



CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE STAFF MEMBERS? GO TO THE BOTTOM OF PAGE 4 FOR THE CORRECT ANSWERS.

HDGH's New Assess Restore Nursing Unit Set to Open in January 2011

Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital has been experiencing a very high alternative level of care (ALC) rate on a continuous basis for several years. Patients wait in acute care beds for long periods of time for short and long term rehabilitation services losing functional ability and independence often requiring long term care placement in the end.

To provide the rehabilitation that these patients need so that they can return to their home or rest home in a timely manner, HDGH is opening a new 16 bed Assess Restore Unit on January 4, 2011. The new unit located on 5East is a one year project funded by the Erie St. Clair LHIN.

According to **Stephanie Malec**, who has been appointed part-time manager of the new Assess Restore Nursing Unit, this short term project is a new model of care that facilitates restorative care of the elderly (over 65 years old) in hospital and outreaches to community services preventing the de-conditioning of those patients whose goal is to return home.

Stephanie retired from HDGH in March 2008 after serving more than 36 years as a registered nurse. She has recently returned to HDGH to recruit staff and prepare the new unit to begin accepting patients discharged from acute care beds on January 4th.

"A proportion of frail seniors sometimes deemed eligible for long term care placement could be maintained at home given access to appropriate community based services and an intensive rehabilitation program on the Assess Restore Unit," states Stephanie. "Timely discharges will be facilitated by working with family or other home supports (ie: Community Care Access Centre) in the home to support the individual client's plan to return and stay in their homes."

Stephanie and her team which includes six registered practical nurses, nine personal support workers and part-time services by physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology and social work will provide intensive patient focused interdisciplinary goal oriented rehabilitation services for a short period (14 days or less).

"All patients will be recommended by physiotherapy, the unit CRN, or a CCAC case manager to the utilization nurse who will then assess and select patients for admission to the Assess Restore Unit," adds Stephanie. Once on the unit, these patients will receive a higher level of physical activity than they experienced on the medical/surgical units.

On the Assess Restore Unit, the client's day will be organized around activities of daily living combined with interdisciplinary assessment, planning and treatment.

CIBPA Donates \$38,000 for Echocardiogram Machine

Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital is pleased to announce that the Canadian Italian Business & Professional Association (CIBPA) have donated \$38,000 to support the purchase of an echocardiogram machine for the hospital. The cheque was presented last Tuesday at the St. Angela Centre to **Adrian Vido**, Chair of the Beyond Medicine Campaign by CIBPA President **Carl Grossi** and 2010 Golf Chairperson **Greg Baggio**. The funds were raised at the CIBPA Annual Golf Invitational held in June.



HDGH Rises to Blood Donor Challenge

Over the last four years our Hospital Laboratories in Windsor-Essex County have challenged each other in a friendly competition. Through the generosity of all blood donors the three hospitals have collected 494 donations. When you consider that one donation can help improve or save the lives of up to three people, up to 1482 patients may have been touched.

This year the Canadian Blood Services is offering double points for specific dates and all new donors. All staff, friends, and family are invited to help HDGH Laboratory in this year's challenge because you're the type to save a life.

Call 1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-236-6283) for appointments and the location of a clinic near you. Sign in sheets available at all donor clinics. For more information on the Blood Donor Challenge, call Becky Brancaccio in Transfusion Medicine at ext. 3398.