



CRNCC

Canadian research network for care in the community

RCRSC

Réseau canadien de recherche pour les soins dans la communauté

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Leading knowledge exchange on home and community care

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Welcome to CRNCC

News

CRNCC Staff Announcement

Happy Maternity Leave Silvia Carfora!

On behalf of the CRNCC Steering Committee, and our partners and collaborators, Co-Chairs Janet Lum and Paul Williams wish to offer Silvia Carfora, our CRNCC Manager, heartfelt thanks for her dedication and hard work since the beginning of the network. She has masterfully guided the CRNCC through our branding process, kept members in the knowledge loop with newsletters, conceptualized our web site, posted all that we see on it, planned events, wrapped up each event with an extensive file, coordinated our student researchers and much, much more. We hope you have a wonderful maternity leave.

The CRNCC welcomes Jane Weber as our Manager. Jane comes to us with excellent credentials including an Honours Bachelor of Social Science from the University of Ottawa (2004) and a Master of Arts in Public Policy and Administration from Ryerson University (2006). She was a Coordinator for the Student World Assembly in New York; the Project Assistant for the National Office of the Canadian Cancer Society; an Information Officer in the Public Diplomacy Division at NATO, Brussels; and, a Media and Project Coordinator for the True North Wild and Free Project, National Office of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Ottawa. In addition, Jane has volunteered at the Centre Francophone de Toronto and at the Kwame

Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana.

In Focus Profile

The CRNCC would like to introduce a new section in our bi-monthly e-newsletters, called **In Focus Profile**. As part of our ongoing efforts to encourage and promote knowledge exchange and transfer, we would like to highlight examples of initiatives which highlight the key role that home and community care can play in supporting the functional capacity, well-being and independence of individuals and their carers. We are particularly interested in initiatives that have used evidence to guide action, or that have generated evidence that can inform others. Evidence could include the results of full scale research projects and evaluations, but it can also include smaller scale surveys, descriptions of best practices, and so on.

To give you some examples, future In Focus Profiles will include:

- the Veterans Independence Program (VIP), Canada's only national home and community care program, which has had considerable success in offering Veterans safe, cost-effective community-based alternatives to nursing home beds
- the Toronto East General Hospital, which has partnered with community agencies and consumers across the care continuum to better serve its diverse client base both in and outside of the hospital

- the Resource Integration for Seniors in the Community (RISC) program in Ottawa, which targets frail seniors, provides rapid access to a case managed, integrated continuum of care, and has shown substantial decreases in acute care and emergency hospital admissions.

If your program or agency has evidence of what works or if you know of one that you think would provide valuable knowledge to members, please tell us at crncc@ryerson.ca

Recent Events

Supportive Housing: The Winning Formula for Supporting People and Sustaining the Health Care System

On October 15th 2007 the CRNCC and the Ontario Community Support Association (OCSA), brought together leading national and international experts to share their insights and evidence on supportive housing best practices. This was an extremely successful day of knowledge exchange and discussion!

International keynote speakers included:

- **Dr. Egil Hansen**, Professor of Economics at the Institute of Local Government Studies, Denmark
- **Dr. Mary Stuart**, Professor and Director of the Health Administration and Policy Program, University of Maryland, USA
- **Dr. David Challis**, Professor of Community Care Research and Director, Personal Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU), UK

Canadian speakers included:

- **Dr. Janet Lum**, Associate Professor and Co-Director, Graduate Program in Public Policy and Administration, Department of Politics and Public Administration, Ryerson University and Co-Chair, Canadian

Research Network for Care in the Community (CRNCC)

- **Judy Kelly**, Director, Home Support Services, Vancouver Coastal Health, Vancouver
- **Iris Neumann**, CEO, Capital Care Group, Edmonton
- **Ann Aikens**, Mayor, Deep River, Ontario
- **Nancy Beck**, Director, Connections Clubhouse (CMHC winner), Nova Scotia

The entire symposium is archived, along with all the speakers' presentations, at www.crncc.ca. You can also access the web cast directly at:

<http://www.ryecast.ryerson.ca/dmpstreams/crncc/oct2007/index.asp>

Given the importance of this symposium, CRNCC is now developing a condensed, 40 minute DVD containing its key messages. This quick-reference, educational DVD will be available in early 2008. Stay tuned!

