

*"The Best of What
Community Used to
Be and Can
Become" WECCC*



WINDSOR-ESSEX
**Compassion
Care Community**

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Building Community

First Volunteers Offer Their Perspective on *Sharing My Journey*

"*Sharing My Journey*" (SMJ) training is well underway for those in the community who would like to participate in supporting people to live well.



Students, staff and volunteers are sitting down with clients to complete their quality of life surveys and are looking at the clients' network of support to ensure that they receive the best possible care in a way that is comfortable for them. We are speaking to volunteers like **Pennie Edwards**, who is a caregiver and

respite provider, that have been caring for friends and family for many years. Now in training for the SMJ program, Pennie admits that it is an eye-opening experience.

"A lot of people are not aware of what's out there in the community. I wasn't aware of some of the things that are out there for these people until I became involved in WECCC. The social part of it, some of these people are very isolated and have no idea that there are social activities that they can do. They are not aware of the medical facilities that can help them free of charge. There are so many avenues out there for them to access (care). It opens up a whole new world to them and shows them that they are not alone in the process. They may be alone in their home. They might not

have family or friends. They may not know what is accessible to them. They may feel as though there is nowhere to go to but there is something there (*Sharing My Journey*). There may be volunteer places to help them with their household stuff, their yard work, rides to doctor's appointments. There is a variety of different things they can access. They are not alone. "



Michelina Busico has been a Hospice volunteer for 15 years and is now extending her skills and talents to the WECCC. She believes the WECCC is going to benefit everyone in the community. She does see where there is room to grow, and that begins with having more diversity within the volunteer network as well as multiculturalism like its community partners. For example, Michelina is from an Italian family, and understands that there are sometimes language barriers between English speaking and non-English speaking

citizens. Michelina's hope is that the resources that are accessible to the Windsor-Essex community are as multicultural as its population in an effort to eliminate delays and miscommunication.

Welcome to the Project

Community partners are making the WECCC a greater part of the community by partnering with us. Agencies such as the New Canadians' Centre of Excellence Inc. and the Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County, are helping us connect with cultural communities, to adapt our processes to newcomer and immigrant populations, and ensure we are accessible to people from different language and cultural backgrounds. Agencies such as CARP and the Mennonite Fellowship are preparing to complete our quality of life surveys and join hOurWorld to further build support within their networks. We acknowledge all of our agencies and thank you for your support in becoming the most compassionate community in the country. This includes the following organizations and many more:



Community Spotlight

Kingsville Community Centre is one of the most recent organizations to join our movement. They are adopting our quality of life process to improve service to their community.

“KCC is a growing community outreach program which addresses a variety of needs and goals while being age appropriate and attentive to individual’s with challenges and limitations.

The Centre functions as a partnership with other community agencies that offer free social, educational, nutritional and wellness programs for those of all ages within the Kingsville and Essex County region. The town of Kingsville has become a choice location for people who are transitioning into their senior years. Kingsville’s demographic is over 50% baby boomers. Although Kingsville Community Centre offers programs of all ages, it is especially sensitive to those in this immense boomer demographic.

Kingsville Community Centre fosters enhanced socialization and effective communication through the vehicle of VOLUNTEERING.” KCC Website

Michael Bennett Goes Back to his Roots

As Project Manager, of WECCC, Michael Bennett has been involved in all areas of its development. He has seen all of the different agencies come together, and think about how they can work "smarter and not harder" to take care of the community. He has helped train students, organized client visits and written materials to support this initiative’s efforts in steering the community to elevate its compassion across Windsor-Essex and beyond. Now Michael is pressing forward and taking on a new role at Hospice as a member of its Social Work team. Michael is no stranger to Hospice. Prior to WECCC he was a member of the Hospice team, and as he goes back to his roots we at the project management office wish him the best. We also look forward to gaining his support in the future (*wink, wink*).

Student, Volunteer, & Intern Appreciation

Eleanore Sedge



Eleanore is one of WECCC's newest employees, and has come onboard as a Coordinator. Her role includes registering all of WECCC'S community study participants, coaching, mentoring and training students and volunteers for the Sharing My Journey Program. She is also working with our agency partners in the adoption of quality of life survey information into Intake processes . Eleanore joins us with a wealth of experience and knowledge in health care which will benefit her as a leader in this role.

Liz Daniel

As the Community Engagement Coordinator, Liz's role involves engaging community agencies and the community in general in the mission of WECCC, embed compassionate care into the community, and aid in the mobilization of the neighbourhood objectives. Her role encompasses a wide array of tasks:



scheduling events to help groups and individuals in creating neighbourhood hubs to support citizens in need in the community; working with research volunteers from the University of Windsor to gather quality of life information from citizens in the community as well as enhancing participation using a timebanksnetwork exchange - hOurWorld; and, participating in community initiatives that align with our mission.

Students

WECCC has 9 new interns working with us who will be featured in our upcoming newsletters.

Launch Update

In December 2016, our Leamington pilot was launched. The final element of the WECCC quality of life system is now live and being tested - the Community Quality of Life Tracker. Bringing together all components of WECCC (the new model for delivering personal care, building capacity in neighbourhoods, and community outreach), pilot communities now have a unique tool to see the difference they make in terms of progress on shared outcomes, impact and equity. Input from initial users has been gathered and is now being used to improve the tool. The Leamington Quality of Life Tracker can be accessed through the WECCC website. At the same time, we are continuing to connect with Leamington groups, and key community partners are starting to introduce the new care, neighbourhood and outreach models to their members.

Revised Website

Our website has been revised to allow for better navigation and information. Please visit our website at <http://www.weccc.ca> and provide us with your feedback.

Video Contest

Our video contest is ongoing and we are still looking for submissions. Please contact the WECCC for more details or visit our website to for information about our organization and the contest at <http://www.weccc.ca>.

LIVE,
THRIVE,
PROSPER

