



Report from the Leadership Team April 2008

Client Centred Care

Expansion of Telehealth Services

Dr. Greg Gamble is now accessing the telehealth suite at St. Joseph's Health Centre to provide consultation services to clients who live outside of the Thunder Bay area and are unable to access services in their home communities.

Relocation of Mental Health Programs at LPH

The Community Geriatric Psychiatry Program was recently relocated from the back wing of LPH to a clinical area closer to the front of the building. The programs are now in close proximity with other clinical programs within LPH, which is beneficial to both clients and staff.

High Support Housing - Evergreen

Interdisciplinary team members provided transitional support for five LPH inpatients recently relocated to Evergreen. Juanita Lawson, an advocate with the Psychiatric Patient Advocacy Office, provided excellent support to the clients during this very significant change.

Outbreak Management

3 outbreaks have occurred this year: A respiratory outbreak of Influenza B at Bethammi Nursing Home, a respiratory outbreak with no identified microorganism at Hogarth Riverview Manor, and an outbreak of scabies at Hogarth Riverview Manor. All of the staff and management involved in the containment of these outbreaks are commended for their professionalism and diligent efforts.

SCORE-IT Project

The Special Rehabilitation unit has been assigned into the Process-Oriented approach for the SCORE-IT project. This approach focuses the use of strategies to promote teamwork in implementing evidence to meet clients' rehabilitation goals.

Chronic Pain Management Outreach Education

The Chronic Pain Team has developed a videoteleconferenced education series for clients in the region, scheduled to begin in April. Sessions will run once every two weeks and will cover a variety of topics related to chronic pain.

Hospice/Palliative Care

The Hospice/Palliative Care Unit is working in partnership with TBRHSC to improve the referral process for palliative clients. A new flow process has been established and the addition of several evidence based evaluation tools have been added to the admission criteria.

Our People

Tobogganing & Sleigh Ride

A WinterActive Tobogganing & Sleigh Ride outdoor wellness activity took place in February at Centennial Park. Response to the event was excellent, with over 130 employees and family members attending the evening of activities, including hot beverages and treats.

Workplace Pedometer Challenge

The WinterActive Workplace Pedometer Challenge involved tracking the number of steps taken between January 28th and February 29th, 2008 using a pedometer. 25 staff received free pedometers for the challenge from Parks & Recreation Ontario.

Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees (JOHSC)

Level 2 Certification Training was provided to 20 committee members to meet our continued commitment to having 3 Worker and 3 Management certified representatives on our Joint Health and Safety Committees. The legislative requirement in the Occupational Health and Safety Act requires certification of one worker and one management member.

Collaboration

Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health (CERAH)

The Hospice/Palliative Care Unit is participating with CERAH on an initiative focusing on the provision of palliative care in Long Term Care Homes, developed as part of the Aging in Place Strategy.

Building Bridges Conference

Building Bridges third annual conference was held on March 27th and 28th with more than 280 participants. This year, the focus of the conference was building resiliency with Aboriginal Youth and featuring national, regional and local expertise. This regional initiative is sponsored and fully supported by eight addiction and mental health agencies in Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario. The Care Group also featured two poster presentations regarding Sr. Margaret Smith Centre – Youth Services and Youth With An Open Mind.

OHA Safety Group

SJCG has joined the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) Safety Group along with 105 other healthcare facilities. The group's work is focused around the following 5 elements: health and safety policy, worker well-being, propane handling, early return to work and WHMIS. The Safety Group is an excellent venue for networking, collaboration, and working with our peers across the province to ensure safe workplaces.

LHIN eHealth Lead

Significant additional funding will flow for eHealth over the next three years and the eHealth program of the MOHLTC will be pushing out a great deal of activity over that time. eHealth is clearly viewed as an enabler to the two government priorities of access to services and family care for all.

Communication & Advocacy

Minister of Health and Long Term Care

Members of the Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services (CEISS) Steering Committee had a positive meeting with Minister George Smitherman on March 25th to provide an overview of the project initiatives to date, and to discuss any barriers or challenges to meeting the opening date of June 2011. Barry Potter and Tracy Buckler attended on behalf of the Care Group.

NWLHIN

A presentation was made to the NW LHIN Integration Advisory Committee regarding the development and evolution of the Integrated Youth Addiction System as an example of system integration. Diane Walker, Children's Centre Thunder Bay, Abi Sprakes of Thunder Bay Counseling Centre and Nancy Black made the presentation, which was very well received and generated fulsome discussion regarding opportunities for further integration particularly with acute and primary care.

Sister Margaret Smith Centre

Communication regarding the building of the new Sister Margaret Smith Centre and closure of the current site is underway. Significant media attention has been given to the project with both newspaper and television exposure.

Aboriginal Health

Dr. Paul Mulzer's presented his new film, *Sharing Tebwewin*, at the Building Bridges Conference. It is a documentary about the history of and challenges facing aboriginal people. *Sharing Tebwewin* means "sharing truth". Dr. Mulzer's first film, *Seeking Bimaadiziwin*, was selected for presentation at the provincial "Celebrating Innovations in Health Care Expo 2008".

Teaching & Research Identities

Medical Student Research Grant

Kendra Cote, a medical student, has been awarded a medical summer student research grant and will be working with Dr. Jack Haggarty on analysis of patient satisfaction measures in our shared mental health care sites.

Community Presentations

Staff from the Seniors' Mental Health Outreach programs provided information sessions to various community agencies to increase awareness and understanding of our programs and services.

Interprofessional Education Research

Michelle Addison and Kirsten Pavelich have been accepted to present their research on Interprofessional Education at the Altogether Better Health IV Conference in Stockholm, Sweden, as part of their work through the Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

Geriatric Clinical Interprofessional Practice

Ursula Danner and Tanya Shute from the Geriatric Assessment and Day Hospital Programs have been seconded on a part-time basis to CERAH. They will be working in collaboration with clinical consultants across the province to develop a curriculum on geriatric clinical interprofessional practice.

Capital Project Updates

Sister Margaret Smith Centre (SMSC)

The site preparation for the new SMSC continues, including tree removal and initial excavation. The property is now completely fenced off, to ensure a safe working environment for everyone. A LEED workshop was held for all contractors involved in the project to ensure their understanding of sustainable environmental design.

Mental Health Rehabilitation Program (MHRP)

The Block Schematic Report was submitted to the MOHLTC, and sketch plan meetings are underway. We are awaiting feedback from the Ministry in order to provide guidance during this next level of detailed design.

Renovations to the Main Floor of the existing St. Joseph's Hospital site included as part of the MHRP project are the Pharmacy, Gift Shop and the Physician's Offices. This will ensure adequate space for the additional volume of clients served.

Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services (CEISS)

A number of site visits were conducted by the design team and internal staff to consider existing Long Term Care Homes and Behavioural Units in the province. Further visits are being considered.

A Visioning Session was held with the Design Team and the Architects to begin to discuss the actual CEISS building, to be part of our existing Hogarth Riverview Manor site. This was attended by many internal stakeholders, as well as representation from the region and from the client/family perspective. The next session will be on April 14th to work on the Master Planning documents.