



DEMENTIA CARE NETWORK ALGOMA STEERING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, December 9, 2003
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Alzheimer Society of Sault Ste. Marie and Algoma District
633 Albert St. E.
Sault Ste. Marie, ON

MEETING SUMMARY

Present: Paula Sirie
Barb Forest
Phyllis Youmans
Arlene Gear
Carolyn Cybulski
Susan Van Atte
Rhonda Chennette

1. It was noted that Rhonda Chennette will be replacing Barb Del Paggio as the CCAC representative.
2. The new logo for the Dementia Network was reviewed.
3. Arlene gave an update on the Enabler Program which is part of the PIECES training package. It is designed for managers (DOC/Administrators) to "sell" the PIECES program. In some facilities it may be the registered staff attending if they are in a position to supervise staff. Arlene stated that Kirkland Lake, Timmins, Muskoka, and Sudbury will receive their training before Christmas. Algoma and Sault Ste. Marie are targeted to receive training after Christmas. Arlene also stated that there is still funding to complete another U-FIRST and PIECES program, even though funding officially ended on March 31, 2004. Arlene will be promoting attendance to take advantage of remaining funds.
4. The Action Plan for 2004-2005 was reviewed.
 - Strategy 1 (training for crisis/emergency workers) will be forwarded to education committee.
 - Strategy 2 (recruitment of geriatric psychiatrist) – Carolyn will draft a letter to go to Peter Vaudry, chair of the physician recruitment committee. Barb will obtain some stats on clients seen, waiting times, demographics etc. which will be included in the letter.
 - Strategy 3 (increasing the number of referrals from the CCAC to community support agencies) – CCAC is piloting a new referral form for community support agencies. There is also an information session at an upcoming Care

Coordinator meeting with agencies presenting on their services, as well as a networking breakfast scheduled for November.

- Strategy 4 (communication of priorities to Linda Toner) – done.
- Strategy 5 (letter to Accessibility Advisory Committee re: Parabus eligibility) – A letter was sent to Tracy Roetman, former chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee and current Accessibility Supervisor for the City of Sault Ste. Marie. Committee members were emailed a copy of the letter in the summer, but there has been no further communication. Carolyn emailed Tracy again last week to inquire about the status of the request, but has not heard back. In Elliot Lake, Phyllis and Arlene will make further inquiries to see if an accessibility issue exists in that community.
- Strategy 6 (support North Algoma's efforts to obtain funding for volunteer transportation) – done as part of #4. Susan advised the group the Canadian Red Cross has recently received \$30,000 to help address transportation issues in Wawa, White River, and Dubreuilville (not Hornepayne).

5. Round Table Reports:

- Carolyn presented a bookmark from the Dementia Network of Peel Region that lists the warning signs of dementia as well as some contact agencies. She also told the group about Peel's efforts to start up a "Vacation House", which is a bungalow purchased by the Alzheimer Society of Peel intended to provide short-term respite for people with dementia. The project has been placed on hold due to neighbourhood concerns.
- Paula stated that her program continues to expand. She now sometimes sees clients on her own, and physicians are increasing the number of returns that they see on a clinic day.
- Susan discussed the End-of-Life-Care Strategy that the DHC is involved in. This strategy encompasses provincial networks as well as local integrated models. CCAC, SAH, and Palliative Care Algoma have been working together towards a model. Susan is attending a meeting in Toronto about this strategy. Rhonda stated that the CCAC has returned to the model of assigning the palliative caseload to one care coordinator.

6. Next Meeting Date: Monday, November 29, 2004 at 10 a.m. at the Alzheimer Society.

Meeting adjourned.