

WWLHINformation

Waterloo Wellington LHIN



Waterloo Wellington LHIN eNewsletter - November 14, 2011

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, to subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an email to connie.macdonald@lhins.on.ca.

Senior Friendly Hospital Care

Improving the health and wellbeing of seniors in hospital

A hospital stay can have a major influence on the health and wellbeing of seniors. Seniors visit hospitals more than any other group and receive care in nearly every area of the hospital. In fact, seniors are three times more likely to be hospitalized than younger people.

While rest is important to a patient's recovery, sometimes, being in bed for long periods of time when you are ill can actually be harmful, and seniors are a particularly vulnerable group. Research shows that seniors' health declines the longer they stay in hospital due to complications, lack of activity and infections. This can lead to prolonged hospital stays and can reduce their chances of regaining their health and independence. One-third of all frail seniors lose independent function during hospitalization and half of these seniors are unable to fully recover the function they lost.

To address this issue, the Ontario Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) are leading a quality improvement initiative called the Senior Friendly Hospital Strategy aimed at improving seniors' health and preventing their physical and mental decline in hospital. A senior friendly hospital responds to seniors' physical and mental health needs, promotes good health, is safe, and supports seniors, their families and caregivers to be involved in the person's care.

In the first step of the strategy, all 155 adult hospitals in Ontario completed an assessment of their activities to support seniors' care and identified areas for improvement. LHIN-level reports and a provincial summary report titled *Senior Friendly Hospital Care Across Ontario* were then developed to identify key opportunities for LHINs and hospitals to enhance the care of seniors.

[Click here](#) for more information and to read the local and provincial reports.

Local Nurse Wins Nursing Leadership Award

Story by: Deb Bartlett/ Submitted by: The Ontario Long-Term Care Association

Andrea Brissette spent 17 years working in a hospital setting before moving to Hilltop Manor in Cambridge. One of the Ontario Long Term Care Association's Nursing Leadership Award winners is a veteran nurse who is new to the sector.

Andrea Brissette became a nurse at 19, and spent 17 years working in acute care. She moved to a retirement setting for a couple of years, and now works as assistant director of resident care at peopleCare Hilltop Manor Cambridge, where her outstanding leadership is valued by her colleagues.

"As a registered practical nurse (RPN) I had enhanced my skills over those 17 years but I wasn't going to be able to do anything other than working on the floor. I wanted to challenge myself so I pursued a change," says Brissette.

She is happy working in long-term care where she thinks she makes a difference every day with the staff and the residents. [Click here](#) to read more.

Boot Toll Fundraiser Aims to De-Clutter Barriers to Hoarder Support

Hoarding is a serious issue that directly and indirectly impacts Canadians and their families every day, causing greater risk of health and safety concerns in the home, not only for the hoarder, but for their neighbours as well. As a result, Waterloo Fire Rescue's Fire Prevention Division partnered with Community Support Connections – *Meals on Wheels and More* to host a fundraiser at Conestoga Mall on Saturday November 12th to raise money and awareness about this issue.

Representatives from two of the organizations who belong to the Waterloo Region Network: Response to Hoarding Committee were on hand to answer questions, give advice, and direct those with concerns to resources in the community, while raising funds to support an emergency support fund.

[Click here](#) for more information.

WWLHIN, WWCCAC and OMA Co-host Physician Education Sessions

In October, the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network, Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre (WWCCAC), and the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) co-hosted two education sessions with local physicians.

These sessions included information on the Home First philosophy, updates on new clinical tools available locally including ClinicalConnect, and also provided physicians with an opportunity to share their successes and ideas for improvements in the local health system.

Many physicians shared their enthusiasm for the early successes they have witnessed from Home First. Home First is a philosophy that supports home as the primary destination when seniors are discharged from hospital. People who receive care in their homes are generally happier, more comfortable in a familiar setting and tend to heal more quickly.

Physicians at both sessions were also eager to learn about ClinicalConnect, a secure online portal that provides health care professionals with real-time access to their patients' electronic medical information.

Learn more about :[Home First](#), [ClinicalConnect](#), and our ongoing [community engagement efforts](#). Thank you to the local physicians who attended these sessions and to our community partners at the WWCCAC and OMA for co-hosting this event!

FREE Clinical Cultural Competence Train-the-Trainer Workshop

When: November 21-22, 2011 – 9.m.- 5p.m.

Where: Holiday Inn, Kitchener, 30 Fairway Road at Hwy 8

What: A 2-day workshop designed for those considering or preparing to incorporate cultural competence education within a health care setting. The focus of the workshop will be to orient participants to specific considerations regarding cultural competence, as well as the development, implementation and evaluation of a cultural competence education program. Through participation in the workshop and use of the provided resource materials, you will gain insight that will assist you in adapting this program to meet your organization's needs.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Integrated Client Care Project-Hospice Palliative Care

Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) News Flash: Bringing together Hospice Palliative Care (HPC) service providers to help inform the design of an Integrated HPC Service Delivery System is well underway.

