

WWLHINformation

Waterloo Wellington LHIN



Waterloo Wellington LHIN eNewsletter - February 22nd Edition

The WWLHINformation eNewsletter is a bi-weekly update to keep you informed of the latest news, events, and successes in health care across the WWLHIN as we continue working together to build an integrated and sustainable health system for residents in Waterloo Wellington.

As part of the eNewsletter, we are looking for your contributions. Are you looking for a new way to share information or invite the community to health care related events? Send your news and events with links to more information and we'll include it in an upcoming edition.

Please forward WWLHINformation to others who may be interested in local health care news and events. For new readers, please [click here](#) to subscribe. To unsubscribe please send an email to connie.coggan@lhins.on.ca.

New Addictions and Mental Health System Coordinators

Two Addictions and Mental Health System Coordinators have been hired to support and enhance the work of the WWLHIN Addictions & Mental Health Network. In December 2010, on behalf of the Network, Trellis Mental Health and Developmental Services posted two new positions for a System Coordinator. Utilizing a project management approach, the System Coordinators will work closely with the Core Action Group of the Network to move forward the priorities identified in the Integrated Health Service Plan (IHSP) and the provincial priorities. They will also work closely with key stakeholders at various regional planning tables and committees across the system to help move current projects forward to improve and enhance access, coordination and integration of addictions and mental health services.

Trellis will employ these positions on behalf of the system. In addition, a small team representing the WWLHIN, the Core Action Group, Addictions and Mental Health providers and Trellis will meet monthly with the System Coordinators to provide guidance and support to their work. The System Coordinators will also work closely with the Service Resolution Facilitators, and the Geriatric Systems Coordinator in Waterloo Wellington to ensure seamless planning and coordination. The new System Coordinators are:

- **Lindsay Klassen:** Lindsay has had system experience as the Drug Strategy Coordinator in Wellington County, as well as with the Crime Prevention Council in Waterloo. Lindsay has her Masters in Social Work with a focus on community development, and has a range of clinical experience in both addictions and mental health. Lindsay is extremely organized and outcome focussed, and brings strong leadership and facilitation skills to this role.
- **Dwight Syms:** Dwight has been the Service Resolution Facilitator serving the Children's and Developmental Services Sectors across Wellington and Dufferin Counties for the past five years. He has been very effective in facilitating the resolution of some extremely complex individual situations, as well as partnering to collaboratively bring about system change in these sectors. Dwight has a Masters Degree in Couple and Family Therapy, which he has applied in a number of diverse clinical and business environments, demonstrating strong leadership and accountability in his

work.

For more information, contact: Patricia Symmsutherland, Manager, Health System Transformation, at 519-650-4472 x234.

Program Improves Quality of Life for Seniors on Dialysis



For those diagnosed with end-stage renal disease, having treatment options that support patient independence and mobility can make all the difference in quality of life. While local residents have the option to receive hemodialysis in the hospital or peritoneal dialysis (PD) at home, residents in long-term care homes were only able to receive hospital care. This meant travelling to the hospital three times per week, for four-hour treatments.

Fortunately, as the result of a new partnership, supported by the Waterloo Wellington LHIN and developed between the Grand River Hospital Regional Renal Program and two local long-term care homes, residents can receive peritoneal dialysis in these long-term care facilities, eliminating the need for travel, and greatly improving their quality of life.

“We had one resident who said that being able to receive PD at Stirling Heights meant that he could finally move out of the hospital into a real home. He had been living in the hospital for more than a year because there wasn’t a home available that could meet his complex needs. He was thrilled to move here, to have all of his personal things with him in a comfortable place, and to be able to receive the treatment he needs,” shared Cheryl Lawrence-Holmes, Executive Director of Stirling Heights Long-Term Care.

[Click here](#) to read this story and others in the WWLHINformation Bulletin.

Grand River Hospital Scores Among Top Ontario Hospitals for Fast Access to Hip Surgery

Waterloo Region patients are benefiting from quick access to surgery at Grand River Hospital to repair hip fractures.

Data from the Ministry of Health shows in the 2009-2010 fiscal year, 96.83 per cent of GRH patients received hip fracture surgery in less than two days. This rate was well above the provincial average of 86.44 per cent. Fast access to surgery to mend hip fractures is vital for better patient outcomes as well as re-gaining mobility and independence.

“As our population ages, early access to orthopaedic procedures such as hip fracture repair surgery is increasingly important” said Sue Robertson, vice-president of clinical services and chief nursing officer. “Grand River Hospital is one of the largest centres for orthopaedic surgery in our local health integration network, and we’re proud of the staff and physicians whose hard work has made this possible.”

[Click here](#) for more information.

New Rural Health Webpage Launched



The WWLHIN has launched a new page on its website dedicated to Rural Health Care. Here you will find the latest news, updates from the Rural Health Network, and the Rural Record Newsletter (a summary of the latest in Rural Health advancements and a tracking scorecard on the implementation of the WWLHIN Rural Health Review Report Recommendations).

[Click here](#) to view the new page.

Volunteers Needed

The following local organizations are currently looking for volunteers:

- **A.R. Goudie Eventide Home Leisure Pal** - One or two hours per week spending time with a senior; Kitchener; 519-744-5182, ext. 207
- **Canadian Diabetes Association** - Flexible positions in programs: office assistant, fundraisers, special event volunteers, community presenter; Waterloo Region; 519-742-1481, ext. 221
- **Community Care Concepts of Woolwich, Wellesley and Wilmot** - Drivers for Meals on Wheels program delivering meals to seniors, helping with assisted transportation program taking clients to and from appointments; congregate dining volunteers joining clients for a meal and socializing; flexible scheduling; Waterloo Region; 519-669-3023
- **Community Support Connections, Meals on Wheels and More** - Enabling seniors and adults living with disabilities to live at home with independence and dignity; driver escort, visiting, Meals on Wheels volunteers; mileage reimbursement available; Kitchener-Waterloo; 519-772-8787
- **Trinity Village Studios: Gardening** - Planting, coming in weekly to water a garden plot, patio garden, side garden, herb garden and front garden; weeding and picking fresh grown items; Kitchener; 519-896-3112, ext. 248
- **Waterloo Senior Services** - Assisting seniors who register with programs and services; including senior outing day program activity assistants, meal program kitchen helpers, volunteer drivers, shopper escorts or list shopper volunteers and an on-call 55 plus computer club coach/mentor; weekdays; Waterloo; 519-888-6488

