

The Access To Care Approach

Access to Care | Right Care | Right Time | Right Place

VOLUME: 1, ISSUE: 6, DATE: 12/19/12

Season's Greetings!

With 2013 approaching rapidly and 2012 dwindling, it is only natural to reflect upon the accomplishments and challenges experienced during the past twelve months and contemplate opportunities that lay ahead. It is an interesting dynamic: *large-scale health system change* resulting in *tremendous personal impact* on the individuals whom we serve.

The Access to Care strategy has been developed to strengthen support for people while they live in their homes, minimize the negative effects of acute episodes and maximize post-acute health to ensure people are able to make optimum decisions about their lives.

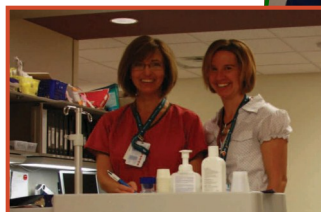
The project reaches across the health care continuum, from the community to the hospital, partners are working together to ensure that seniors and adults with complex needs experience easy access to services as their needs and individual circumstances dictate. It is about *enabling people to live their lives as fully and independently as possible*.

Two significant areas of work are *Adult Day Programs* and *Senior Friendly Hospitals*. As you read through the next page of this newsletter you will learn more about these important initiatives, but significant milestones include:

- In November 2012, the South West LHIN announced funding to support the development of strategies required to implement provincial Senior Friendly Hospital recommendations.
- Also in November 2012, The South West LHIN funded additional Adult Day Program spaces in London and Grey Bruce.
- In early 2013 the South West LHIN Board will be asked to approve recommendations concerning the standardization of client fees and funding for Adult Day Program spaces.

With sincere appreciation for your professional dedication, care and consideration of patients, residents and clients during this project and in the future, we wish you a very happy holiday season,

The Access to Care Team



In This Issue

- [Season's Greetings](#)
- [Adult Day Programs](#)
- [Senior Friendly Hospitals](#)

QUESTIONS TO PONDER ?

We need to make improvements in how we care for seniors in acute care settings. The provincial framework indicates a need to ensure organizations have committed leadership, evidenced based care, respect for seniors and their potential resources to manage ethical situations and a physical environment that is supportive of independence.

What strategies are needed to ensure successful implementation of best practice for the care of seniors in acute care?

FREQUENTLY ASKED ?

Definitions

- [Assisted Living](#)
- [Supportive Housing](#)
- [Adult Day Programs](#)

REPORTS

Recommended Reports

- [AL/SH/ADP](#)
- [CCC/Rehab](#)
- [Senior Friendly Care](#)

FEEDBACK @

To receive future issues of the [Access to Care eNewsletter](#), [click here](#).

Access to Care
356 Oxford Street West
London, Ontario N6H 1T3
519-474-5693
Sue.McCutcheon@sw.ccac-ont.ca

Check us out at www.southwestlhlin.on.ca

> [Current Initiatives](#) > [Access to Care](#) for current news and resources

Adult Day Programs are planned social and recreational activities, meals, assistance with activities of daily living and minor health care assistance (for example: monitoring essential medications). These services assist the participants to achieve and maintain their maximum level of functioning, prevent early or inappropriate institutionalization provides respite and information to their significant others. In the South West LHIN, there are 12 providers who are operating more than 30 Adult Day Programs.



The Assisted Living, Supportive Housing, Adult Day Program (AL/SH/ADP) Report identified that there is great variability in funding, client fees and programming across the LHIN. For instance, client fees range from \$16 to \$27 per day, additionally, some clients pay more for foot care, bathing and transportation.

Since the AL/SH/ADP report was released in June 2012, the Adult Day Program Network member organizations have been working together to understand the impact that recommendations about consistent funding and client fees will have across the health care system, on organizations and on clients themselves. In early 2013 the South West LHIN Board will be asked to approve recommendations to standardize client fees and funding for Adult Day Program spaces.



Dear Editor:

I'm writing this because I'm sure that many of my fellow residents of Dorchester don't know much about one of the valuable services we are blessed with in our community. It's called the Adult Day Programs and it's provided by the VON (Victoria Order of Nurses). For some of us who are caregivers of adults with various physical and mental issues, this program is a "sanity saver."

Not only are we in Dorchester fortunate to have this service, we are even more fortunate to have one of the best of its kind in the London area. Clients come here from as far away as Wonderland Road in London. The reason is because the staff and numerous volunteers at our location run such an excellent program.

The long and short of it is that I would like to thank everyone who works there and all of the volunteers who generously share their time to help out. I couldn't survive without you.

Alison Gauvin, Dorchester

As printed in the Dorchester Sign Post, Week of Dec 10, 2012



Senior Friendly Hospitals Aligned with Access to Care

The development of senior friendly health care goes beyond having large print signs and literature, non-glare lighting and wheelchair accessible washrooms. It requires a shift in the way we think, act, feel, build, train and lead the development towards becoming a more senior friendly healthcare system. It requires a *major cultural shift*... using a framework comprising five domains: Processes of Care, Physical Environment, Emotional and Behavioral Environment, Ethics in Clinical Care and Research, and Organizational Support.

Senior Friendly hospital capacity building will be led and coordinated by St. Joseph's Health Care, the Regional Geriatric Program. Jillian Biros has been hired as the South West Senior Friendly Hospital Consultant to work with the Hospitals' Senior's Leads, Access to Care Lead and Home Fire Implementation teams to leverage Senior Friendly Hospital implementation opportunities as Access to Care components are implemented in hospitals. Educated as a Social Worker and having worked in both the Hospital and Community, Jillian is passionate about geriatrics and the opportunity to spread the key concepts and strategies of the Senior Friendly Hospital's initiative across the South West. To learn more about this work, [click here](#) or contact Jillian Biros at jillian.biros@sjhc.london.on.ca.

