

For Information

DATE: December 10, 2010

REPORT TITLE: **UPDATE ON SHERIDAN VILLA LONG TERM CARE CENTRE'S SPECIAL BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT UNIT**

FROM: Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services

**OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this report is to inform Regional Council about the status of the Special Behaviour Support Unit at Sheridan Villa.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Special Behaviour Support Unit at Sheridan Villa Long Term Care Centre is a specialized unit created for eligible clients who have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or related dementia and challenging behaviours.
- Admissions to the unit began on September 20, 2010 and all beds were filled by December 3, 2010.
- This 19-bed unit will assist to prevent seniors at risk from requiring emergency hospital services and will free up beds which will reduce appropriate level of care hospital beds pressures.

**DISCUSSION****1. Background**

In September 2010, the Mississauga-Halton Local Health Integration Network provided approval and 100 per cent of funding for a pilot Special Behaviour Support Unit (SBSU) at Sheridan Villa Long Term Care Centre for clients with challenging behaviours and a diagnosis of dementia.

This SBSU is the first specialized unit opened under the new *Long Term Care Homes Act*. Admission to the 19-bed unit began on September 20, 2010 and full capacity was reached on December 3, 2010. Following a period of approximately six months, external consultants will conduct an evaluation of the program's effectiveness.

**2. Overview of the Special Behaviour Support Unit**

This is a transitional unit that is designed to stabilize clients and then place them in a normal community or long-term care setting. Partners involved in developing the services to meet the clients' needs include the Mississauga-Halton Community Care Access Centre, Trillium

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and Credit Valley Hospitals, Consulting psychiatrist and Halton Geriatric Mental Health Services.

It is anticipated that the average length of stay will be four months. The operation of this Unit helps to ensure that eligible clients will receive the right care in the right place at the right time. In addition, it is anticipated that the program will reduce appropriate level of care hospital bed pressures and prevent some emergency room visits in our community.

Clients who have been placed in the unit have come from hospitals, other long-term care homes and crisis placements in the community. The individuals who were admitted from hospitals were waiting for 690 days. This new service will result in reductions in alternate level of care waits such as this in the future.

**CONCLUSION**

This unique program is an excellent example of how the Regional Municipality of Peel and Community Partners have worked together to maximize and leverage existing resources to meet the need in our community.



Janette Smith  
Commissioner of Health Services

**Approved for Submission:**



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D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer

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c. Legislative Services