What are the challenges and innovations in publicly-funded home care and community-based services for children with complex care needs?

To answer this question, the Canadian Home Care Association (CHCA) surveyed health and social ministries across Canada, researched publicly available material, interviewed subject matter experts and engaged the parents in conversations. This is what we found.

### Defining children with complex care needs

**Lack of common definition** impacts eligibility, planning and measurement

### Accessing data

Limited data to monitor, evaluate and improve home care services

- Admissions
- Children receiving service
- Expenditures

### Fragmented services

Limited coordination of care and services across multiple government ministries and programs

### Parent challenges

Parents and carers need respite, information, training and financial support

### Innovations

A number of innovative models have been developed to address the challenges in publicly-funded home care and community-based services for children with complex care needs. The use of telehealth, developing integrated frameworks, linking with paediatric centres of excellence, mentoring health care professionals and supporting parents and caregivers are all examples of innovative home care practices across Canada.