

**A Newsletter for the
Families of Louis Brier Residents
from the Resident Care Team**

**Volume 1 Number 2
June 2003**

Changes to Care Services

With the departure of Norma Francis and Sue Hundal and the opening of the Weinberg Residence, Dr. Judy Globberman has begun a reorganization of the leadership of the Nursing Team. Krista Hunt will be joining the Louis Brier and Weinberg Residence as the new Manager of Resident Care Services and will be responsible for leading the nursing team into the next phase of our growth and development. Krista will start the beginning of July. Krista will be joined by an experienced Nursing Educator/Clinical Nurse Specialist (TBA) who will work with the nursing staff to maintain and develop ongoing education and inservice programs for the care aides and nursing teams. Vita Kolodny will continue to work as a consultant gerontological nursing specialist to lead special projects. These include such projects as the Falls Prevention Task Group which Vita co-leads with Jane Ellis, our physiotherapist.

This new model addresses the expansion of the organization and the need to provide ongoing, consistent in-house education and support to the nursing staff. It also emphasizes the importance of addressing challenges where they occur by the care staff most involved in providing the care. The Nursing Leaders will support the RNs to address the concerns of families and residents. Thank you for your support and consideration while we make these changes. Changing practice is always exciting and challenging and we are particularly excited that Krista is coming on board to move the system forward.

Other Changes Include...

Dr. Nicholas Braithwaite, our CEO is leaving the Louis Brier to become the Medical Director of the Richmond District Health Region of the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. We wish Nick all the best in his new appointment! The Board anticipates having a new CEO in place in the Fall.

Annica Carlsson Hyman has been hired as the new Coordinator of Volunteers. Annica comes with a wealth of experience as the Coordinator of Seniors Programs for the JCC and we welcome her to our care team. Annica will start August 5th.

Debra Stern, our Music Therapist has moved to Toronto to try her hand in the Music Therapy world there and follow her love. We will miss your beautiful voice and smile Debra! **Leah Rosling** has been hired as our Music Therapist for Monday to Thursday,

Annette Altman will be responsible for our Shabbat Music Therapy program, and **Nomi Fenson** for ½ day/week Music Therapy.

Irena Pugachevsky, **Kathy Lee**, **Elmer Torio**, and **Maggie Rosario** are the new RNs in the Weinberg Residence Multi-Level Care Unit. **Mimi Woolman**, **Teresa Racal-Hill**, **Evelyn Mumbing**, and **Uchy Anoliefoh** will be the full-time LPN care staff in the Weinberg Residence Multi-level Care Unit.

Vanessa Trester has been recruited to be our new Resident and Tenant Services Coordinator for the Weinberg Residence. Vanessa will start August 5th. *Congratulations to all!*

The Resident Care Team Leaders:

The Resident Care Team is comprised of all of the care staff providing resident care in the Louis Brier and the Weinberg Residence. The leaders of the care team meet regularly to discuss key challenges to providing care and strategies to better meet the residents' needs. Here are names and numbers of the leaders:

Executive Leader of Resident Care Services: Dr. Judy Globberman (ext. 247)

Medical Director: Dr. Reva Adler (ext. 237)

Resident Care Nursing Manager: Krista Hunt (ext. 236)

Consultant Gerontological Nurse Specialist: Vita Kolodny (ext. 264)

Social Worker: Debbie Litvack (ext. 231)

Leader of Rehabilitation: Jane Ellis (ext. 235)

Leader of Culture and Recreation: Patricia Nitkin (ext. 232)

Coordinator of Volunteers: Annica Carlsson Hyman
Resident and Tenant Services Coordinator (Weinberg Residence): Vanessa Trester (ext. 653)

Family Information Night:

A meeting was held on April 10th to discuss forming a Family Council for Louis Brier residents' families. Ten family members attended. A Family Information Night is now scheduled for **July 16, 2003** in the upstairs dining room from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Forming a Family Council will be reintroduced at this meeting. Other topics for discussion include: planned program renovations; degree of intervention; staffing changes; nursing model; music therapy and entertainment. Please email or call Judith Globberman if you have other items you would like discussed.

