



## Report from the Leadership Team September 2008

Hoping that everyone had a chance to enjoy some of our wonderful summer, and welcome back! Based on feedback received last year, we will continue to structure the Leadership Team Report around the five strategic priorities, as well as provide regular updates on our Capital Projects.

### **Client Centred Care**

#### **Improving Diabetes Care in Seniors**

The Long-Term Care Programs of the Care Group, in partnership with Diabetes Health Thunder Bay, were successful in their submission to the Seniors Health Research Transfer Network (SHRTN) to establish a Community of Practice for *Improving Diabetes Care in Seniors*. Funding was received for a series of weekly education sessions to update long-term care staff on the latest best practice approaches to caring for residents with diabetes. The sessions will be presented by nurse educators from Diabetes Health Thunder Bay.

#### **Prosthetic Readiness**

The Amputee Team has developed guidelines for prosthetic readiness to educate clients on important milestones they must reach before being accepted as a prosthetic candidate. The intention is to identify those clients that may need therapy prior to being admitted for prosthetic training. The team has also started a support/coffee group for amputees.

#### **Pulmonary Rehabilitation**

The pulmonary rehabilitation program is beginning an additional pulmonary maintenance group to increase client access.

#### **Neuromuscular Movement Disorder Clinic**

The Neuromuscular Movement Disorder Clinic is expanding service through reallocation of physiotherapy and occupational therapy resources.

#### **Diabetes Health**

Camp Firefly, a summer camp for children with diabetes, was again a resounding success this year. The commitment and support of the staff and volunteers who participated in the camp is much appreciated.

#### **Wilderness Discovery Camp**

Clients in our Homes for Special Care Program participated in the Wilderness Discovery Camp. They planned and participated in meal preparation, cabin clean ups, and a variety of activities. By observing clients in this setting, staff became aware of several clinical issues needing to be addressed.

#### **Leisure Life Skills Client Activities**

Summer barbeques were initiated for our Mental Health Rehabilitation Outpatients to increase opportunities for socialization and promote development of new supports with other clients. More than 20 clients attended each barbeque and reported enjoyment from the experience.

Additional weekend and evening coverage by Leisure Life Skills staff was initiated on the inpatient programs allowing flexibility in scheduling community activities which included picnics, day trips to the parks and participation in special events.

#### **Garden Party**

The annual garden party for the geriatric clients on Dementia Care and Older Adult Programs was held. More than 140 people attended, including clients, family and staff from four Long Term Care Homes.

## **Our People**

### **Facilitating Leadership in Interprofessional Care (FLIC) Project**

Teams at the St. Joseph's Hospital site are participating in a Northern Ontario School of Medicine project entitled Facilitating Leadership in Interprofessional Care (FLIC). The purpose of the project is to facilitate the provision of comprehensive health services to clients by multiple health caregivers who work collaboratively to delivery quality care within and across settings.

### **Interprofessional Care/Interprofessional Education Faculty Development Program**

Linda Belcamino, Coordinator – Learning & Professional Practice has been accepted as a participant in the Interprofessional Care/Interprofessional Education Faculty Development Program sponsored by the Centre for Faculty Development at the University of Toronto. The program is intended to create and explore new systems, processes and tools that will facilitate interprofessional care and education.

## **Collaboration**

### **Seniors Community-Wide Fall Injury Prevention Program**

The Best Practice Guidelines Regional Coordinator, Long-Term Care, together with Bethammi Nursing Home and Hogarth Riverview Manor, submitted an idea sheet to the NWLHIN for a *Seniors Community-Wide Fall Injury Prevention Program* in Northwestern Ontario. The submission was successful, and the idea sheet has been developed into a full proposal. Long-term care homes in the city and region were invited to participate in the proposal development, and the completed proposal was submitted to NWLHIN in August.

### **Administrative Systems**

Significant progress was made over the summer on plans to replace the existing payroll, human resources and finance systems. Contract negotiations with the preferred vendor, Ormed, are being finalized. That project is being done in collaboration with Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, Nipigon District Memorial Hospital, and Manitouwadge General Hospital.

### **LHIN e-Health Lead**

In late June the Ministry's e-Health Program outlined its e-Health strategy. This strategy is about improved health, health care, patient safety and quality care for Ontarians. The initial focus will be on chronic disease management, specifically diabetes, and one of the strategy's objectives is to "create an electronic health record by 2015 and give Ontarians control over the information contained in it."

The province intends to invest \$2.4B in e-Health over the next four years with the following four priorities:

- create a diabetes registry
- provide an integrated clinical view using portal technology
- implement e-Prescribing and drug information systems
- establish a mechanism for increasing the use of electronic systems in physician offices.

### **Research Ethics Services**

We have entered into an agreement with Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre to collaborate on the administration of research ethics services. Kelly Morris, SJCG Research Services Coordinator, will provide leadership to streamline the process of research ethics review for both organizations while ensuring the highest level of protection for research participants as required by the Tri-Council Policy Statement and other national agencies.

## **Communication & Advocacy**

### **Opiate Project**

A meeting hosted by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health took place at St. Joseph's Health Centre to discuss their Opiate Project of which Thunder Bay is one of four target communities in the province. Benefits and risks of alternate medication protocols and delivery models were discussed. The focus is on teaching, which may include physicians prescribing opiates as well as a general public component.

