



DEMENTIA CARE NETWORK ALGOMA STEERING COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2004
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Alzheimer Society Office
633 Albert St. E.
Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Meeting Summary

Members present: Carolyn Cybulski
Susan Van Atte
Hazel Yakich
Duane Buchanan
Harold Clayton
Arlene Gear

1. Arlene called the meeting to order and welcomed all.
2. Update on LHIN's by Vicky Roy
Vicky and Linda Sullivan attended a Local Health Integration Networks open space format meeting held in Sudbury. Vicky explained that the government of Ontario is underway with a plan to create an integrated health care system that is patient- centered and responsive to local health care needs. This will lead to a restructuring of the MOH and LTC, reorganizing how health care services are delivered. Although LHIN's will not provide services, these new organizations will receive funding to plan and co-ordinate the services for the designated geographic area. One should have access to health care services within the local LHIN. There will be 14 areas; ours will include sites as far south as Parry Sound. Vicky distributed a map showing our geographical area. Each board will have a CEO (hired by April 2005) and 7-9 board members. Each board is accountable to the MOH and is to submit a plan to the MOH. This was a working meeting in that participants set 10 Top priorities for LHIN. Vicky circulated the list. Vicky and Linda signed up to be involved in the priority called "Role of Community Support Services" (to include supportive housing, transportation etc).

Susan added to this information. It is as yet unknown how Public Health, DHC will fit with LHIN's. Private labs will not be part of LHIN's. Physicians will be partners but will not receive funding from LHIN. More info by visiting the Transforming Health Care section of the Ministry website at www.health.gov.on.ca/transformation.

3. Review of website stats

Arlene reported on statistics for the Dementia Care Network Algoma Website. www.dementiaalgoma.org. An information sheet was circulated to those in attendance to include data for entire site for each month from July 29, 04 to Nov. 20, 04. Considering that we are not yet able to access the search function there are a substantial number of visits, the highest in Sept at 86 hits. The search function is currently being investigated and once functional, it is expected to increase the number of visits to the site.

4. Review of correspondence "Oral Care in Long-Term Care Facilities"

Carolyn reviewed a letter received from Sandra M. Lawlor, RDH, RSW., expressing concern regarding difficulties for residents of LTCF in obtaining dental care. Current legislative barriers prevent dental hygienists from bringing valuable oral hygiene services directly to clients who are homebound, in supportive community living situations or in LTCF's. At present hygienists must work under the direction of a dentist, the position taken that a person that is medically compromised should be under the care of a dentist. Sandra argues that persons with for example AD are not necessarily medically compromised. She asks that a letter of support be sent to the MPP. The group agreed that Carolyn would draft and send this.

5. MOHLTC Consultation on Long-Term Care Homes

Carolyn reported that the MOH is seeking consultation by asking for completion of a questionnaire re a number of inquiries on various areas of LTC, ie resident's quality of life. The questionnaire is very long and respondents may not be able to answer all questions. Carolyn suggested that the group may not wish to complete it at this time, but that individuals can do it on their own. The website address was made available if members wished to access this on their own. www.ltcfacilities.net/documentparsing/PositionPaper.ENG.pdf.

6. Review of Action Plan for 2004-2005

Carolyn updated all on the 6-action plan goals for the steering committee. #1 L. Sullivan has sent out letters to 8 agencies involved in various forms of crisis work, offering education on AD. No replies have yet been received. #2 A letter was previously sent to Peter Vaudry making know the urgent need for the services of a geriatric psychiatrist. #3 CCAC committee continue to work on a common referral form for CCAC to use with all agencies. A networking breakfast

will be held Jan 19, 2005. #4 The list of priorities to MOHLTC was previously sent. #5 No definite response has yet been received re the change of policy for dementia persons and the transportation issue. It is a complicated financial issue. #6 Done via #4.

The group was asked for views on what outstanding issues/priorities the steering committee might next undertake. Susan suggested that the initial stakeholders/ community agencies that were contacted when the Dementia Network first started be again contacted for general input, as well as any specific educational needs, which would then be relayed to the education committee. In the New Year, Carolyn will send out a one-page poll.

7. Round table

Hazel reports VON has relocated to Queen Street. An open house will be held Dec. 16, 2004. They are hoping to start a caregiver support group for their clients and families in Feb 2005. A newsletter was distributed.

Harold has done training of hospital staff in Elliot Lake dealing with challenging behaviours in dementia. Dr. Chau continues to see his patients. Dr Chau has brought forward the possibility of having a P/T family support worker out of Elliot Lake. At present Vicky Roy attends Elliot Lake every 2 months. Carolyn will meet with Harold and Dr. Chau to determine the needs of the community.

Arlene announced MOH Enabler training has been scheduled for March 10 and 31, 2005. A 5 day P.I.E.C.E.S. training session is to be held in Sudbury May 3,4,5, and June 1,2, 2005.

Susan attended an 8 site videoconference on Nov 25 re End- Of- Life-Care Strategy that the DHC is involved in. Susan King, provincial lead was present explaining that monies have been targeted for CCAC plans to offer integration of Palliative care in the community. It was proposed that there be a network for the entire Northeast, this follows the LHIN boundaries. It may support a regional network in order for example to share clinical tools, research component at a regional level. Two people from each district would sit on a regional committee.

Carolyn will be attending a meeting on Dec. 01, 04, in SSM, part of Eleanor Caplan's road show looking at issues re RFP procurement process.

The Alzheimer Society will hold the annual education conference on Thursday, February 24, 2005 at Best Western, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Speaker: Judith Wahl, lawyer, Executive director of the Advocacy Centre for the Elderly. Topics: Elder Abuse and Consent and Capacity.

A proposal submitted by the Alzheimer Society had been accepted and Rocco Martone started work yesterday in a 1-year contract as the Elder Abuse

Coordinator. The focus will be public education and awareness.

8. Selection of next meeting date: March 22, 2005 at 10 a.m. at the Alzheimer Society.

Meeting adjourned.