



Home for Us Weekly Update - September 27, 2019

Home for Us started as an innovation and improvement project to understand the long term care experience for residents, family, and staff. Building on the insights gathered from months of observations, interviews, focus groups, and surveys, we are now in the next phase of “*Megamorphosis*.” This phase aims to rapidly test ideas from residents, family, and staff to build on the great care that staff currently provide. Building on qualities such as *compassion* and *empathy*, we strive to make sure that *emotional connections matter most, residents direct each moment* and that *home is not just a place, it is a feeling*.

Meaningful Moments

Inspired by the great work that is done every day at our homes, each week we highlight a meaningful interaction that brings us one step closer to the vision



Surprising someone who doesn't remember their birthday can be quite a challenge! We have learned from experience to keep everything simple and fun. We also keep our camera ready at all times to capture every moment of a celebration.

Food preparation was simple. Elvira made a tray of creamy coconut salted caramel bread pudding with coffee and tea. Cecil helped in organizing the activity room and pumped-up balloons for the celebrant. Cecilia, our Spiritual Health Practitioner led the prayers for her. With Cecil on ukulele and Cecilia on the guitar, it made for lively celebration with residents and staff singing their hearts out while dancing elatedly, all to celebrate a meaningful moment for our resident.

*Elvira Santiago, Rehab Assistant and Cecil Quitasol, Rec. Coordinator
Holy Family Residence*

Mrs. K and the Baby

We learned so much from Mrs. K during the first Megamorphosis and transition to a household model at Holy Family. She was someone who pattered around the neighbourhood in her wheelchair and staff knew she was happy to do something like fold clothing protectors or towels. As more “stuff of life” was brought into her home, Mrs. K instantly bonded with a baby doll, which she cradled, fed, dressed and changed. She had a few moments of distress when the baby wouldn't go to sleep (important for us to buy dolls whose eyes close) and staff quickly learned to “help out” with baby when Mrs. K was obviously tired. Staff also learned that she settled well at night if the baby slept beside her.



Dolls don't work for every person who has dementia but for Mrs. K, the baby brought joy and meaning. Mrs. K died in her sleep this week, with the baby in her bed.

Robena Sirett, Residential Redevelopment Clinical Planner & Ops Leader Honoria Conway

Kudos & Compliments

Highlights from the week

Kudos to our Nurses

As Providence Health Care gets ready for CST (Clinical System Transformation a.k.a. implementing our new electronic health record), nurses in LTC are required to make some changes to how they deliver and record medications to get ready for the new system. Kudos to all of the RNs, CNLs and NE (Clinical Nurse Leaders and Nurse Educators) for getting this work done amongst all the other work they do for the people we serve.



Talks + Tables at the Van Dusen Botanical Garden

The Talks & Tables Event held on September 18th was a huge success! This free day-long event held in partnership with The Vancouver Courier, Providence Health Care, and St. Paul's Foundation highlights a Dialogue on Aging – a public presentation with informative speakers discussing Health Care Decision-Making, Nutrition for Healthy Aging, and Exercise and Arthritis.

A special presentation for the Vancouver Volunteer of the Year Award was presented by British Columbia Seniors Advocate, Isobel Mackenzie. “Isobel leads BC's largest not-for-profit agency that serves over 6000 seniors annually. In this work, Isobel has led the implementation of a new model of dementia care that has become a national best practice. Widely recognized for her work, she was named BC CEO of the Year for not-for-profit sector and nominated as a Provincial Health Care Hero”. We are very honoured to have her support in this event.

After all the talks and the event had come to an end, we received tremendous feedback and much anticipation for our next event. See you then!

German Study Group

Recently, 13 participants from a German study group headed by Alfred Hoffman paid a visit to Youville Residence. Mr Hoffman is a gerontologist from Germany with incredible knowledge of the innovative world of seniors care and is in the process of setting up a dementia village in Germany.

Jo-Ann Tait gave a presentation on Providence Health Care and Beyond: Current and Future Trends. Jo-Ann spoke of our exciting initiative Megamorphosis and the PHC Residential Redevelopment plan. The study group also visited Holy Family Hospital where Rae Johnson provided a tour.

Sital Dhillon Randhawa: The Brock Fahrni team would like to thank you for providing temporary coverage as the Site Leader while Ursula Piotrowski is away.

Inspiration

Stories to Learn From

The Positioning of Families During Care Conferences in Nursing Homes

[Click here](#) for an excellent article in The Gerontologist by colleagues from the UBC School of Nursing. The main themes of this study reflect three key ways in which family members can be systematically excluded from contributing to resident care conferences. If you have limited time to read, skip to the **Findings** section and if you are really in a hurry go to **Recommendations for Practice**. And most importantly...in discussion with the team where you work...how might you suggest Care Conference evolve based on this article?

Is there one best model for long-term residential care? ([Click here](#))

Check out this video of a recent webinar hosted by brainXchange in partnership with the Alzheimer Society of Canada and the Canadian Consortium of Neurodegeneration in Aging (CCNA). This is presented by Pat Armstrong, Ph.D., FRSC, Distinguished Research Professor of Sociology, York University whose work has been inspiring for *Home for Us*.

Based on 10 years of international, interdisciplinary research and a recent study conducted for the City of Toronto, this webinar considers the central principles in popular models for care, the evidence that supports them and recommendations related to them.

Important Dates

October 4, 2019 8:00-10:00am

Home for Us Working Group

Youville, 6th Floor

October 8, 2019 12:30-2:30 pm

Home for Us Navigation Group

Youville, 6th Floor

November 16, 2019

CST Go Live for SPH, MSJ & HFH