# BUILDING

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016**



NorthHamilton

Community Health Centre

# **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**



Our vision of "**No Obstacles To Health**" continues to be the beacon by which the board makes its strategic choices and decisions. While in the midst of LHIN Legislation Evaluation, Family Health Team Evaluation, Hospital Cut Backs, Accountability Service Delivery Targets, and Quality Improvement Plans, the Board is readying to respond to the "Patients First Discussion Paper". The Board continues to be flexible in its response to the needs of the communities we serve, while remaining steadfast in its commitment to the Community Health Centre Model of Care as the most effective model to respond to the health needs of individuals and communities at risk. This is the model of care that has demonstrated improved health outcomes to the populations we serve.

In the midst of guiding the strategy of the Health Centre, which enables staff to provide primary health care services and health promotion programs to over 12,000 individuals, the Board is grappling with a changing neighbourhood along the waterfront of the North End.

While North Hamilton Community Health Centre supports the economic advancement of Hamilton, we believe that when the City does better, we all do better. We know that appropriate and adequate time and resources need to be invested in ensuring that "we all do better". Progress for the city is good, and as increased city income is generated through taxes and other activities, investment in a plan for balanced neighbourhoods and people in "community transition" should be developed, in order for healthy and safe transitions. At risk individuals should be aided in a healthy and safe transition – this is defined as communities with a strong, inclusive community that includes social networks, access to healthy food, nearby bus routes, access to social and health services and the like. The North End's rising tide should float all boats. During this unique opportunity in our City's evolution, decision makers should be proactive and intentional about doing good while doing well. The Health Centre's Board will engage with decision-makers at all levels to advocate for those at-risk of transition in our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors for their compassion and governance leadership – their commitment is inspiring. This year we say good-bye to Anthony Di Silvestro, Marita Zaffiro, and Kathy Watts, who have provided the board with a keen eye for detail, stalwart commitment, and a "strategie eye" on our key success factors. We thank these leaders for

and a "strategic eye" on our key success factors. We thank these leaders for their time, energy and passion.

I would also like to thank Elizabeth Beader for providing such strong leadership and for her passion, inspiration and guidance that moved numerous initiatives forward this past year. The Board would also like to thank all staff for their contribution, dedication and for working together to deliver positive care and attention to those who utilize the diverse services of the Health Centre.

Finally, I wish to thank our clients and the communities we serve. We are grateful for the confidence and trust you place in our work, and look forward to continued partnership in meeting our vision of "No Obstacles to Health".



Janet Knight Chair, Board of Directors

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

There continues to be more and more evidence of the importance of "community health" in the spectrum of health services available to our citizens. We are delighted to be part of the health journey of our clients and community ... working along side individuals and families to meet their unique health goals.

The many programs that meet the needs of our clients include Diabetes Education, Fitness, Feet First, COPD, Pathways to Education, Community Gardens, Breakfast Program, Occupational Therapy and many, many more.



We need hospitals for very important episodic health issues. We need community health services to get healthy, to stay healthy and to heal.

As the government grapples with higher health costs, aging populations, and an increasingly inactive society, the importance of community health services is amplified.

It is important as a community, as a city, as a country, that we acknowledge the work of all the sectors providing health services, and to have the courage to shift and change as the needs of our citizens change.

As our decision makers look at needs and look at the legislation that oversees the health services we may require, it is important that all of us have a say in how services are shaped and funded. We need to stay tuned to the possible "Patients First" legislative changes that may come soon.

Many thanks to our client-focused, competent, and flexible staff, who work alongside our clientsenergetically and passionately supporting individual and community health goals.

It has been an honour to be stretched by the courage, strength and commitment of our stellar Board of Directors in shifting our conversation from illness to wellness, from those who have, to those who need; and all in the context of our vision of "No Obstacles to Health". It continues to be a privilege to work with our team to improve the health of our communities.

Moving toward our VISION No Obstacles to Health...

Meeting our MISSION To Enable Health Through Healing, Hope and Wellness...



# **STAFE LEABNING WEEK 2015**

The Health Centre supports employee learning and development to:

- improving current work performance
- provide enrichment
- prepare staff to meet future organizational needs
- maintain excellence in quality of service.



