

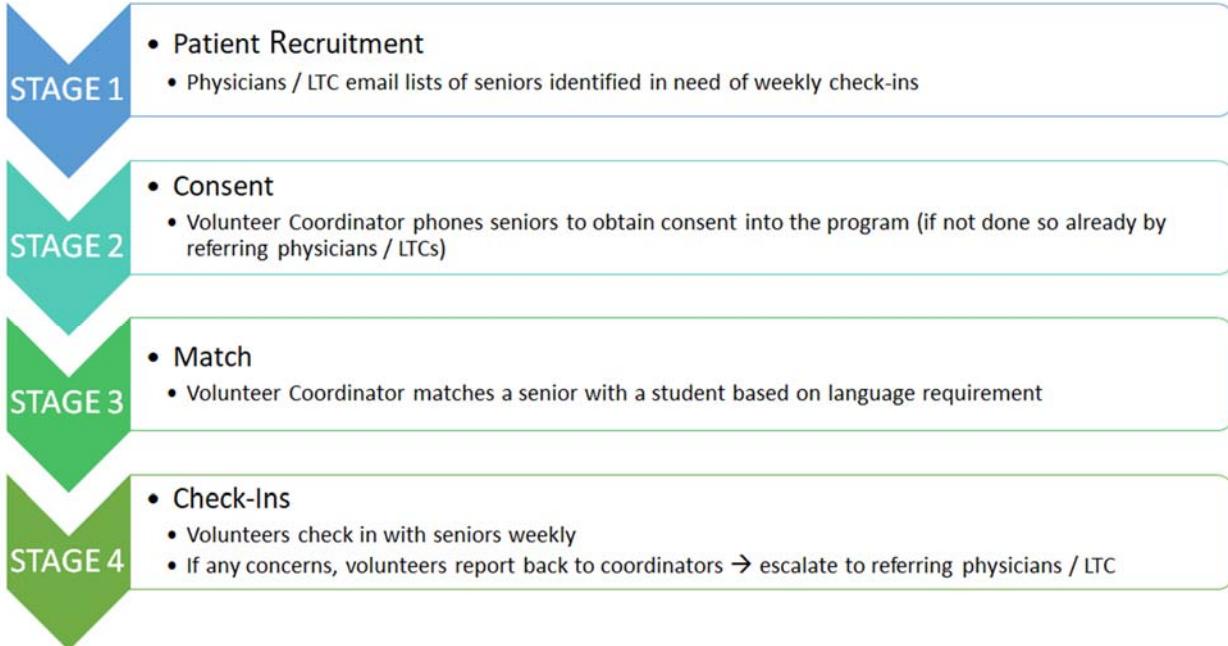
Information for Doctors

The Student-Senior Isolation Prevention Partnership (SSIPP) was created by a group of medical students to assist socially isolated older adults during the COVID outbreak. Our program pairs health professional student volunteers with socially isolated older adults. Volunteers check-in and chat with referred seniors via weekly phone calls in order to provide social connection. Older adults can be referred through a member of their healthcare team to the program. At the moment, we have 80+ Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry students signed up to volunteer (many of whom speak different languages).

Based on our personal experience running this program, we know many older adults could benefit from having a regular social connection, even if they are not severely socially isolated. We are inviting Healthcare Providers / Long Term Care Homes across Southwestern Ontario to refer any older adults that they feel would benefit from this program. Our team can then call to gauge interest, obtain consent to enroll into the program, and set them up with a volunteer.

If you have any individuals in your practice that you feel would benefit from this program, please contact us at ssipp.uwo@gmail.com and we will provide further instructions on the referral process. Please feel free to forward to any other health professionals who may be interested as well. For more information on the impacts of social isolation and our program, check out our website: <https://www.ssipp.info/>

Process Flowchart



A Note about Confidentiality

Once we have confirmed interests in enrolling seniors into our program, we ask the referring physician / manager (if Long-Term Care home) to please send a password-protected excel spreadsheet listing referred seniors to a hospital affiliated email address. We ask that only the first name, last name, phone number, and language preference of the seniors be sent to us. All referral spreadsheets are kept in the hospital-associated OneDrive for confidentiality purposes. Only the SSIPP execs have access to the referral spreadsheets. The referring physician / manager can use a password of their choice, sent in a separate email, for further encryption and protection.

All volunteers are required to sign a confidentiality form detailing the limits of confidentiality, not discussing the conversational topics with anyone else, and not providing any medical advice. We record in our volunteer lists which volunteers have completed their confidentiality agreements. Given that all of our volunteers are medical students, we trust that they have had adequate training regarding confidentiality as well.

Length and Scope of the Program

The SSIPP Schulich / Western University chapter is set to run for the duration of COVID-19 isolation period. Currently we ask our volunteers to commit a minimum of 4 weeks once enrolled in this program and will extend the duration pending on future public health measures.

Our program offers a phone check-in partnership. We **do not** offer grocery delivery as a part of SSIPP program. However, if it is noted that a senior requires grocery / other delivery, we can refer them to an appropriate program (also run by Schulich students)