing services currently offered by VCH in the West End and Downtown will remain after St. Paul’s Hospital relocates.

**Future health service enhancements planned for the West End/Downtown**

Paying special attention to the frail elderly, the chronically ill and those struggling with mental health and substance use, VCH is expanding, enhancing and improving access to primary, community and home-based care in the West End/Downtown area.
Planned enhancements to existing services in the West End/Downtown

Home Health:
- Expanded hours to increase client access to services seven days a week
- Expanding hours for VCH's Quick Response Team (supporting hospital discharges) to seven days a week
- A new Home Health ambulatory clinic at the Three Bridges Community Health Centre

Home Hospice:
- Expanded hours of shift care nursing in the home
- Increased residential hospice beds city-wide
- Outreach Nurse Practitioner visits for frail elderly (70+) without a family physician, or who are unable to access traditional services due to a health crisis

Adult Day Program:
- Increased program capacity including support to mitigate caregiver distress
- Addition of a Case Manager in the West End to support caregivers of complex clients

Primary Care:
- A new integrated community health centre bringing together the services currently offered at the Three Bridges Community Health Centre and the West End Mental Health team. The future centre will be accessible seven days per week.
- Electronic medical records to allow seamless care across VCH and PHC primary care teams
- Working with the Vancouver Division of Family Practice, exploring how to increase capacity for residents living in the West End to have access to family doctors

Seniors Services:
- iCARE and Ideal Transitions Home - improved transitions from hospital to community care for seniors
- Seniors Strategy - services to help seniors 70+ with complex health care needs remain in their homes, with increased home health capacity in the community:
  - New palliative and end-of-life services including:
    - an increased numbers of hospice beds
    - expanded care hours
    - new client-centred practices in residential care

Primary Care:
- Starting with seniors with complex care needs and then expanding to include all of Vancouver's population, VCH is partnering with the Vancouver Division of Family Practice to improve access to comprehensive primary care services, 24/7, for better health outcomes.

For more information on the services mentioned above, please visit [www.vch.ca/locations-and-services](http://www.vch.ca/locations-and-services)