In October 2015, we kicked off the week with an energizing Opening Ceremony that welcomed staff to the learning environment; led in by motivating music and a lively Leadership Team, staff were ready to learn! The first workshop was entitled **Communications & Conflict Resolution**, enthusiastically facilitated; this workshop provided a wealth of helpful tools and techniques. Following the morning session was a recognition ceremony acknowledging our Health Centre Staff Innovation Awards as well as 25 years of service recognition presentation to Peter Dilworth, Director of Health Wellness.

The balance of the week was just as engaging as the first day!

*Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) 101*. Led by Peter Heimler of KPMG, ERM 101 guided staff through the process of identifying *"threats"* and *"opportunities"* in managing risk.

**Professional Boundaries.** Led by Bill Davidson, this learning opportunity highlighted the importance of a client-staff relationship and the clear and fine lines staff members need to maintain.

Living our Health Equity Charter – Leading and Delivering Health & Wellbeing for the LGTBQs in Ontario. Led by Douglas Stewart, this powerfully impactful workshop provided an in-depth understanding to access and inclusion issues specific to the LGTBQ community.

In our last session, staff had an opportunity to break out into their respective departments to reflect and develop innovative ways to incorporate change and improvement based on what they learned throughout the week. True to the North Hamilton CHC style, the *Innovation Cafe* generated outstanding ideas with clear activities and implementation timelines. It will be exciting to see these Innovations and the learning's from the week come to fruition as staff members embrace their



commitment to living the mission and vision of the Health Centre.

"The most important learning is the brilliance that exists in our own staff and that by having these events we learn so much from each other" - Anonymous quote from staff person.

# CABING FOR MY COPP

The Take a Breath singers were inspired by the Brompton Hospital COPD choir in England. The goal of the COPD Choir is to provide an opportunity for people living with COPD to engage in a physical and social activity that supports their independence and improves their quality of life. Research has shown that significant improvements were found in levels of anxiety and self-



assessed physical wellbeing in people living with COPD who were part of a singing group.

The choir made its debut at a December gathering in 2014 with an old Everly Brother's song called Dream. They rewrote the lyrics to represent all that had been learned in their 10 week Caring for MY COPD program and called the tune BREATHE! The song immediately became an overnight sensation with the group and all those who heard it being performed. The group subsequently performed for audiences throughout Hamilton and participated twice on All Choirs Night at the Hamilton Germania Club. They also featured on CBC radio's DNTO (Definitely Not The Opera) program.



There is much evidence to support the positive impact that the choir has on people living with COPD:

- Reduced anxiety levels
- Enhanced mental and physical wellbeing
- Maintenance of breathing capacity
- Reduced air trapping in the lungs

When you hear the choir in full song singing "Feeling Groovy" you soon realize that two of the most significant benefits that comes from singing in the choir are increased levels of hope and joy. Singing has had a profound impact on the choir members with changes seen in mood and anxiety levels.

Members of the choir have a lot of fun getting together and who would have thought that singing can help them to breathe better, as they hold long notes and release trapped air allowing for oxygen enriched air to enter!

Their performance and the interview were posted on the Hamilton CBC News station. http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/hamilton/news/take-a-breath-singers-find-copd-choir-helps-them-dojust-that-1.3057115

# **COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE**



Over the past year, we have taken a journey to growing in our Community Greenhouse. The greenhouse provides another opportunity for North Hamilton to continue our legacy of leadership in community development, particularly in the areas of food security and healthy eating.

In spring 2015, the construction of the greenhouse was completed thanks to the generous support of The Hamilton Port Authority. Additionally, through a grant from TD Friends of the Environment, we were able to secure initial start-up costs necessary for greenhouse operation, including tools, growing supplies, and educational resources.

Over the course of the summer and fall of 2015, through a partnership between Niagara College Greenhouse Technician Program and the North Hamilton Community Health Centre, students and instructors worked in teams to develop various components of the greenhouse including: operations, crop advisement and space set up.

