

NEWSPRINT

Helping People Live at Home Safely

September 2009

House Calls team expands this fall with new funding

- Supportive housing services also grow

By Jane Moore, Executive Director

Our LHIN recently recognized the contributions SPRINT and its partners make to the health care system when it awarded us funding to expand the House Calls project and Supportive Housing services. Finally, we have the ability to provide primary care that is integrated with our supportive services, albeit for a select group of clients.

The Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) for Toronto Central announced last spring that SPRINT will work with Dr. Mark Nowaczynski, VHA, Toronto Community Housing, Anne Johnston Health Station, St. Clair West Services for Seniors and COPA (Community Outreach Programs in Addictions) to build these initiatives. The House Calls project also includes a research component with Dr. Sheila Neysmith, Faculty of Social Work, at the University of Toronto. The LHIN is an agency of the government of Ontario and our major funder.

The House Calls project will provide a continuum of care for seniors who are generally house-bound, frail, at-risk or marginalized, but continue to live in their own homes in the community or at Toronto Community Housing buildings. Special attention will be given to individuals who cope with a variety of mental health concerns.

SPRINT with the team will provide these seniors with geriatric assessments and ongoing case management. Dr. Mark will lead an integrated, multi-disciplinary team of professionals, including a social worker, and an occupational therapist, activationists, a registered nurse and a nurse practitioner. This team will be supported by community support services -- the 'eyes' and 'ears' of our House Calls team -- such as meals on wheels, transportation, homemaking, adult day services and friendly visiting volunteers. The House Calls team will mostly work within the community, but their 'headquarters' will be at 140 Merton Street. I look forward to giving you regular updates on this initiative.

Living at home, staying healthy



This SPRINT display attracted many visitors at our Open House and Annual Meeting this spring

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SPRINT services help clients live at home, says panel

On June 17, SPRINT opened its offices to the community. About 65 clients, visitors, board members and staff enjoyed a pleasant afternoon at 140 Merton Street.

During a panel discussion, a SPRINT client, a medical doctor and a retired clergyman debated why many seniors prefer to live at home.

Our panelist Rev. Jacob Kuntz said he has met many people

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who make it very clear that the house where they lived for decades will be the place where they will die. Another panelist, Dr. Mark Nowaczynski, said he is committed to helping patients live at home safely by improving their environments. Our third panelist, SPRINT client Herbert Bunt, said he agrees it's difficult for many elderly people to even think about leaving their homes.

A SPRINT community dining client said, "I'm jolly happy I came" to the event. "When you are alone, you can be bewildered about where to turn for help," she said, adding that SPRINT is making a positive difference in her life.

At the Annual Meeting following the panel discussion, outgoing chair J.E. Fordyce thanked Executive Director Jane Moore for her smart leadership. "We seem to have our wind at our back and will sail off to an interesting and successful future," he said. Incoming chair Lee Shouldice praised Mr. Fordyce for providing calm and dependable leadership to the board.



New assignment announced for Toronto Ride

By Lee Shouldice, Chair, Board of Directors

This spring, Toronto Central LHIN made the decision, in line with its overall vision, to move transportation planning services to the Community Navigation Access Project (see Quick SPRINTS.)

For over a decade, Toronto Ride has successfully helped agencies coordinate access to assisted transportation services. SPRINT is the lead agency for this service.

Now, a CNAP transportation sub-committee has been mandated by the LHIN to review transportation services. Building on the work of Toronto Ride, the committee will make recommendations to the LHIN within the next 12 months for models that will coordinate and integrate community transportation services in Toronto Central LHIN.

The board is pleased that Executive Director Jane Moore, who is on the executive of CNAP, will also chair its transportation sub-committee during the transition period. Moreover, she will continue to chair the Toronto Ride senior management committee. We commend Jane and her partners for their commitment to this complex project.

SPRINT continues to provide hundreds of rides to seniors in North Toronto each month. — LS

Tribute gifts in 2008-2009

The Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges tribute gifts received on behalf of the individuals listed below.

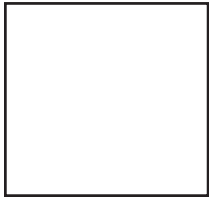
Rya Levitt Moris & Raylene Godel, University of Toronto, Albert Nigro, Mimi Hollenberg, Middlestadt Family, Arthur Peltomaan, Harvey & Rickiee Heft, Steven & Ailene Tolensky, Sylvia Davidson, Marlene March, Holli Clairman, Gary Naglie, Marcia Bass, Donna Kaufman, Frances Kassner, Volunteer Association of The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Tim Kennish, Municipal Law Section, Shirley Goldenberg, Peter & Sheena Levitt, Building & Development Branch, Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing, Edmund & Fran Clark, Nina Diamond, Joe Laufer, Eleanor Dover, Brenda Dzaldov, Rosanne Ain, Pearl Greenspan, In-patient Psychiatry, Toronto General Hospital, Naomi Kriss, Purdy & Bea Crawford, Shaun & Jodi Subel, Karen **Betty McCullough** Joan Pearce, Bruce & Margaret Ferguson, Jean Richardson, Don & Carolyn McClement, Kathleen Campbell, Isabelle MacPherson.

