



Report from the Leadership Team March 2009

Client Centred Care

Falls and Footwear Display

The 1st Annual Falls and Footwear display was on view in the St. Joseph's Hospital lobby during the week of February 20th. Thank you to Occupational Therapists Noel Heath, Kim Kember, Randy Middleton and Marg Jurcic for their efforts in organizing this successful event.

Disease-Specific Exercise Programs

A two-year grant that Complex Care and Rehabilitation Services received from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Communities in Action Fund (CIAF) is allowing us to coordinate and support three disease specific exercise programs (Stroke, Parkinson's Disease and Multiple Sclerosis) at the Canada Games Complex in partnership with The City of Thunder Bay, Lakehead University Kinesiology Program, and Thunder Bay Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Evergreen First Anniversary (High Support Housing – Mental Health)

The tenants of Evergreen hosted a one-year anniversary tea in celebration of their first year in the home. The tea was well attended by clinical staff, Leadership Team and tenants from other residences.

Dementia Care Program Environmental Improvements

A fourth year Lakehead University art student has been retained to paint a mural on the inside of the main entrance door of the Dementia Care Program as a best practice initiative to reduce client exit seeking. The student will commence work on the mural in March and will also be doing some work to create a warm and comforting atmosphere in the palliative care room.

Client Support

St. Joseph's Health Centre staff is providing one time assessments for clients needing a diagnosis for access to programs or benefits and clients needing completion of forms to access Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefits. These clients do not need to be registered to any of our teams.

Mental Health Adult Rehabilitation Program Community Meeting

Changes have been implemented to the Program Community Meeting on the Mental Health Adult Rehabilitation Program. The frequency of the meetings was changed from a monthly meeting to a weekly meeting to encourage greater client participation and feedback. Client initial responses suggest that this has been an improvement with beneficial results.

New Leisure Life Skills Program for Mental Health Adult Rehabilitation

Leisure Life Skills staff have initiated a new Breakfast Club Program in Mental Health Adult Rehabilitation twice a month to improve client socialization skills, enhance budgeting skills and educate clients on healthy food choices. Client participation has been good and feedback has been positive.

Our People

Interprofessional Student Teams

Michelle Addison, Physiotherapist made a presentation at the Ontario Interprofessional Collaborative Conference on "Facilitator Education and Support: Key to the Success of the Clinical Interprofessional Student Teams".

Geriatric Psychiatrist

Welcome to Dr. Patricia Lepage who joined the Seniors' Community Psychiatry Program on February 1st. Dr. Lepage will work primarily with seniors in their home settings with the goal to support them in that setting, and thereby reduce the need for ER/inpatient admissions.

Journal Rounds

Dr. Edouard St. Pierre has taken the lead in coordinating regular journal rounds with the staff from Seniors' Mental Health Programs. Journal rounds will take place every six weeks with Dr. St. Pierre facilitating discussion about the information contained in specific scholarly published articles that are relevant to our practice with older adults.

Nurse Practitioners – Mental Health

The College of Nurses of Ontario is developing a new quality practice process for nurse practitioners. Vivian Johnston will be involved in the blueprint development. Ken MacKenzie will be involved in an item writing workshop to develop appropriate evaluation questions for new candidates applying for licensure as nurse practitioners with the College of Nurses of Ontario.

Ontario Psychiatric Association President

Congratulations to Dr. Paul Mulzer who recently accepted the role of President of the Ontario Psychiatric Association during the annual conference on February 27th and 28th, 2009. The Ontario Psychiatric Association is the provincial voice of Ontario's Psychiatrists.

Mental Health Commission of Canada

Janet Sillman, VP Mental Health and Addiction Services, along with 25 individuals from Northern Ontario, participated in a regional stakeholder dialogue about mental health system transformation in Canada. Participants discussed the draft document "Toward Recovery and Well-Being: A Framework for a Mental Health Strategy for Canada". Information from these sessions, combined with the results of an online public consultation and other input will be used to finalize the Framework document for release in the spring of 2009.

Collaboration

PSW Program Advisory Committee

The Manager Long-Term Care, Hogarth Riverview Manor, and Manager, LTC Community Service Programs will participate as part of the PSW Advisory Committee through Confederation College. This advisory committee will provide input on the curriculum development of the PSW Program.

Hospice Northwest

St. Joseph's Care Group is pleased to welcome Hospice Northwest as our newest tenant at our St. Joseph's Heritage site. Renovations to the main floor area are being completed with an expected move-in date at the beginning of March.

Arthritis Care

The Rheumatic Disease Program, Dr. Fidler and The Arthritis Society are exploring improved ways to manage referrals for arthritis care in Northwestern Ontario. The use of a standardized referral tool and a central triage for all rheumatology services is expected to have a significant impact on timeliness of referral, and will help to avoid duplication of service.

Dementia Care Network

The Dementia Care Network, consisting of several representatives from Seniors' Mental Health Programs has produced and uploaded an introductory video clip available on the Dementia Network website.

Joint Planning Retreat – Mental Health and Addiction Services

Mental Health and Addiction Program Managers, Coordinators, Supervisors, Clinical Leaders and Psychiatrists from Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Care Group spent a full day together to learn about the strategic priorities of each health corporation and to identify proactive and shared opportunities to improve planning, coordination of mental health and addiction services across our two corporations and throughout the communities we serve.

