

Caring Communities – Healthier People: Making a Difference

Health Check-In

December 2008

Joint LHIN-OHA task force reviewing hospital agreements

A joint task force is reviewing and providing recommendations on the best practices and process of the next edition of the hospital accountability agreements. The review will examine education, communications and negotiations to identify “lessons learned” for the development of future agreements.

Vaughan CHC joins Central LHIN

At Central LHIN’s November board meeting, directors accepted the assignment of the [Vaughan Community Health Centre](#) and approved disbursement of the 2008-09 budget of over \$1 million. The Vaughan CHC offers primary health care, health promotion and community development for those who reside in Vaughan. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care determines the system-wide planning for the creation of new Community Health Centres (CHC), develops initial budget in consultation with the CHC, and then assigns the program to a LHIN once the Centre is operational.

Citizen’s Discussion on Engagement and Health

Thirty-six residents were randomly selected from an invitation list of 1500 LHIN citizens to participate in a citizen’s panel. On Saturday, November 29th, residents gathered at Rouge Woods Community Centre in Richmond Hill to determine effective community engagement. The information obtained from the Citizen’s Panel will be used to create a scorecard that will evaluate future LHIN community engagement activities.

HealthForceOntario and LHIN partnership

[HealthForceOntario](#) and the LHINs are in the process of hiring a Community Partnership Coordinator. These 14 individuals (one for each LHIN) will work on issues associated with recruitment and retention of health professionals, health human resource policy and planning. Interviews are scheduled for December and it is anticipated that these positions will be located in the LHIN offices across the province.

Join us at our next public Board meeting

December 16th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at [Reena](#)
927 Clark Avenue West, Thornhill

For additional information, please contact Mario Longo at (905) 948-1872 ext. 214 or by e-mail at Mario.Longo@lhins.on.ca.

Agency-hospital transportation model maximizes efficiencies

A partnership between [CHATS](#) and [Southlake Regional Health Centre](#) in Newmarket to provide group rides to medical appointments for seniors is maximizing efficiency by saving time and money. As part of the provincial Aging at Home initiative, the Central LHIN has provided funding in an effort to pilot the group drive model in the Total Knee Rehab Clinic at Southlake Regional Health Centre. A study conducted by CHATS prior to the launch of the pilot revealed that nearly 300 people were being transported to and from individual appointments at Southlake and other neighbouring clinics over a three-month period. The purpose of the project is to look to see how we could develop a group drive model that connects patients with health services.

Community accountability agreement principals approved

With the introduction of Multi-Sector Accountability Agreement for the community sector, Central LHIN Board of Directors approved the following principles for reviewing Community Annual Planning Submissions and related Accountability Agreements:

- Achieve a balanced or surplus operating position in each of the two years
- Service volumes must be equal to or greater than those provided in the previous year
- Performance will be assessed by targets established by the Accountability Agreement
- Performance obligations will be monitored on a quarterly basis by Central LHIN
- The second-quarter report will be used to proxy year-end performance to ensure that there are no decreases between budgeted and actual service volumes.

From our family to yours

We wish you a happy and safe holiday. All the best in the New Year.

We look forward to reconnecting in 2009.