

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – Apr. ‘17**

Dear Strathmere Lodge residents, family members, friends/responsible parties:

1. **Annual Quality Improvement Plan: Apr. 1, 2016 to Mar. 31, 2017**



Every year, provincial long term homes, hospitals and community care access centres (CCACs) are required to develop and submit an Annual Quality Improvement Plan to Health Quality Ontario (HQO), the provincial body mandated to lead Quality care and service delivery across the provincial health care system.

From a list of quality improvement “priorities” identified by HQO, we selected three (3) quality improvement initiatives last year, after reviewing comparative provincial data (from “CIHI” - the Canadian Institute for Health Information) and discussion at our Quality Improvement Committee (comprising staff, managers and resident/family representatives).

According to recent HQO information, we have made improvement over the last 12 months in each of our three (3) Quality focus areas as follows:

1. Reduced our Hospital Emergency Department resident transfers, where care can be provided safely at the Lodge (from 24.53% to 21.36%);
2. Reduced residents experiencing increased pain (from 19.10% to 14.40%) ; and
3. Reduced residents experiencing worsened pressure ulcers (from 4.12% to 3.58%).

We are currently finalizing our Quality Improvement Plan for 2017/2018 (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018), which will be approved by Middlesex County Council, posted on HQO’s public reporting website, and posted internally on our Communication board, near our main entrance.

1. **Recreation Calendar / Important Events**

Please pick up and check out our monthly Recreation calendar (given to every individual resident, in addition to being available in each Resident Home Area, and on our website at: <https://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation>) for events that you may find of interest and would like to attend.

Our upcoming events for April:

1. Saturday, April 1st, 9:00am-12:00pm (in the Rose Room) – Ladies’ Auxiliary Indoor Yard Sale (2nd Annual) and Ollie Bollen Fundraiser
2. Wednesday, April 5th, 2:00pm – Uptown Dixieland Band entertains
3. Saturday, April 15th, 1:30pm – Randy Grey will be performing
4. Friday, April 21st, 2:00pm – Music with Rick & Wayne
5. Wednesday, April 26th, 9:00am-3:00pm (in the Rose Room) – Geri Fashions Clothing Sale (regular and “adaptive” clothing in fashionable styles for seniors)
6. Friday, April 28th, 2:00pm – Happy Hour with Dan Scheltcher
7. **Antibiotic Resistance and Overuse**

Antibiotics are medicines used to treat infections or diseases caused by bacteria. “Antibiotic Resistance” occurs when bacteria change in response to the use of these medicines, such that antibiotics used to treat infection become less effective. Antibiotic Resistance is an increasing problem globally. The impact of the growth in antibiotic resistance, coupled with very few new antibiotics on the horizon, has the potential to be overwhelming (e.g., a recent global review estimates that by the year 2050, global deaths due to antibiotic infections will surpass deaths due to cancer, if we do not address the issue of Antibiotic Resistance).

The main driver for Antibiotic Resistance is antibiotic use. Antibiotic overuse (e.g., unnecessary antibiotics and/or antibiotic use over an excessive period of time) is a significant problem in provincial long term care homes, as high antibiotic use can increase the risk of antibiotic harm (such as increased risk of “C-diff” infection, diarrhea, allergic reactions and antibiotic-resistant organisms).

Please see the attached information sheet on Antibiotic Overuse, produced by Public Health Ontario, and discuss antibiotic use with your physician and/or staff as applicable.

1. **The Strathmere Lodge Auxiliary**

Janet Patterson, President of the Auxiliary at Strathmere Lodge, recently attended a meeting of our Family Council, in order to brief family members on the role and activities of the Auxiliary. Highlights of Janet’s talk at Family Council:

1. The Auxiliary started at the Old Lodge in 1962;
2. The purpose of the Auxiliary is to bring additional comforts to the residents of Strathmere Lodge, which includes raising funds for resident initiatives (via the Tuck Shop, Ice Cream Parlour, Memorial Donations, and bazaars/yard sales);
3. Anyone interested in the work, welfare and public relations of Strathmere Lodge and its residents can become a member of the Auxiliary; and
4. The Auxiliary has donated almost $50,000 to resident-focused initiatives over the last eight years.
5. **Family Council**



This group of involved and caring friends and family members meets on a regular basis to share information and discuss common issues. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 10, 2017, at 1:30pm in the Conference Room upstairs.

All family and friends of residents of Strathmere Lodge are welcome to attend. No pre-registration is necessary.

Please contact Marcy Welch (ext. 226, or at mwelch@middlesex.ca) for more information.

Minutes of the most recent meeting are posted on the family information board in the Rose Room (near the Chapel), and previous minutes are available for review at our Reception desk.

**6. In Conclusion ….**



Please let me know if you would like to see certain issues addressed in future newsletter editions (contact me at 519-245-2520, ext. 222, or via email at: bkerwin@middlesex.ca).

Please share a copy of this newsletter with other family members and friends, or direct them to our website: <http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care>

Electronic back copies of our newsletter can be found on our website. Hard copies are compiled in binders at both our Reception desk and the staff lounge, and are available for your review.

You can find additional copies of this newsletter edition on our Public Information Board in the main lobby (near the Chapel).

**Brent Kerwin,**

Administrator

Distribution: Responsible Parties, Auxiliary, Information Board, Resident Home Areas (5), Website, County Council, Staff, Other Stakeholderst