



#### 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*

The CRNCC is supported by funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) and Ryerson University.

## Welcome to CRNCC

## News

### It's Twins!

Silvia Carfora and Monte Weis are excited to introduce their new baby boy and baby girl:

Tyson Jade Weis (5lbs 11oz)  
Soleil Loren Weis (5lbs 14oz)



They were born a little earlier than expected (almost 3 weeks) at Mt. Sinai hospital on Wednesday January 2nd 2008 at 9:39pm and 9:40pm, respectively. Other than severe sleep deprivation, Silvia and the kids are doing well and are healthy.

## Upcoming CRNCC Events

### Community Care and Health Human Resources: Informing Policy Action

March 18, 2008 from 8:30am to 3:30pm  
Ryerson University, Oakham House - Thomas Lounge  
Online registration is now OPEN!

The CIHR Team in Community Care and Health Human Resources, in partnership with the Canadian Research Network for Care in the Community (CRNCC), will be holding its 2nd Annual Symposium on March 18, 2008, at Ryerson University. This symposium is designed to share our research results with community partners, researchers, and decision makers. Its aim is to encourage conversation and knowledge exchange.

The CIHR Team, funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, directed by Raisa Deber and co-directed by A. Paul Williams, is a partnership between researchers (at University of Toronto, Ryerson, Michener, and McMaster) and community organizations to address the need for better evidence concerning two key elements affecting, and being affected by, the shift of care between hospitals and home/community.

Theme 1: Community Care (directed by Paul Williams, Janet Lum, and Karen Spalding, with Carol Kushner and some superb students), addresses the demand side, with a focus on applying the 'balance of care' (BoC) model developed by our international research partner (David Challis, U.K.) to examine: the

extent to which individuals with high care needs who might otherwise be institutionalized can be cared for in the community; and the costs and consequences of various care models for consumers, providers, and health care systems. These models have clear implications for access, quality, and cost, as well as for service integration, and the mix of services (and service providers) needed to provide care. The Team has been partnering with LHINS, CCACs, and many community partners, and has some exciting results to report.

Theme 2: Health Human Resources (directed by Audrey Laporte, Andrea Baumann, with Brenda Gamble, Molly Verrier, Mike Landry, Susan Rappolt, Paula Burns, Kathryn Parker, Marko Vujicic, more superb students, and active partners from several regulatory bodies) addresses the supply and employment shifts of health professionals, with particular emphasis on: the sub-sectors in which these providers work; the factors affecting the likelihood that they will continue working in their profession; differences by sub-sector in retention ("stickiness") and what workers do; and their training and educational needs. The Team has some exciting results about nursing, OT, and RRT, with more in progress.

As noted, this symposium is being presented in partnership with The CRNCC, co-chaired by Janet Lum (Ryerson University) and Paul Williams (University of Toronto). The CRNCC is a dynamic network of community and academic researchers, community care providers, consumers, policy makers and other interested stakeholders from across Canada and abroad. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada and Ryerson University, CRNCC encourages research and knowledge transfer in home and community care to community agencies, government and the broader community through an Events Calendar, E-newsletters and a Knowledge Bank containing archived webcasts of event presentations, CRNCC In

Focus Fact Sheets, links to related reports by members; updates on research in progress by CRNCC members; and, a database of student internship / practicum opportunities at community organizations, hospitals, government offices, networks and related associations in home and community care ([www.crncc.ca](http://www.crncc.ca)). The CRNCC has already been very active in transferring knowledge from Team Grant projects to partners in Ontario and nationally.

To register online follow this link:  
[http://events.cmetoronto.ca/startup/new\\_recovery/HPE0801](http://events.cmetoronto.ca/startup/new_recovery/HPE0801)

For more details about the event, follow this link to our website: [Details for Community Care and Health Human Resources Event](#)

## In Focus

The CRNCC has launched a new series called **In Focus Profile!** In Focus Profiles will highlight key initiatives that play a role in home and community care by supporting the functional capacity, well-being and independence of individuals and their carers.

The CRNCC is pleased to announce its first In Focus Profile on the Veterans Independence Program (VIP)

### **Veterans Independence Program (VIP)**

This In Focus looks at a particularly interesting initiative that has used evidence to guide action; Canada's only national home and community care program. We explore the history and context of the program, and describe a cost-effective community-based alternative to nursing home beds.

Remember to read and rate the In Focus fact sheets and profiles 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](mailto:crncc@ryerson.ca).

## Research in Progress

### Resource Implications of Different Models for Caring for the Terminally Ill

Care can be provided in different ways, in different sites, and by different combinations of caregivers. Different populations have different care needs. One set of research is analyzing how to care for the frail elderly, and for people with disabilities. Another project, conducted by Christopher Klinger, a nurse and a PhD student in the Department of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (HPME) at the University of Toronto, is analyzing the assumptions and resource implications of different models for caring for the terminally ill. This project is under the supervision of Prof. Raisa Deber; Profs. Doris Howell and David Zokus are also members of his committee, and falls into the CIHR Team in Community Care and Health Human Resources, described in previous editions of the CRNCC E-Newsletter.