On September 15th, sixteen physicians from all care sectors, who offer palliative care services in our region, came together to discuss key elements for an integrated regional navigation system for patients and families. Dr. Stuart Smith, Cardiologist, St. Mary's Hospital presented on HPC for Cardiac patients and Dr. Ahmed Jakda, WW Regional Cancer HPC Lead presented on Cancer Care Ontario Palliative Care Activities.

South Guelph has been chosen as the pilot test area for this integrated, coordinated and collaborative hospice palliative care service delivery system. The project will flow approximately 150 clients through their HPC journey in a newly designed service delivery model. Once evaluated, this model will be rolled out across Waterloo Wellington.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Old Beds Donated to Guyanese Hospital Burn Unit

Story by: Deb Bartlett/ Submitted by the Ontario Long-Term Care Association

As Hilltop Manor Long-Term Care in Cambridge adds 96 new beds to its home, it's adding beds to a burn unit in Guyana. PeopleCare Inc. director of operations Jen Killing says with the renovation taking place at the home, beds are being replaced.

Rather than throwing the old beds out, peopleCare is donating them. The supplier of the new beds, Medical Mart, is paying for the old ones to be shipped from Cambridge to Toronto Harbour. From there, they'll be shipped to the Guyana Burn and Health Care Foundation.

Killing says the company is always happy to find new uses for obsolete equipment, especially if it's going to a needy community. The beds would have gone to landfill or a scrapyard if they couldn't have been donated, she says.

[Click here](#) to read more.

ACG: Harm Reduction Program

Harm reduction refers to the policies, programs and practices that aim to reduce the adverse health, social and economic consequences of the use of legal and illegal drugs. Harm reduction benefits people who use drugs, their families and the community.

The main goal of harm reduction practices and programs are to reduce the risk of harm for everyone. The Stay Sharp Syringe Distribution program is a successful example of harm reduction in our community. The program is delivered as a coordinated response by both the Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health Unit and the AIDS Committee of Guelph & Wellington County.

The specific goals of this program include reducing the harm associated with substance use including reducing the risks of transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C. This program embraces and accepts people who use drugs, treats people with dignity and respect, and provides the appropriate supports to allow individuals who use drugs to maintain their health. Increasing referrals to drug treatment is another of the program's goals.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the harm reduction program.

Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy News

The Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy Committee (WGDSC) is a cross-sectoral coalition, based on the four-pillars model, which recognizes that no one sector can respond to the issue of substance misuse in isolation. By focusing on all pillars, including Prevention, Treatment, Harm Reduction and Enforcement in tandem, we endeavor to work with the problem of substance misuse across the entire continuum of needs.

[Click here](#) to read their latest newsletter.

Board Highlights: October

[Click here](#) to read highlights from the October WWLHIN Board of Directors Meeting.

OACCAC Newsletter - October Edition

[Click here](#) to read the October edition of the OACCAC newsletter. In this month's issue, you will find:

- A reaffirmation of the CCACs' commitment to the Ontario government's health care priorities
- A spotlight on OACCAC and CCAC participation at the recent Canadian Home Care Association National Conference, including interviews and a video from the OACCAC exhibit booth
- An introduction to the Client Care Model's new computer based training modules
- A CCAC Success Story: an overview of Central CCAC's ethical decision-making framework
- And learn more about the upcoming Ontario Health and Community Care Assessment Conference (November 17th & 18th) featuring a presentation by the WWLHIN on ClinicalConnect.

WWLHIN Social Media: Feature Tweets and Posts

Follow [@WW_LHIN](#) on Twitter and become a fan on [Facebook](#). Many thanks to our fans and followers for their feedback. Use the #access2care hashtag to share your good news.

- **@HealthAchieve:** #FF 2 R amazing tweeters ths week! Wish we could include U all!
@drpauldempsey @CCHL_CCLS @MsKestrel @LisyGee @WW_LHIN
 - **@Energyonthest:** Working on it! @WW_LHIN RT: @GET_ENGAGED Q: have u thought about joining LHIN, CCAC, community agencies 4 joint engagement? #HealthAchieve
 - **@WW_LHIN:** November is Diabetes Awareness Month: @WW_LHIN local committee working to improve #access2care: <http://bit.ly/uVPVCJ>
 - **@SKFKerr:** St. Mary's Hospital talking about 1000 ways to improve patient care plan. Change that starts with the front line @WW_LHIN
 - **@HealthAchieve:** @WW_LHIN See u soon at the #eHealthAchieve #socialmedia session! @SouthWestLHIN @CHEOhospital @AnnFuller @eHealthMusings
-