Lily Borins - Mel Borins; **David Bell** – CUPE Local 4400; **David Sterling** – the Benjamin Foundation; **Lang Farrand** – Eve Pangman; **Sue Grassi** – Penny Perry; **Robert Coulson** – Charlotte Morgan; **Frances Nolan** – Norma Nolan; **Shirley Hausan** – Kim Logan; **Sally Tanaka** – Irene Faveri; **Leonard Reilly** – Penny Perry; **Rose Magnuson** – Frank Felkai, Darla Wilson; **Werner Wania** – Penny Perry; **William Simons** – Kim Maclellan, Bayer Healthcare.

Foundation gifts in 2008-2009

The Board of Directors is thankful for the support received from the foundations listed below.

John McKellar Charitable Foundation, Harry E. Foster Foundation, Oskar Ascher Schmidt Charitable Foundation, Benjamin Foundation, Toronto Community Foundation, Henry White Kinnear Foundation.



Quick SPRINTS

Adult day services host family picnic

Adult Day Services organized a family picnic for clients and their families on June 13 at the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre. An overwhelming response of about 75 clients, their loved ones, and volunteers enjoyed dancing, singing and socializing under sunny skies.

Students enjoy summer jobs with seniors

SPRINT received funding from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada to hire four summer students this year. Staff and clients enjoy interacting with these young workers. They bring to SPRINT knowledge gained in programs such as Health Studies at the University of Toronto or the Bachelor of Knowledge Integration at University of Waterloo.

SPRINT salutes advisory network for social workers

Also in June, SPRINT social workers hosted a luncheon at 140 Marlton Street to formally thank our advisory network. This group consists of 12 experts who provide us with consultation, education and support. Members include a geriatric psychiatrist; a geriatric physician; a patient care manager specialized in geriatrics; a lawyer; an occupational therapist; and other professionals.

CNAP focused on streamlining client intake, referrals

CNAP (Community Navigation and Access Project) is part of the Ontario Aging at Home Strategy and funded by Toronto Central LHIN. In 2008-2009, the CNAP team worked on issues such as building consensus on 25 standard service definitions and setting up standardized intake forms and referral processes used by community support services agencies such as SPRINT. The ultimate goal is to build a seamless system of care for seniors living in the community. Executive Director Jane Moore is a member of the CNAP executive committee.

Big sign brings big response for meals on wheels

An advertising sign on the lawn at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre brought many new volunteers to our Meals on Wheels program this summer. Moreover, SPRINT has improved how we do routine background checks on new volunteers. Programs such as meals on wheels and

community dining need hundreds of volunteers each year to run smoothly.

SPRINT celebrates Personal Support Workers month in October

SPRINT salutes our many Personal Support Workers in the fall. We are proud to offer in-home services to older adults and adults with disabilities by staff who are college-trained in reputable programs. Moreover, our Personal Support Workers receive monthly in-house training to continuously update their skills and promote safety. Readers can check www.SPRINT-homecare.ca/staff for more information.

SPRINT launches new website

Please visit www.SPRINT-homecare.ca to learn more about our services. The site also offers information about our staff and the qualifications they must have attained to be able to provide services to our clients. Visitors can also go online to make donations to SPRINT.



The SPRINT volunteer department invites you to an orientation session!

Volunteer orientations are scheduled every month for an hour starting at 4p.m. or 5:30 p.m. at 140 Merton Street.

Volunteers can participate in free training sessions. In November, we will feature a guest speaker from the Alzheimer's Society of Toronto to address common misconceptions about working with people coping with memory difficulties.

Please call (416) 481-6411 ext. 267 for more information about volunteering at SPRINT.



Above: Last spring, over 125 volunteers celebrated their gifts of time and talent at the SPRINT volunteer appreciation dinner at the North Toronto Memorial Community Centre. Thank you to our many volunteers! Some SPRINT programs simply could not run without you.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

SPRINT is in compliance with Canadian Privacy Legislation. If you do not wish to receive mailings from us, please call 416-481-6411.

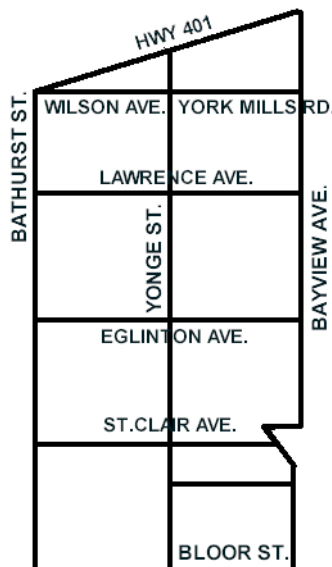
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SPRINT's Service Area



Donating to SPRINT

Your donation will be used to:

- Help an isolated senior enjoy a hot meal delivered to their door.
- Provide an elderly senior with a ride to a medical appointment.
- Give a caregiver a few hours of respite.

Please complete the following information.

I want to make a donation of \$ _____

to help North Toronto seniors live at home in their community.

Method: Cheque (enclosed)
(Make cheque payable to SPRINT.)

VISA
Card No: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Tel #: _____

A tax receipt will be issued for all donations of \$10 or more.

Thank you.



**A United Way
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