The students engaged community members for input regarding opportunities to support the community through the greenhouse and highlighted the following themes:

- educational opportunities
- bringing people together
- sharing resources
- plants
- seeds
- fresh, organic, local produce



Through a grant received from Niagara College Office of Research and Innovation in December 2015, we were able to purchase growing towers, tables and supplies for the greenhouse. Niagara College students continued their learning in the greenhouse throughout the winter and tested out growing processes. The students from Niagara College also received community input through a survey that was distributed to Health Centre Program Participants to identify Vegetables, herbs and fruits to be grown in the greenhouse that would be most beneficial to the community. By March 2016, we were able to harvest our first crop of lettuce and, since that time, we have been sharing fresh lettuce within community programs.

Niagara College students also reported back to community stakeholders to share knowledge gained from the experiential education they have received through the partnership between Niagara College and North Hamilton Community Health Centre. Their presentations included an overview of the greenhouse, information around daily inspections, fertilizers, deep water culture care, tower garden care and barrel hydroponics care.

The Health Centre will continue to partner with Niagara College staff and co-operative education students throughout the summer months as we continue new program development.

North Hamilton Community Health Centre is grateful for the generous support of partners and funders as we have journeyed through the process of setting up the Community Greenhouse. We are looking forward to our Grand Opening this fall!

# SYRIAN REFUGEE RESPONSE

In December 2015, the Health Centre learned that Hamilton would be welcoming 1020 Syrian refugees. The Health Centre participated as a key member of the *Syrian Refugee Health Working Group* led by Wesley Urban Ministries whose purpose was to develop a consistent process to meet the needs of the Syrian Refugees that would be coming to Hamilton.

NHCHC Primary Care team response:

• A mobile team made of up a physician, a nurse practitioner and a physician assistant, went into the interim lodging



sites where the refugees were residing to conduct **over 200** initial health assessments and provide urgent health care when needed to individuals.

- Half-day immunization clinics were also held in February 2016, in the interim lodging sites, to help expedite the routine childhood immunizations to ensure school aged children would be cleared for school entry.
- All clinicians and support staff on the team have been involved in continued follow up care necessary for the **215** new Syrian clients.

As our new clients transition to permanent housing from the lodging sites, follow up support and ongoing health care services are being delivered in a client-focused, culturally sensitive fashion. North Hamilton CHC staff continue to work alongside our newest clients to provide care and services that help them adjust to their new life in Hamilton.

# INTEGRATER INFORMATION SYSTEMS PARTNERSHIPS

The evolution of a centralized Information Systems (IS) Department across multiple CHCs and LHINs has created a great opportunity for management efficiencies, standardization and cost savings across LHIN regions. During the last fiscal year, the Health Centre IS department has experienced significant growth. In addition to our exiting IS partnerships we are now providing Integrated Information Systems to six organizations within the Waterloo Wellington LHIN and Southwest LHIN areas.

Efficiencies of Integrated IS Partnership include:

- Increase purchasing power
- Standardized procedures
- Shared best practices
- Knowledge transfer
- Streamlined administration
- Cost savings



The demand for an increased skill set needed to manage these systems has enabled NHCHC to hire additional qualified and experienced Information System staff. It has also enhanced the team-like atmosphere, promoting the sharing of information and best practices within the IS team. As the Information Systems team grows, their skill and knowledge of the systems will continue to increase, creating a much more resourceful, effective and efficient unit.

# CHANGES HAPPENING IN

North Hamilton Community Health Centre's Board of Directors has a strategic goal to deepen their understanding around changes happening in the neighbourhood, create opportunity for the Board of Directors in understanding North Hamilton Community Health Centre's role in supporting a balanced neighbourhood, draw community members and decision-makers to be possibility thinkers and create opportunity for generative discussion around what each participants role may be in creating a balanced neighbourhood.



A recent community profile conducted by Social Planning and Research Council (SPRC) on behalf of our Health Centre and Hughson Street Baptist Church indicates that:



- North Hamilton has a very high rate of housing that is need of major repairs (17%),
- In North Central Hamilton, private rents for available units have increased by 23% between 2010 and 2013

Between 2001 and 2011, there was a 24% drop in the number of children under age 15 in North Hamilton, for a total of 295 fewer children.