Regional Agency Support

Tiina James, Northwestern Ontario Concurrent Disorders Program – St. Joseph's Health Centre, met with Mary Elder of the Fort Frances Tribal Area Health Services Inc. Counseling Unit Maa'aawichige Agamig to provide assistance and information in establishing an Addictions Treatment program there.

Communication & Advocacy

Incident Reporting and Prevention System Review

Deb Emery, Pharmacy Manager participated as a reviewer for the Canadian Institute of Health Information's (CIHI) Hospital-Based Reporting System for the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System (CMIRPS).

Eating Disorders Awareness Week

In recognition of Eating Disorders Awareness week, the Eating Disorders Youth Advisory Group developed a poster that was distributed to schools throughout the region. The poster was featured in the St. Joseph's Hospital cafeteria for Fearless Friday when all staff members were treated to complimentary pastries at morning coffee break. Brook Latimer worked with the members of the Youth Advisory Group to create a letter to the editor, which was published in The Source on February 13th.

Dementia Care Community Agency Day

Representatives from Seniors' Mental Health Programs participated in an expo for health and community service professionals working with individuals and families living with dementia. The expo is a collaborative event sponsored by the Alzheimer Society Thunder Bay and the North West Community Care Access Centre.

Teaching & Research Identities

Pharmacy Student

Beginning March 2nd, pharmacists Karen Holroyd and Susan Siczkar will be teaching associates to Charlene Wilson, a 4th year student of the University of Toronto in the 8 week Structured Practical Experience Program. Charlene will also be participating in the Students Partnering in Interprofessional Care and Education (SPICE) Program.

Student Feedback

Positive feedback was received from an Occupational Therapy student from McMaster University related to her innovative interprofessional placement experience with the Dementia Care Program. The student's feedback emphasized the value and importance of continuing with the interprofessional model with future student placements and how the experience facilitates the student's knowledge of the roles of various disciplines and how they work together to enhance client care.

Knowledge Exchange

In response to requests from long term care facilities and other care providers, the Psychogeriatric Resource Coordinator provided education and participated in knowledge exchange including; cross sector education for care givers working with clients with intellectual developmental challenges and sexual behaviours, information exchange on helping families make the transition to long term care at Pinewood Court, and a caregiver series to address topics such as guilt, burnout, care giver stress, effective communication, and responsive behaviours for the Family Council at Roseview Manor.

Showcase of Applied Health Research

SJCG recently hosted the 4th annual "Making a Difference: Showcase of Applied Health Research". The Showcase provides a venue for researchers to share their research in areas relevant to our programs.

The Showcase included a keynote address by Dr. Shawn Marshall from the Department of Medicine, University of Ottawa entitled "Medical conditions and reduced fitness to drive – What you can do about it". This was followed by 8 oral presentations and 22 poster presentations by local researchers. The Showcase was well attended with 130 registrants including clinicians, researchers, administrators and students from SJCG and various community organizations.

Café Scientifique

With funding from the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CHIR) through the Café Scientifique program, the SJCG Research Department hosted **Risky Driving ~ Medications and drugs: The driver's role to prevent crashes**, at Fox on the Run.

The goal of the Café Scientifique program is to provide a forum for interaction between the public and experts in a given field in an informal location. The panel experts included two CIHR researchers with expertise in medication use and driving, a local pharmacist and an OPP officer. Participants learned about the influence of drugs on driving abilities, particularly as we age, the role of the pharmacist as a source of information, and the upcoming changes in the enforcement of impaired driving.

Capital Project Updates

Sister Margaret Smith Centre (SMSC)

The construction completion schedule has been extended slightly due to a technical issue with the flooring; however, our programming will start at the new site in September as planned. The SMSC Transfer Committee met in February to further develop the plans associated with the move from the present to new facility. Closing ceremonies for the existing SMSC are scheduled for June.

Mental Health Rehabilitation Program (MHRP)

The MHRP 'Head Start' project (associated with the MHRP project) scope of work continues to be refined. Scope items include access to site during demolition and construction, environmental work prior to demolition, and planning to ensure minimal disruption to the Hospital site during these phases.

The RFP for Master Programming/Master Plan services for SJCG was issued in February and will close March 2, 2009, with work to begin in early March. The Master Programming/Master Plan was requested by the Ministry to develop a 20-year forecast for interface of the MHRP/Hospital and other SJCG sites.

Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors Services (CEISS)

A response to the MOHLTC's December 16, 2009 letter was sent confirming commitment to the project, and confirming scope and updated budget. A functional program, space tables, and capital cost funding breakdowns were also submitted to the Ministry. We continue follow up with the Ministry to address the updated project budget requirements and the scope of required project elements.

Honeywell Energy Retrofit Project

Installation work on the new boilers in the St. Joseph's Hospital penthouse and associated piping to the existing boiler room continues, along with work on hot water boilers and glycol systems. Installation of new lighting fixtures is complete at the Hospital with the exception of continuing installation of some lighting sensors. The project is progressing on schedule at the St. Joseph's Hospital site with minimal disruption to clients and staff.