

WWLHINformation

Waterloo Wellington LHIN



Waterloo Wellington LHIN eNewsletter - December 12, 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.

Happy Holidays from the WWLHIN

happy holidays

On behalf of the entire Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network Team, we would like to wish you and yours a joyous holiday season and Happy New Year. The WWLHIN eNewsletter will resume in the New Year on January 9th, 2012. Please send article submissions by January 4th, 2012.



St. Mary's Scores Among Top Five Hospitals in Canada

St. Mary's General Hospital continues to improve patient safety, as shown by new national figures which place it among the five safest hospitals in Canada.

This achievement was recognized with the release by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) of its annual report on Hospital Standardized Mortality Ratio (HSMR). HSMR measures expected deaths versus actual deaths in acute care hospitals, with a ratio lower than 100 indicating fewer than expected deaths.

St. Mary's HSMR is 69 for 2010/11, the fifth lowest number in the country. This represents a significant improvement from last year, when St. Mary's had the 12th lowest number.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Trinity Village Dedicates Garden Plots to Out of the Cold

Story submitted by the Ontario Long-Term Care Association

The gardens at Trinity Village Care Centre are nourishing the souls of gardeners, and the bodies of those in need.

Produce from the gardens of the Kitchener long-term care home are given to St. Matthew's church lunch program, and one garden is dedicated to Out of the Cold, which provides meals and beds to people who are homeless. Trinity Village's programming director Maria Menounos says one garden plot at the home is looked after by residents and staff just for Out of the Cold. Another plot is kept for use by the home.

Trinity Village also has an accessible greenhouse that will be modified for year-round use, courtesy of an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant. Growing food and donating it to worthy charities allows staff members and residents of the home to give back to the community, says Menounos. "Residents and staff are very happy to help with that," she says. Even preparing the beds in the fall and spring pull together families and volunteers, says Menounos.

[Click here](#) to read the full story.

Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) System Coordinator Hired

The ABI Steering Committee is pleased to announce the recruitment and hiring of the new ABI System Coordinator for the Waterloo Wellington area. This two-year contract position will be responsible for implementing sustainable enhancements and improvements to the Waterloo Wellington ABI program. While hosted by Traverse Independence, the ABI System Coordinator will have a system wide focus crossing the continuum of care, while working closely with the ABI Steering Committee, the ABI Network and the WWLHIN.

Tracy Murdoch started in this new and exciting position on November 28th. Tracy comes with extensive background in ABI services having worked as both a Case Manager and a Rehabilitation Therapist for a number of prominent ABI organizations in Ontario. Not only does she have ABI experience, but most recently she has been functioning at a senior management level in both the private and public sector. Tracy will be hosted by Traverse Independence and will be located at their head office at 1- 1382 Weber Street, Kitchener, N2A 1C4. (519) 741-5845 ext 2110. Her email is t.murdoch@travind.ca.

National Report Card Shows Grand River Hospital Providing Better Care for Area Patients

Patients at Grand River Hospital are experiencing better outcomes thanks to a dedicated effort to improve quality of care and patient safety.

The results are in the Canadian Institute for Health Information's yearly hospital standardized mortality ratio (HSMR) report. The HSMR measures patient mortality in a hospital against an expected average from qualifying Canadian hospitals. The national average HSMR is 100 for the baseline year of 2004-2005.

In this year's report:

- Hospitals in the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network scored a combined HSMR of 79 for 2010-2011;
- Waterloo Wellington was one of only four local health integration networks in Ontario with an HSMR lower than 80; and
- Grand River's result has improved for the fifth straight year. The hospital's 2010-2011 fiscal year HSMR dropped to 78, down from 80 in 2009-2010 and 119 in 2008-2009. GRH's current score is fourth best out of 14 comparable large community hospitals in the province.

"Each clinical program and department at Grand River works to set and meet quality of care goals every year. Taken together, the work of all of our hospital staff and physicians has produced safer care for patients and a score for our community which is among the best in the province," said Malcolm Maxwell, GRH's president and CEO.

[Click here](#) for more information.

WWLHIN Board Meeting Information

The WWLHIN Board of Directors meets on a monthly basis at the WWLHIN's office in Kitchener. Board Meetings are open to the public and are approximately three hours in length. All information about WWLHIN Board Meetings can be found on the WWLHIN's website here: [WWLHIN Board of Directors](#).

The agenda for the Board meeting is posted on the website the Monday before the meeting. All presentations and briefing notes are also posted on the website after the meeting. The WWLHIN also prepares a summary of the Board Meeting called "Board Highlights" which is sent out to health service providers, local media, and posted on the website within 48 hours of the Board Meeting.

If you have any questions about Board Meetings at the WWLHIN, please contact: Kate Borthwick, Corporate Coordinator, at 519-450-4472 x220. If you have questions about the WWLHIN Website or the Board Highlights, please contact: Toni Adey, Senior Manager, Communications and Public Affairs, at 519-450-4472 x223.

OMA Profiles Waterloo Wellington Physician Engagement Series

The Ontario Medical Association (OMA) profiled the joint WWLHIN/OMA/Waterloo Wellington Community Care Access Centre fall physician series in its Ontario Medical Review (OMR) Newsletter that goes out to all physicians in Ontario. [Click here](#) to read the profile. To learn more about the series and other community engagement activities, [click here](#).

Call for Nominations: 2012 National Awards Program

For almost two decades, the Canadian College of Health Leaders' National Awards Program has been showcasing the success of exemplary individuals, teams and organizations throughout Canada. These awards encourage knowledge exchange, celebrate excellence and stimulate replication of best practices across the industry.

To nominate a program, individual or team for an award, please download the award template which is available on the College's website: www.cchl-ccls.ca, under [National Awards Program](#). The award template includes everything you need to complete your nomination, including the award criteria, the nomination form and the report template. Deadline to submit a nomination is **February 1, 2012**, with the exception of the Mentorship Award and the Quality of Life Award.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Information on Connex Ontario

ConnexOntario, an organization funded by the Government of Ontario, maintains a comprehensive database of drug, alcohol, problem gambling, and mental health services information. Service providers and other professionals link daily with ConnexOntario to provide current and accurate data about treatment beds, support groups, crisis lines and other health services. Program information is reconciled with the data collected through the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Information System.

ConnexOntario operates three helplines, providing free, confidential and anonymous health services information for people experiencing problems with gambling, drugs or alcohol and mental illness. ConnexOntario's Information and Referral Specialists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to respond to calls, emails or webchat requests, to:

- Provide contact information for services and supports in the caller's community;
- Listen, offer support and provide information on services and supports; and
- Provide basic education about gambling, drug or alcohol and mental health issues.

To learn more about ConnexOntario, visit their website, www.connexontario.ca.

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.

- **@StMarysGenHosp**: @WW_LHIN Thank you. The result of great work by staff, physicians & volunteers @GRHospitalKW #access2care #lhin
 - **@OLTCAnews**: @ww_lhin Thanks for your support! The WW_LHIN has some great #LongTermCare homes doing some great work!
 - **@HealthAchieve**: Once again, Congratulations! RT @WW_LHIN: North Wellington and Fergus hospitals recognized with #HealthAchieve Award
 - **@WW_LHIN**: MT @cambridgereprtr: Heading out now 2 get update on #cambridge hospital expansion plans @ public meeting [@WW_LHIN](http://ow.ly/7PfWw)
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