- In the North End, there has been an additional 95 seniors over the last decade, for a total of 635 persons aged 65 or older
- 28% of the seniors living in North Hamilton live alone, which is slightly higher than the average for the city (27%).

Due in part to the low educational attainment of residents in NHCHC's service area, the most common jobs they are employed in are often lower paying such as sales clerks, food service jobs and cashiers (dominated by women) and truck drivers and labourers (dominated by men).

The recent community profile conducted also indicates that our Health access indicators are as follows:

- The high rates of cancer in the Keith neighbourhood is leading to shorter life spans.
- On average the hospitalization rates in the Hamilton Census Metropolitan Area for the Low SES areas are approximately 90% higher for COPD than the Average SES areas.
- The City of Hamilton has higher rates of many chronic conditions, and this is especially evident in unhealthy weights, blood pressure, asthma and pain that limits activities.



Approximately 22% of residents in NHCHC's service area are heavy drinkers and approximately 28% are daily smokers. They are both higher among men than the general population



What we heard from community members and partners on changes in the neighbourhood and their perceived impact on the following:

#### Individual health:

- Pace of change supported by good communication/eliminate fear
- Ensuring appropriate services in the neighbourhood
- · Stress on individual that stays in the neighbourhood
- Elimination of diversity in the neighbourhood

#### Community health:

- Establish appropriate guidelines to ensure health of community
- People friendly focus (not just business development focused)
- Change in mix of services needed
- Positive change in perception of view of North Hamilton & Core

The Community helped us to define a Balanced Neighbourhood:

- Mix of housing affordable, houses, apartments, condo, subsidized
- Mixed incomes
- Cultural diversity
- Trust amongst neighbours i.e. close knit
- Variety of Educational Backgrounds
- Playgrounds/Green Spaces/Walking Trails
- Employment Opportunities



Many inroads have been made in other cities in transition, which ensures that as neighbourhoods gentrify, all community members gain. Our challenge and our opportunity is to continue to work with our community and decision makers, to listen, to communicate, to advocate, and to ensure "a rising tide floats all boats".

Data Source: Social Planning and Research Council (SPRC) Data

### SUMMARY OF STATISTICS - TOTAL # OF BOSTEBER CLIENTS 19-531







# SUMMARY OF FINANCIALS



The above information is extracted from our audited financial statements. Audited financial statements are available at North Hamilton Community Health Centre.

# FUNDERS AND DONORS - 2015/2016

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860 Dental	Evergreen Centre for Green Cities	Ministry of Children & Youth Services
Abbott	Fisher's Pier 4 Pub	Ministry of Health and Long Term
Aerostatic Technology Canada	Flamborough Sabres Minor Atom	Care
AQHI	AA Team	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and
ArcelorMittal Dofasco	Focus on Youth – Hamilton	Sport
I.S./P.A. Golf Classic	Wentworth District School Board	Murphy's Country Produce
Art Gallery of Hamilton	Fortinos	Needlework
ASDE INC.	Fullarton, Bert	Niagara College
Astra Zeneca	Glenn Richardson Plumbing &	North End Breezes
Axel Kraft – Spry Division	Heating	North Hamilton CHC Board of
Beader, Elizabeth	Good Witch II Productions Inc.	Directors
Becton Dickinson Canada	Government of Canada	Older Adult Association of Ontario
Inc.	Hain-Celestial Canada	Ontario Lung Association
Best Buy, Ancaster	Hamilton Community Foundation	Pathways to Education Canada
Biffis, Joe	Hamilton Family Health Team	Pickworth, James R.
Boehringer-Ingelhiem	Hamilton Health Sciences Corp.	Plan B Organics
Books, J.H. Gordon	Hamilton Port Authority	Pogson, Brian - The Morgan Fund
Breakfast for Learning	Hamilton Waterfront Trust	ProResp
Bryan Prince Bookseller	Harbour Diner	Royal Bank
Cake & Loaf Bakery	HealthForceOntario	Reitzel, Jo-Ann
Canadian Cancer Society	Hirter, Ken	Sanofi
Canadian Prenatal Nutrition	HNHB Local Health Integration	Service Canada
Program	Network	Shoppers Drug Mart
Cedar Haven Farms	Hotti Biscotti	Smoking Helpline
Charred Restaurant	Interval House of Hamilton	Social Planning & Research
Chuck's Service Centre &	J+J Shared Services	Council
Auto Sales Inc.	Jamesville HUB	Sodexho – Columbia College
Cineplex	Johnson & Johnson	Vital Aire
City of Hamilton	Keith Hub	Splitsville Entertainment
COLOPLAST Canada	Leveille, Valerie	St. Lawrence Parent Council
Corporation	Liuna Station	St. Lawrence School
Confederation Marine Modellers	Macassa Bay Yacht Club	St. Luke's Anglican Church
Cootes Paradise	MacNamara, Shirley	Tarves, Jim
Elementary School	MacPherson, Jeanette	Tastebuds Student Nutrition
Costco - Ancaster	Maple Leaf Sports and	Collaborative
Costco - Burlington	Entertainment	TD Friends of the Environment
Davies, Jim	Maple Lodge Farms	The Designers Printing Inc.
Delfina Fragoso Arruda	McArthur Medical	The Mortgage Group
Dienaar Kok, Liesbeth	McMaster University	Thomas, Stienna
DM Medical Inc.	McNally, Chris & Wendy	Trudell Medical International
Downton, Robert	Medigas/Praxair	Unifor Local 42
E.D. Smith	Melrose United Church	United Way of Greater Toronto
Environment Hamilton	Mezentco Inc.	Wholesale Medical Network Inc.
		YMCA – Summer Jobs for Youth

