

Client and Care Partner Council Minutes

Date: January 23rd, 2025

Time: 10:00am – 11:30am

Location: McCormick Dementia Services Boardroom

Attendees:

Staff: Becky Clark, McCormick Dementia Services Director; Elizabeth Hardy, Day Program Manager; Natalie Kozinska, Administrative Assistant; Sonja Radoja, Social Worker
 Caregivers: Muriel A., Claire D.

Agenda Item	Discussion Items and Decisions	Actions Required
Stats Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current unique client count is approximately 155 • The day program is seeing clients spend less time in the program before discharge, this leads to higher turnover and the need to get more waitlist clients assessed • Temporary social work hours have been added to support with completing assessments • Becky reviewed the statistics that are reported to the Ministry: face-to-face attendance, days waited for services, reasons for discharge, operating days, etc. • The afternoon program (2:30-8:00p.m.) program re-opened in July 2024 – these spots have also been difficult to fill, with the lack of BGC bus transportation being one of the factors 	
Respite Users and Strategies for Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the higher client turnover, many overnight respite users have discharged in recent weeks and month • Care partners are being encouraged to try respite, even if it's "just because" • We will be hosting three in-service dates, both in person and virtual, to help inform care partners about overnight respite and answer any questions 	
Care Partner Retreat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCormick Dementia Services has teamed up with the Alzheimer Society and The Salvation Army Adult Day Program to offer a care partner retreat • The Alzheimer Society has volunteered to host 6 care partners from each organization for a day of pampering and relaxation • Care partners will be able to bring the person that they care for with them – staff will be on site to offer respite 	
Grant Submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth has applied for a grant through the Seniors Community Grant Program – this is a government grant to provide older adults with opportunities for greater social inclusion, volunteerism and community engagement • Our grant is proposing a workshop for care partners to create individualized "All About Me" books about the person that they care for • If approved, this workshop will run six times over the next year 	

<p>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) – Plans for Communication, Culture Week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEI is an important mandate for our organization • Our communications coordinator will be rolling out a plan on how to implement this at McCormick • The week of June 16th will be a culture week – we invite all staff to share their culture in whatever way they choose (food, organizing presentations/demonstrations, etc.) 	
<p>Client Interest in Touring LTC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some clients have expressed interest in touring McCormick Home • Becky can facilitate this on days that clients are already here, if they request a tour • Need to be mindful not to create false expectations that they will receive an offer from McCormick Home, as there is no guarantee they will move in there • Council also suggested that the Journeying Together support group can take a “field trip” to the home 	
<p>New Videos Coming Soon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three new professional videos are currently in the editing stage and will be available soon • These videos will focus on overnight respite, the day program, and care partner supports • The creation of these videos is paid for through the Foundation 	
<p>Upcoming Webinars</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 29th: McCormick Mobile webinar – now available on the McCormick Care Group website • February 27th: Recreation at Home webinar hosted by Recreation Specialist, Kelsey • March 20th: Nutrition Webinar hosted by dietician Christina Seeley 	
<p>Round Table</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elizabeth provided a list of typical day program activities as requested at previous meetings – see attached • An influenza outbreak has been declared in McCormick Home – McCormick Care Group has an organization-wide vaccination policy, those who are not vaccinated against influenza need to wear a mask and provide proof of a prescription of Tamiflu 	

Next meeting: Thursday, March 27th, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Have you ever wondered what clients do on a day to day basis at The Club? Depending on program room, client interests, and season, here are examples of some activities they may experience while with us:

Physical:

- Seated exercises and weights
- Tai chi, chair yoga
- Walking outdoors
- Bean bag toss, mini golf, curling, seated baseball, floor hockey
- Bowling/virtual bowling
- Shuffleboard, corn hole, ladder golf



Social:

- Current events, group discussions
- Would you rather? Trivia, question games, Bingo
- Who am I? Shake loose a memory
- Baking
- Gardening/horticulture
- Entertainment/music/sing-a-longs
- Pet Therapy



Cognitive:

- Word games/puzzles
- Reminiscence, famous faces
- Jeopardy, game shows
- Arm chair travel
- Card games



Montessori:

- Strength based
- Sensory engagement
- Meaningful tasks
- Ex: Folding, washing, sorting, baking

