



Report from the Leadership Team February 2009

Client Centred Care

Physiotherapy Services

Beginning this month, physiotherapy services will be offered to the tenants of the P. R. Cook Apartments, to provide preventative care to reduce the potential for falls and to offer our tenants additional support.

Caregiver Retreat

A full day retreat was held for caregivers of clients of the Manor House Adult Day Program, with respite provided for two additional clients to allow their caregivers to attend.

Insulin Pump Classes

Diabetes Health has responded to increase client interest for insulin pump classes for adults. The Assistive Devices Program is complete for January and clients are being scheduled for February and March.

Neurology Day Program

Neurology Day Program team members Keli Cristofaro, Michelle Gravelle and John Clack participated in Dr. Jog's Clinic on January 17th, 18th & 19th to provide information on resources available in the community and to facilitate more effective ongoing client-centred care.

Our People

Pharmacy Poster Presentation

Kerry Joy, Pharmacist displayed a poster presentation at the St. Joseph's Care Group "Making a Difference: 2009 Showcase of Applied Health Research" Conference on Friday, February 6, 2009 at the Nor'Wester Hotel – a first for our Pharmacy Department!

2nd Annual "Fun & Fitness" Volleyball Tournament

St. Joseph's Care Group 2nd Annual "Fun & Fitness" Volleyball Tournament, organized by Marie Murray, wrapped up on January 28th with four teams playing exhilarating games in the "Grand" Finals. A total of eight teams played over 40 volleyball games during the month of January.

The tournament would not have been possible without the help of enthusiastic volunteers. Special thanks to Sheilagh Barney, Jordan Bonham, Lyndsey Brooks, Deanna Carlson, Allison Hill, April Johnstone, Joanne Kasaboski, Michelle Knudson, Duncan Koza, Linda McDonald, Jennifer MacKenzie, Troy Mangatal, Marie Murray, Linda Piscioneri and Shelley Tallon.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Linda Adamson, a retired St. Joseph's Care Group employee who continues to sit on the MS Society Board of Directors as our Liaison Representative, has been awarded the "Volunteer of the Year Award".

Outstanding Achievement Award

Congratulations to Sophie Regalado, Librarian, Coordinator, Library Services who won the Ontario Health Libraries Association (OHLA) award for outstanding achievement. Sophie is the Webmaster on the OHLA Executive Committee. Sophie's contributions were recognized at the most recent OHLA annual general meeting held in Toronto.

Information Services

The number of users, sites and applications supported by the Joint Information Services (SJCG and TBRHSC) staff continue to grow. Some interesting facts:

- Number of sites supported: **46**
- Number of system users: **5,925**
- Number of help desk calls in 2008: **27,109**
- Number of emails received in 2008: **20,304,360**
- Number of viruses intercepted: **13,259**
- Number of auto-faxed forms: **659,500**
- Number of interfaces supported: **39**

Seating Lab

Irene Erickson, Physiotherapist, instructed a Seating Lab for the McMaster University physiotherapy students in the Northern Studies Stream on January 7th.

Collaboration

Regional Geriatric Initiatives

For the past 18 months, St. Joseph's Care Group (SJCG) has partnered with the Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health (CERAH) at Lakehead University and the Regional Geriatric Programs of Ontario in a \$1.7M initiative. In this collaboration, Tanya Shute, Social Worker, represented SJCG and the NW Region along with 9 other Regional Geriatric representatives to provide geriatric workshops in seven Ontario cities.

Tanya also played a significant role in the organizing of the Geriatric Interprofessional Practice and Interorganizational Collaboration Project (GiiC) conference held on January 13th & 14th, 2009. Dr. Trevor Bon, Geriatrician was one of the guest speakers, with a focus on "Geriatrics and Frailty".

LHIN e-Health

Beginning March 2, 2009, Brian Kytör will be joining the NW LHIN as the Chief Information Officer and eHealth Lead. Thank you to Bruce Sutton, who for many months now, professionally and competently assumed this responsibility, in addition to his "real job" of SJCG/TBRHSC Chief Information Officer.

The LHIN has established an eHealth advisory team with membership from hospitals, CCAC, K-Net, a family health team physician, a Nurse Practitioner and others. This team will advise the LHIN leadership and the Board on NW-specific eHealth issues.

As one of the many ALC strategies, the LHIN is planning to install a software application that facilitates the process of matching available beds to patients on waiting lists and improves the efficiency of the transfer of patient information between facilities. Such a product showed great results in the Calgary region and that same product has been installed in the Toronto Central LHIN. TBRHSC has agreed to be paymaster for this project and it is hoped to have purchased the application before the fiscal year end. The intent is to expand the use of the system throughout the NWLHIN in the future.

Sudbury Visitors - St. Joseph's Health Centre

St. Joseph's Hospital Complex Care Team hosted a site visit from St. Joseph's Health Centre in Sudbury. With a new Complex Care Facility opening in Sudbury, our guests were keen to see how inpatient complex continuing care has been advanced in Thunder Bay, and to explore the possibilities of outpatient services.