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS - 2015/2016

Aboriginal Health Centre Affiliated Services for Children and Youth Alzheimer Society Hamilton ArcelorMittal Dofasco Art Forms Youth Art Studio Beasley Community Centre Bennetto Parent and Family Literacy Centre Bennetto Recreation Centre Bennetto School and Bennetto School Council Bishop Ryan Catholic Secondary School Bishop Tonnos Secondary School **Bridges Community Health** Centre Bruce Trail Conservatory Canadian Diabetes Association Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School Cathedral Catholic Secondary School Cathey Wever Elementary School Catholic Children's Aid Society Catholic Family Services of Hamilton-Wentworth Central Community Health Centre Centre 3 for Print and Media Centre de Sante Communautaire Hamilton/Niagara Centre for Addiction & Mental Health Children's Aid Society of Hamilton City Housing Hamilton City of Hamilton **Community Care Access** Centre Hamilton Community Midwives of Hamilton Contact Hamilton D'Youville College De dwa da dehs nye>s Aboriginal Health Centre Delta Secondary School Downstairs Kitchen Dr J Edgar Davey School Ecole secondaire Académie catholique Mère-Teresa École secondaire Georges P Vanier **Edgewater Gardens** Employment and Social Development Canada Empowerment Squared Environment Hamilton Eva Rothwell Resource Centre at Robert Land Evergreen Cityworks Factory Media Centre Ferry Street Medical Clinic Firestone Institute for

Respiratory Health

Fort Erie Multicultural Centre Gibson and Lansdale Area Hub Glendale Secondary School Good Shepherd Centre Grand River Community Health Centre Guelph Community Health Centre Habitat for Humanity Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion Hamilton Community Garden Network Hamilton Community Legal Clinic Hamilton Council on Aging Hamilton Diabetes Collaborative Hamilton Family Health Team Hamilton Film Festival Hamilton Fire Department Hamilton Good Food Box Network Hamilton Health Sciences Corp. Hamilton Hindu Temple Hamilton Police Services Hamilton Prenatal Nutrition Program Hamilton Public Library Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre Hamilton Victory Gardens Hamilton Waterfront Trust Hamilton Wentworth Catholic **District School Board** Hamilton Wentworth District School Board HARRRP – Hamilton Association for Residential and Recreational Redevelopment Programs Health Initiatives for Youth Health zone Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic HealthQuality Ontario Healthy Birth Weights Coalition Housing Help Centre Hughson Street Baptist Church Immigrants Working Centre Industry Education Council of Hamilton International School for Interdisciplinary Studies Toronto Interval House of Hamilton James Street Alternative Education Jamesville Hub Jared's Place Joseph Brant Community Health Centre **Keith Chronicles** Keith Hub King William Learning Centre Kitchener Downtown Community Health Centre Kiwanis Boys and Girls Club Hamilton Langs Community Health Centre Marchese Health Care and Medilink Mark Preece House Martial Arts Academy Maternity Centre of Hamilton