### **Adult Insulin Pumps**

Insulin pumps for adults have recently been added to the Ontario Disability Program (ODP). Diabetes Health is one of the pilot sites in the province and was instrumental in advocating for having pumps included in the ODP.

### **C-Difficile Reporting**

Staff from Infection Control, Risk and Patient Safety Services has been working diligently to ensure that SJCG will meet Ministry requirements to report C-difficile rates this fall. The public and staff will be able to view SJCG rates via our web site.

### **Youth Addiction Services Residential Treatment – CBC National News Feature**

Youth Addiction Services, Intensive Residential Treatment Program was featured on the CBC National News (aired in July 2008). The young people and family members featured in the story were eloquent in the telling of their personal stories. We owe them our gratitude for finding the courage and strength to share deeply personal issues in this very public forum. Response from the program has been remarkable. Parents and care givers have contacted us for more information or to refer their children. Congratulatory messages were sent via email from our partners across the province and providers in other provinces across Canada have contacted us requesting more information.

## **Teaching & Research Identities**

### **Reduction of Stroke Research Project**

The Ministry of Health Promotion and Ontario Stroke Strategy accepted a multi-partner proposal from Sandy Lake First Nations, SJCG, and Baycrest. The project leaders are Denise Taylor, Physiotherapist, SJCG and John McKay, Health Director, Sandy Lake First Nations Health Authority. The aim of this \$120,000 project is to reduce the incidence of stroke by increasing stroke awareness and providing self management strategies and support to change modifiable risk factors.

### **Community Based Exercise Programs**

The joint proposal submitted by SJCG and the City of Thunder Bay to the Ministry of Health Promotion-Communities in Action Fund has been approved and awarded \$39,043. The site coordinators for the project entitled *Community Based Exercise Programs for People Living with Chronic Neurological Conditions* are Kirsti Reinikka, Esme French and Linda Adamson.

### **Presentations of Research**

Robillard, S.L., Jarva, J., & Haggarty, J. (June, 2008). Shared Mental Health Care Utilization in a Family Physician Office. Poster presentation for the 69th Annual Convention of the Canadian Psychological Association, Halifax, NS, CANADA

Jarva, J., Robillard, S.L., & Haggarty, J. (June, 2008). Characteristics of Work-Related Difficulties in a Shared Mental Health Care Service. Poster presentation for the 69th Annual Convention of the Canadian Psychological Association, Halifax, NS, CANADA

Aubie, C.D., & Robillard, S.L. (June, 2008). Deception in Eating Behaviour Research. Part of "Is deception in experimental research bad for participants? New data and methodological / theoretical considerations. Symposium for the 69th Annual Convention of the Canadian Psychological Association, Halifax, NS, CANADA

### **CAN-STRIVE Research**

The CAN-STRIVE research project, conducted by the University of Waterloo was completed at Bethammi Nursing Home and Hogarth Riverview Manor in August. This research captures the staff time spent in caring for residents and studies other elements of resident care and will help to ensure that residents cared for in our homes factor into the validation and refinement of the RUG-III and also into the Ontario-specific case weights for funding.

### **Employment Options Presentations**

Doug Dowhos, Employment Options was invited by ON CO-OP to attend their Annual Co-operative Conference to present "Innovation: The Strength of the Co-op Model". Doug also presented an overview of the Employment Options Program and its fit with Psychosocial Rehabilitation to the Ontario Association

of Patients' Councils (OAPC) meeting, hosted by the Northwestern Ontario Patient's Council in Thunder Bay in July.

### **Library Services**

Library Services has purchased a one-year trial to a new resource, Nursing Reference Centre (NRC), a point-of-care tool. Although geared to nurses, this on-line reference tool will also appeal to other health care professionals. NRC provides information on conditions and diseases, patient education resources, drug information, best practice guidelines, research instruments and lab and diagnostic detail.

## **Capital Project Updates**

### **Sister Margaret Smith Centre (SMSC)**

Significant progress is being made on construction of our new SMSC, with the work continuing on schedule and on budget. Work along Lillie St. (sidewalks, curbs, parking, and street paving) will be completed by early October, planting of landscape features will follow in 2009.

Several SMSC Transfer Committee meetings were held to further develop the plans associated with the move from the present to new facility. A separate meeting group has been set up to address operational issues of staff that are not moving to the new SMSC, space in the hospital and the LPH will be used for these functions.

### **Mental Health Rehabilitation Program (MHRP)**

We have had discussion of the Block Schematic Report with the MOHLTC related to concerns over the increase in area and capital costs. A detailed response for each space, explaining the reasons for variance between the Functional Program and the Revised Functional Program was submitted to the MOHLTC. The Ministry has reviewed our variance explanation and has agreed to include only some of the elements in a 'tweak' to the functional program. We are addressing this issue with further correspondence to the Ministry.

### **Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors Services (CEISS)**

Master planning and functional programming portions of the project are being finalized. Schematic design is progressing with completion scheduled for mid-October. The project team is meeting the aggressive schedule laid out for this project. SJCG continues follow up with the Ministry to address the updated project budget requirements with relation to the required project elements.

### **Honeywell Energy Retrofit Project**

The project is progressing on schedule at the St. Joseph's Hospital site with minimal disruption to staff and clients. The new chiller was installed on the fifth floor roof in August and was put in service in the first week of September. Removal work in the fifth floor penthouse continues in preparation for installation of new equipment.