

## **Executive Director's Report April 2010**

### **Yet Keen**

Staffing is now complete with the hiring of Keith Lau as the Outreach Worker on a contract until the end of December 2010. This position is funded by United Way.

### **African and Caribbean HIV Prevention Program**

New partnerships are being developed with the faith based community through the Faith Health Initiative. Irene Mlambo, HIV/AIDs Prevention Worker, will be delivering workshops and other programs to these communities in collaboration with Catholic Immigration Centre.

Another new partnership is with Overbrook Forbes CRC to outreach more systematically to the French speaking African/Caribbean communities.

### **Rochester Heights**

A fundraiser for the community house, organized by the Centretown Bible Study, was held March 27. This is a group to which some of the Rochester Heights community members belong. \$600 was raised.

A clothing cupboard is now operating at the community house with clothing donated by Boomerang Kids in Westboro.

### **Community Development**

As part of the Community Development Framework, several community members and partners have come together to work towards replacing the play structure in Rochester Heights. This was identified as a top priority by residents in their action planning process.

SWCHC is hosting a Beginner Organic Gardening Workshop on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

A team of Carleton social work students has completed a community-based research project on food security and seniors in our catchment area. Their report explored the challenges seniors face as well as their strengths in accessing food. The report also includes suggestions and recommendations on what additional resources and services may help seniors to access healthy and affordable food in the community.

### **Children and Youth**

Work is continuing on the integration of the Queensway Preschool: the City has approved the transfer of their Purchase of Service agreement to SWCHC. Next steps are for Cori Thompson-Smith, Program Coordinator for Children and Youth and Dan Benjamin, Finance Manager, to review the operating budget and meet with the City with any concerns.

## **Caregivers in the Home Award**

Last Thursday, April 15, one of SWCHC's outreach nurses Ginette Drouin was the recipient of the Champlain Community of Care Access Centre (CCAC) "Caregivers in the Home" award. Ginette received this award for her many years of providing excellent care to clients in the community.

## **CHCs in New Brunswick**

Staff members Dr Laura Muldoon, community developer Emilie Hayes and Jack McCarthy will be presenting on the CHC model of care, inter-professional practice and community engagement to over 80 staff who work in CHCs in the province of New Brunswick. This workshop will occur in Fredericton on May 10 & 11.

## **Service Integration**

Discussions were held between senior staff from the Coalition of Community Health and Resource Centres (CHRCs) and the Community Support Coalition on April 23 to explore ways of service integration between respective organizations. This meeting was held at the Good Companions Centre. Representing SWCHC was Jennifer Simpson. Also in attendance was a senior planner from the LHIN to speak to LHIN expectations regarding service / organizational integration.

## **Ottawa Local Immigrant Partnership (OLIP)**

OLIP is a new multi-stakeholder partnership that is funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada with objectives to establish a partnership council that brings relevant sectors in Ottawa together in a strategic planning process. Developing a common understanding of the current reality of immigrant settlement and integration was a key objective of an April 15 consultation attended by SWCHC staff Irene Mlambo and Jack McCarthy. Good discussion occurred with a goal to create a local action plan to improve immigrants' access to an enhanced and coordinated system and social services.

Submitted by  
Jack McCarthy  
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