

Overview

Chatham Kent Activities 2009/10



Chatham-Kent continues to work collaboratively with many agencies across the continuum to implement strategies for improving local stroke care.

Our Integrated Stroke Unit offers an interprofessional approach to stroke care and management with earlier access to rehabilitation services. We heard from our stroke survivors and caregivers, through our Community Forum and the report, *Pathways for People with Stroke to Live Fully in the Community*, that people with stroke living in the community want the opportunity for ongoing follow up assessment to prevent deterioration and to maximize functional outcome. We are pleased to offer an exciting new program, called the Transitional Stroke Program (TSP), to stroke survivors, caregivers and especially those who have suffered a minor stroke. TSP is an interprofessional team that provides an opportunity for stroke survivors and caregivers to talk and learn about stroke, stroke prevention, adjusting to life after stroke and how survivors can be active in their homes and community. This program begins in the outpatient setting with an emphasis on community re-integration; the remainder of the program is held within the Brain Association of Chatham-Kent, New Beginnings Clubhouse. Participants attend:

- Making a Healthy Start
- Introduction and Living with the New Me
- Living an Active Life
- Wrap up and Going Forward
- Attend a Friends of Stroke meeting at New Beginnings Clubhouse.

Congratulations go to the TSP Program Leads, Kim de Haan and Maureen Mckerral for their dedication to those living with stroke.

This year we participated in a community awareness event called, **"Prevent Stroke, Know the Signs and LIVE,"** which was hosted by Heart and Stroke CK, New Beginnings Clubhouse, Public Health, Emergency Medical Services, CKHA Rehabilitation/CCC/CDM program and Pfizer. The event was an excellent opportunity to increase awareness about stroke, what the symptoms of stroke are, and educate the community about available Chatham Kent community health services. We thank Dr. Mike Winger, Neurologist for Windsor/Essex Enhanced District Stroke Centre, Fred Williams, stroke survivor, and Bruce Krauter, Operations Manager CK Sun Parlour Emergency Services for their attendance.

Additional endeavors include:

- Participation in an RNAO Best Practice Highlight for the Stroke Assessment Across the Continuum Final Report to support best practice activities within the RNAO guideline and the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance.
- Moving forward with SPIRIT: A Web-based data system for monitoring stroke care delivery in Canada. The objective of this project is to enable clinicians and administrators access to informative data on the quality of stroke care at any point in time.
- TIA & Minor Stroke Management
- Acute Stroke Management
- Hypertension Management
- Salt Intake Awareness
- Dysphagia Screening and Oral Care best practices