Research in Progress

Setting the Balance of Care in Toronto Ontario

Researchers at the University of Toronto and Ryerson University are presently conducting a Balance of Care (BoC) project in Toronto, Ontario, in partnership with the Toronto Central Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) and organizations from across the care continuum including the Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

The recently completed, groundbreaking Waterloo Balance of Care study suggested that access to basic community support services like transportation and nutrition, is a crucial factor in determining whether or not individuals will require a long-term care facility placement. Coordination of services is also key, particularly when individuals are unable to

coordinate their own care, or when they require services from multiple providers. The results of this study are now being used by the Waterloo-Wellington LHIN to help plan seniors' services in response to Ontario's Aging at Home Strategy. A presentation of the Waterloo Balance of Care study findings can be found at <http://www.crncc.ca/knowledge/events/index.html>

While still in its early stages, the Toronto BoC project is revealing similar patterns. Of more than 1600 individuals currently waiting for a long-term care bed in Toronto, 48% are cognitively intact (compared to 43% in Waterloo), 35% have a caregiver living in the home (compared to 46% in Waterloo), 65% have great difficulty with instrumental activities of daily living- medications management, transportation, housekeeping, meal preparation and phone use (compared to 66% in Waterloo), while only 29% have great difficulty with activities of daily living- eating, toileting, bathing, personal hygiene, locomotion (compared to 19% in Waterloo). The project's expert panel, which includes seniors care managers from community service agencies, the CCAC, supportive housing, hospitals, the long-term care sector, and a community health centre, are again emphasizing the extent to which home and community care can be a safe, cost-effective substitute for a long-term care placement when services are appropriately targeted and managed. The project continues to work through the Toronto wait list data with hopes of wrapping up the project in the New Year. Stay tuned for further details!

Student Placements

Students who are interested in placements are welcome to visit our website and apply directly to the respective organization of their interest. Please visit the CRNCC website for recently

posted student placements:
<http://www.crncc.ca/studentplacements>

A key objective of the CRNCC is to facilitate student placements within the home and community care sector. We would like to HELP YOU promote student internship/practicum positions through our web site. A large portion of our member base and online users are graduate students; therefore, we encourage research or policy-based internships to fully engage our student members in their learning process. The CRNCC would be happy to consult with your organization to develop such opportunities for students. To tell us about the internship/practicum opportunities in your organization, simply complete and submit the Student Placement Form available at <http://www.crncc.ca/studentplacements/placement.html>.

If you have any questions please email us at: crncc@ryerson.ca

In Focus Fact Sheets

Remember to read and rate the In Focus Fact Sheets we have posted online. We welcome all feedback as well as suggestions for future topics. Fact sheets are available at <http://www.crncc.ca/knowledge/factsheets/index.html>. To tell us about a topic of interest to your organization, e-mail us at crncc@ryerson.ca.

Upcoming Member Events

- Alzheimer Society of Kitchener-Waterloo: "Alzheimer Awareness Month – Public Education Forums", January 19 & 26, 2008 from 10:00am to 12:00pm.
www.alzheimerkw.com/HTML%20Page.htm

- Institute for Life Course and Aging: "Dementia in Later Life: The Coming Storm", January 30, 2008 from 12:00pm to 1:30pm. www.aging.utoronto.ca
- Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network: "Open Board Meeting", December 12, 2007 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. www.torontocentralhhin.on.ca

caring for vulnerable populations in the community as well as findings regarding Ontario's healthcare workforce, particularly nurses, occupational therapists and respiratory therapists. More information on this symposium will be available shortly. Stay tuned for more information on the CRNCC website: www.crncc.ca or the Team Grant website: www.teamgrant.ca.

On the Radar

CRNCC and the CIHR Team in Community Care and Health Human Resources Symposium in March 2008!

The CRNCC has partnered with the CIHR Team in Community Care and Health Human Resources, to host a joint symposium in March 2008 to share current findings from the research team. Highlights will include findings about innovations and best practices regarding the balance of care as applied to

The Fine Print

The CRNCC is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada through the Knowledge Impact in Society grant and Ryerson University.

If you would like to be removed from this listserv, or know someone who would like to be added, please contact us at crncc@ryerson.ca.

The views expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Ryerson University, or the University of Toronto