

Referral Process – Eligibility Criteria

Thank you for your interest in our community aphasia programs.

Our aphasia programs are intended to meet the need for conversation, social interaction, information and support for people with aphasia and for their families. Our supported conversation groups also offer the opportunity to strengthen communication skills. Groups are not a replacement for individual speech therapy but a complement.

The goal of the aphasia program is for group members to *participate* actively in conversation using a variety of communication strategies. Speech-Language Pathologists, Social Workers, Communicative Disorders Assistants and trained volunteers are involved with the aphasia programs to help make communication easier. A typical session may include:

- Discussing current events and expressing opinions
- Sharing life stories and events
- Activities that focus on functional conversation skills using a variety of modes including speech, gestures, facial expression, writing, drawing and reading to more effectively express and understand messages in conversation
- Supporting one another to develop skill and confidence in communicating

The following criteria for admission have been developed to ensure our programs are appropriate for potential clients:

Eligibility Criteria

- Varied types / severities of aphasia due to stroke or brain injury, e.g., Acquired Brain Injury (ABI), Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA), tumor
- Individuals must be medically stable and live in community
- Willingness to participate in Supported Conversation Groups



Halton-Peel Community
APHASIA PROGRAMS

Burlington, Milton, Oakville,
Mississauga, Brampton

T 905-875-8474

F 905-849-0424

www.h-pcap.com



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Eligibility Criteria cont'd

- Demonstrate appropriate behaviour in a social group setting
- No/minimal cognitive difficulties
- Client care needs (i.e., toileting, feeding, and arrangement of transportation) are met by client or caregiver (Note: some locations will have Day Program staff available to assist)

If you have any questions about the referral process, criteria for admission or the program, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Brittany Clark, M.S., CCC-SLP Reg. CASLPO
Speech-Language Pathologist
Aphasia Program Clinical Team Leader
Phone: (905) 875-8474
Fax: (905) 849-0424
Email: brittanyclark@monarchhouse.ca
Website: www.h-pcap.com