jglobberman@louisbrier.com; phone: (604) 261-9376 ext. 247)

Dr. Judith Globberman Seminar Series:

A family, resident, staff and companion education lecture and seminar series is being planned for the Fall. Judy Globberman, our Executive Leader is also an Associate Professor in the Institute for Health

Promotion Research at UBC and comes to us the University of Toronto where she was a professor in the Faculty of Social Work for 12 years. She will be giving a monthly lecture and seminar series at the Louis Brier for families, residents, staff and companions. Topics include: "The Changing Family"; "Understanding Dementia"; Family Caregiving"; "Ethics of care"; "Communication and Dementia". Please let us know other topics of interest to you.

Opening of the Weinberg Residence

The first residents and tenants of the Weinberg Residence moved in on Monday May 5th. The WR has 40 Assisted Living suites for individuals and couples who are independent. They will receive some housekeeping, three meals a day, and recreational activities, as well as have access to a Wellness Centre and Hair Salon. Currently we are admitting tenants slowly and hope to be running a full capacity by the end of July. The Multi-Level Care Unit of the Weinberg Residence has 20 private rooms for individuals who require care. For information about admissions please call Debbie Litvack at (604) 261-9376 ext 653 before August 5th and Vanessa Trester after August 5th.

The private kosher Dining Room and Activity Room in the Weinberg Residence is available for private functions. For information about costs, please contact Sharon Parker at ext. 257.

Cheapest meals in town!

As you know residents' relatives may purchase tickets to dine at the Louis Brier. We have had to raise the cost of a meal to \$7 (including taxes). This is the first price increase in many many years... and we're still the least expensive date in town!

Renovations and Refurbishing:

We have received a generous endowment to do some capital projects. These will include the following: renovating and refurbishing the Special Care Unit, expanding the Rehabilitation Department space on the second floor, installing heat and sun protection window blinds on Hospital West, and redecorating the lobby and redoing the floors in the Louis Brier main areas.

Resident Satisfaction Questionnaire:

The Resident Satisfaction Questionnaires are now being analyzed and the findings will be available for the Family Meeting July 16th and shared with the residents at the Resident Council meeting in August.

EMAIL Communications

We are now using email to distribute this newsletter and other information to families. If you are interested

in being on our email list please email Debbie Litvack at dlitvack@louisbrier.com.

Falls Prevention Task Force

In the last newsletter we introduced the Falls Prevention Task Group. As part of our interest in continuing with our "least restraint" policy we have successfully done away with grey belts. Now, the nursing and rehabilitation teams are using seat belts, bed and chair alarms, hip protectors, floor mats, and attendance at activities to assist residents at risk of falling. Fall risk assessments are being continuously conducted with residents thought to be at risk for falls. The committee is working on an education program to be delivered to staff, companions and family members in the Fall.

If you have any questions about restraints, please call our physiotherapist Jane Ellis at (604) 261-9376 ext. 235 or our Clinical Nurse Specialist, Vita Kolodny ext 264.

New Security Staff

We now have security staff who patrol all units of Louis Brier, the Weinberg Residence and the outside premises all night long. They are providing support to the care staff and are available for any security concerns in both the Louis Brier and the Weinberg Residence.

Hair Salon:

The Weinberg Hair Salon has opened with Sonia Solntsev as the Hairdresser. Nurjehan Jamal (Noor) will continue as the Hairdresser at the Louis Brier. Jaffa Pausche has decided not to continue her contract at the Louis Brier. Residents, families and staff of Louis Brier are welcome to use the Weinberg Salon. However, the Louis Brier salon remains a 'resident only' service. The price list of both salons is now posted on the salon doors. It has changed slightly so please be sure to check it.

Advocates for Care Reform:

"Association of Advocates for Care Reform" is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that helps families develop Family Councils in residential facilities. They publish a manual and provide speakers and facilitators whom we can invite to the Louis Brier to consult with families interested in developing a Council. For information call: The Association of Advocates for Care Reform at (604) 732-7734. Their website is: www.vcn.bc.ca/acr.

Feedback

We hope to have regular Newsletters for families. Please let us know about other items you would like us to include and whether this is informative and helpful.