The project will analyze a series of models being employed in Canada, England, Germany, and the United States of America. One component of the project will adapt the Balance of Care (BoC) model (as described above). This project will seek to define relatively homogeneous populations at the end of life who have comparable care needs. It will then determine alternate ways in which such care might be delivered. It will bridge the two themes of the CIHR Team by then analyzing the health human resources (HHR) required by each model, and using this to study the system-level factors required to make

particular models work.

It is noteworthy that, even given similar populations needing care, similar care needs, and similar active end-of-life care movements, the care models differ significantly across jurisdictions. The research will examine the factors affecting why this happens, and what would be needed to implement alternative models that the literature suggests would provide better outcomes. Our preliminary analysis suggests many factors impeding the use of integrated models of care occur at the system level, including regulatory controls (e.g., who is allowed to prescribe medication?), system organization (e.g., what are the links between hospitals and home care?), and the availability of HHR. For example, if palliative home care models are built on the availability of physicians willing to do house calls, they may not be feasible in jurisdictions where such physicians are in short supply. The results should expand the current literature by blending clinical expertise with concepts of policy analysis (particularly program implementation) and health care economics. Thanks to our partners, Mr. Klinger will be performing secondary data analysis of two Ontario pilot projects featuring integrated, palliative-enhanced primary health care teams. He is also interviewing key informants involved in the various models.

Research findings should be beneficial to decision makers, providers, caregivers, and patients seeking to ensure the best outcomes for patients, families, and systems. They are also timely given the review of the Government of Ontario's multi-year End-of-Life Care Strategy.

## 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](mailto:crncc@ryerson.ca)

## Upcoming Member Events

- Canadian National Institute for the Blind: "You and Your Vision Health: Yes! Something More Can Be Done", February 19, 2008 from 1:00pm. [www.crncc.ca/events/index.html](http://www.crncc.ca/events/index.html)
- Care Watch Toronto: "Aging at Home ~ Open forum discussion", February 21, 2008 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. North Toronto Memorial Community Centre, 200 Eglinton Ave. W (Toronto). <http://www.crncc.ca/events/download/carewatch.pdf>
- Square One Older Adult Centre: "Seniors Information and Active Living Fair", February 26, 2008 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. [www.sq1oac.com/index\\_files/Page1708.htm](http://www.sq1oac.com/index_files/Page1708.htm)

- The Ontario Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse: "Working Together to Prevent Elder Abuse...Building a Bridge Over Troubled Waters", February 26, 2008. [www.onpea.org/en/home.htm](http://www.onpea.org/en/home.htm)
- Alzheimer Society of Toronto: "Shedding Light on Dementia: Understanding Early Stage and Early Onset Dementia", February 29, 2008. [http://www.crncc.ca/events/download/Feb2008\\_SheddingLightOnDementia.pdf](http://www.crncc.ca/events/download/Feb2008_SheddingLightOnDementia.pdf)
- GTA Rehab Network: "Best Practices Day 2008 ~ Using Research Evidence; Advancing Rehabilitation Practice", February 29, 2008. <http://www.gtarehabnetwork.ca/bpd2008.asp>
- Saint Elizabeth Health Care: "Forging Ahead...Evidence to Innovation", March 6 - 7, 2008. <http://www.saintelizabeth.com/documents/ConferenceProgram.pdf>

## On the Radar

### Health Equity: From challenges to solutions June 2008!

The CRNCC has partnered with Solutions (East Toronto's Health Collaborative) and the Toronto Central LHIN, to host a joint symposium in June 2008. This one day Toronto Central LHIN-wide conference will provide a unique opportunity for front line workers, health administrators, policy-makers, and consumers to come together and learn about the challenges of health inequities, as well as strategies for creating a more equitable health system that responds to the needs of all. Stay tuned for more information on the CRNCC website: [www.crncc.ca/events](http://www.crncc.ca/events)

## Supportive Housing DVD - Symposium Highlights 2007

We are delighted to share that a 40 minute DVD of key messages from the groundbreaking symposium titled *Supportive Housing: The Winning Formula for Supportive People and Sustaining the Health Care System* will be available in the next couple weeks! The symposium, organized in partnership with the Ontario Community Support Association (OCSA), brought together leading experts from around the world and across Canada who described their first-hand experiences with the varying shapes, sizes, and models of supportive housing and the range of supportive housing options for different needs groups (including people with mental disabilities). For easy access, the symposium highlights DVD will be posted on the CRNCC website:

[www.crncc.ca](http://www.crncc.ca)



## 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](mailto: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