Senior-Friendly Workshop

St. Joseph's Care Group collaborated with the Centre for Education and Research on Aging and Health (CERAH) to host a Senior-Friendly Workshop at the Victoria Inn. This informative day included presentations by Tracy Buckler (SJCG), Dr. Mary Lou Kelley (CERAH) and Dr. David Ryan, Director of Education, Regional Geriatric Program of Toronto.

Pen Pal Program

A partnership/pen pal program is being initiated with the Thunder Bay Christian School for clients of the Support Services Program at P. R. Cook Apartments.

MOST Program

The MOST Program continues to videoconference for regional participants but changed the format slightly in the recent group - participants attended in person for the first and last session to increase the rapport within the group and to complete the assessments. All participants and the facilitators (Denise Taylor, PT and Kirsten Pavelich, PT) found the in-person component to be beneficial.

Living with Parkinson's Program

Michelle Gravelle, Physiotherapist and Keli Cristofaro, Therapeutic Recreationist gave a presentation to the Parkinson's Monthly Support Group promoting the "Living with Parkinson's Program". This program will be coordinated by the Neurology Day Program Team for the month of March 2009.

Alzheimer Society Seminar

Dr. Trevor Bon will be speaking at the Alzheimer Society's First Link Seminar on February 12, 2009. The public forum is entitled *Rising Tide: The Impact of Dementia on Canadian Society*.

Communication & Advocacy

Honorary Director

It was with sadness that we learned of the death of P.R. (Jerry) Cook, Honorary Director, St. Joseph's Foundation. Mr. Cook was critical in the development of St. Joseph's Heritage 30 years ago, and was the inaugural Chair of the Board of Management. He was also the first Chair of St. Joseph's Foundation Board of Directors, a position he held for 16 years. We extend condolences to his wife Marie and family.

National Eating Disorder Awareness Week

National Eating Disorder Awareness Week was recognized by the Youth Advisory Group of the Eating Disorder Program at St. Joseph's Care Group from February 1-7, 2009. The Youth Group developed an advertisement and Letter to the Editor entitled, "If You Think it's About Food...Think Again". The letters ran in both the Chronicle Journal and Lakehead University's "The Argus". The goal of the ads and letter was to raise awareness about eating disorders and body image issues.

Ontario Stroke Network

Trish Nelson, Manager Physical Rehabilitation Programs, attended the Ontario Stroke System Rehabilitation & Community Engagement Subcommittee meeting in Toronto. This subcommittee to the Ontario Stroke Network is advocating mandatory use of the Alpha FIM standardized tool in clients diagnosed with stroke and mandatory data reporting to CIHI.

Teaching & Research Identities

Poster Competition Winner

Congratulations to Carrie Gibbons Research Coordinator, SJCG Research Department, whose poster was one of three selected as a poster competition winner at this year's 4th Annual Stigma Conference: Stigma and Discrimination - Evidence for Action, London, England. Other authors contributing to the winning poster included Sacha Dubois, Kelly Morris, Barbara Parker and Michel Bédard. Carrie was also awarded a conference travel bursary from the South London and Maudsley National Health Service Foundation Trust Charitable Funds.

CANSTRIVE

All complex care inpatient units (with the exception of 5N – Transition) at St. Joseph's Hospital participated in this University of Waterloo study. The purpose of the research is to determine if the Resource Utilization Groups (RUGs) accurately reflect the resources needed to provide the care required by our clients. RUGs Coordinator Cathy Lavigne coordinated this research project working with Scott Munro as lead manager - things went beautifully and staff participation was excellent. Thank you to everyone involved!

CERAH Presentation

Dr. Mary Lou Kelly, of CERAH, presented 'Palliative Care in Long-Term Care' to staff at Bethammi Nursing Home. The presentation was based on participatory research conducted at Bethammi in 2008.

Capital Project Updates

Sister Margaret Smith Centre (SMSC)

Progress continues on construction of our new SMSC, with the work continuing on schedule. Work continues on the interior, as well as exterior finishing work. The SMSC Transfer Committee met in January to further develop the plans associated with the move from the present to new facility.

Mental Health Rehabilitation Program (MHRP)

The MHRP Steering Committee is reviewing the draft scope of work for the 'Head Start' project associated with the MHRP project to ensure minimal disruption to the Hospital site operation during the construction phase.

A request for proposal will go out for consultants to conduct the Master Programming/Master Planning exercise as required by the MOHLTC. This will ensure the best integration of the MHRP with the Hospital and will also allow us to plan for future development at other SJCG sites.

Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors Services (CEISS)

The project design team has been working on options and alternatives to reduce the overall budget for the CEISS project, at the request of the Minister of Health, and taking into account the current state of the economy. These options will be presented for the Board's review and consideration.

Honeywell Energy Retrofit Project

Installation work on the new boilers in the Hospital penthouse and associated piping to the existing boiler room continues. Installation of new lighting fixtures at the Hospital continues. The project is progressing on schedule at the hospital site with minimal disruption to clients and staff.