McMaster University

Micah House Refugee Services Inc. Mission Services Mohawk College of Applied Arts and Technology Mountain Secondary School Neighbour Leadership Institute Neighbour to Neighbour Centre New Village Retirement Home NGen Youth Centre Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology Niagara Falls Community Health Centre Niagara Hindu Shiv Madir, Niagara Falls Norfolk General Hospital Norman Pinky Lewis Rec Centre North Central Neighbourhood Association North End Breezes North End Neighbours Association Ontario College of Arts and **Design University** Ontario Disability Support Program **Ontario Works** Plan B Organic Farms Portuguese Community Support Services Prince of Wales Elementary School Queenlake Pharmacy (Stoney Creek) **Quest Community Health Centre** Refuge: Hamilton Centre for Newcomer Health Robert Land Community Association Rotary Club of Hamilton **Ryerson University** Saltfleet Secondary School Scholarships Canada Scotiabank Screen for Life Bus Sexual Assault Centre Hamilton Area Shelter Health Network Shoppers Drug Mart (Cannon) Sir Allan MacNab Secondary School Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School Sky's the Limit Youth Organization Snapd Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton South Niagara Health and Wellness Čentre St Jean de Brebeuf Secondary School St. Brigid Catholic School St. Charles Catholic Adult Secondary School St. Joseph H.H.C. St. Lawrence Catholic Elementary School St. Luke's Anglican Church

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School St. Patrick's Catholic School St. Thomas More Catholic Secondary School Start Me Up, Niagara The Emergency Support Committee for Refugees The Hope Centre The John Howard Society The Salvation Army Grace Haven Thrive Child and Youth Trauma Services Toronto Blue Jays United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton University of Waterloo Victorian Order of Nurses Vincent Massey Gateway Volunteer Hamilton VON South Asian Seniors Community Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner Led clinic Welcome Inn Community Centre Wesley Urban Ministries West Elgin Community Health Centre West Halidmand General Hospital, Hagersville Westdale Secondary School Westmount Secondary School Wilma's Place Woman's Abuse Working Group Woolwich Community **Health Centre** Workers Art and Heritage Centre Wrap Around Program Shalem Wrap Around Services Hamilton YMCA YOW (Youth Outreach Workers)

YWCA

# AWARRS - INNOVATION

#### Innovation of the Year – Staff

Awarded to **Marianne Grguric** for reaching out to Niagara College Horticultural program to seek an opportunity to partner with the Health Centre in setting up the Greenhouse. This innovation has led to a unique partnership that has incorporated the set up and establishment of the Health Centre Greenhouse into the Niagara College School of Environmental and Horticultural Studies student curriculum.

#### **Board of Directors**

Awarded to the **Board Quality & Safety Committee** for the development and implementation of a Criticality Rating Document. This new tool uses a rating scale of severity and likelihood to determine critically. This innovation will streamline the Awarded incident reporting to the Board.

#### **Partnership Innovation**

Awarded to Niagara College, School of Environmental and Horticultural Studies, Greenhouse Technician Program. This innovative partnership has provided an opportunity for Niagara College students to acquire hands on experience of all aspects of setting up a greenhouse including operations, crop advisement, costing, construction and layout design; Niagara College has also donated plants, benches and soil. Niagara College students have also supported staff training and community engagement.

#### **Honourable Mention – Staff**

Awarded to Osiris Lopez, Cassandra Knecht, Ezinne Wabaso & Julissa Rodriguez for the innovation of the implementation of the key tag scanning system for all COPD, Diabetes and Community gym users. The benefits of the implementation include increased efficiency & accuracy for data capturing and decreased manual inputting of data for reporting; it also ensures accurate identification of clients and the program they are attending.















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Visit our website at www.nhchc.ca

