

Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Home Decreases Residents Falls Utilizing Residents First Program

Mississauga... Specialty Care Mississauga Road has decreased their resident fall rate by one third in just one month, through a Falls Prevention Program established as part of the home's participation in the Residents First initiative.

The home highlighted this initiative to Christina Bisanz, CEO of the Ontario Long Term Care Association (OLTCA), during a tour of the home today.

Under the Falls Prevention Program, a multidisciplinary team used quality improvement science to develop this program. The team utilizes a selection of tools from a specially developed falls prevention cart to respond to the specific needs of residents who have been identified as being at high risk for falls. The care team can chose from various cart items such as non-skid socks and matting mobile alarms in response to resident needs.

The introduction of the cart, in combination with fall risk assessments, and other tools and support available as part of Residents First, has enabled the home to reduce their fall rate from 9.9 per cent to 2 per cent since February 2010.

Residents First is a provincial partnership initiative among the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC), the Ontario Health Quality Council (OHQC), long term care homes, residents and families that provides quality improvement training, tools and resources for staff to measurably enhance resident outcomes.

“The targeted focus and support tools have increased the awareness around falls risk and prevention and is enabling staff to intervene earlier and make a measurable difference in resident care and quality of life,” said Gayle Stuart, Administrator of the home.

“Specialty Care Mississauga Road is demonstrating the value of Residents First as a leading edge initiative that provides homes with tools and support to positively impact resident outcomes,” said Ms. Bisanz.

Ms. Bisanz, who is touring a number of OLTCA member homes across Ontario, added, “this is another example of how the long term care sector is demonstrating its commitment to, and expertise in, meeting the changing needs of aging residents.”

OLTCA represents the not-for-profit, charitable, private and municipal operators of 428 long term care homes that provide care and services to some 50,000 residents throughout Ontario.

Specialty Care Mississauga Road is a 160 bed home that has been helping meet the long term care needs of Mississauga residents since 2004.

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