

ST. JOSEPH'S LIFECARE CENTRE BRANTFORD

# RESIDENT FAMILY NEWSLETTER

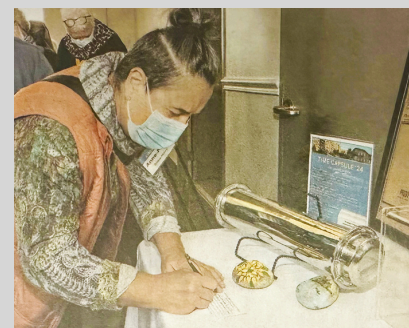


## 20th Anniversary event a great success

A big thank you to Resident Council and Family Council for taking time out of your day to operate an information station along with are various departments at our 20th Anniversary Celebration on October 29th. These exhibits helped inform our guests on the valuable services you provide to enhance resident life.

Several retired original staff, family members and volunteers have reached out to share positive remarks about the event, including how nice it was to visit with people they had not seen in years. Other highlights included Temi the robot, and opportunities to sign our commemorative board and contribute a personal message to the time capsule.

It was so nice to be able to recognize the three residents who have been with us since Day One of the long-term care home, namely Richard Morrison, Hazel Proper, and Maureen Quinlan. All three residents were able to attend the event and be acknowledged. Our thanks to leaders from St. Joseph's Health System for sharing in the festivities. A big thank you to the team who organized this great event to commemorate this special occasion.



*Brantford Expositor photo*

Former 15-year Hospice volunteer Anne-Marie Norris is photographed by the Brantford Expositor as she prepares a note to include in the 20th anniversary time capsule.

[Click here to view additional photos from the event.](#)



A reflection by Sister Teresita was a highlight for many who attended the event as she recalled being approached by leaders to discuss the idea of a long-term care home 20 years ago. Sister Teresita continues to be involved in resident life at St. Joseph's Lifecare Centre, making the drive to Brantford every Wednesday from Hamilton to visit residents and assist with Mass, a tradition she has held for 20 years.

## Avoidable ED Transfers in Long-term Care and Palliative Approach to Care

Attendees at Family Council's June meeting and Resident Council's September meeting had Laura McEachern, St. Joseph's Lifecare Centre's Nurse Practitioner, present "Strengthening a Palliative Approach in Long Term Care."

This approach empowers residents, families, and staff to provide personalized high-quality care for residents living with chronic and life-limiting illnesses.

To continue this conversation, Laura would like to share two educational resources with residents and their families.

- common myths surrounding a palliative care approach ([Click here to download](#))
- [a video on Emergency Department transfers](#) for Long-term Care residents

*Please note: that this video is from a study that was conducted in Alberta. As such they use terms such as LPN (Licensed Practical Nurses) rather than RPN (Registered Practical Nurses); and HCA (Health Care Aids) rather than PSWs (Personal Support Workers).*

At SJLCB health care providers will routinely ask our residents and/or their substitute decision makers about their "goals of care." These conversations occur regularly at post-admission conferences and annual care conferences. They also occur any time there is a change in your loved one's health condition.

The two resources shared above are developed to help you prepare for these conversations. *Avoidable Emergency Department transfers* is a Ministry-reported statistic. These educational resources are used to help residents and their families better understand these initiatives. Please refer to our [Quality Improvement Plan](#) for more details.

If you have any questions, please feel free to connect with Ashley Christiansen at [achristiansen@sjlhc.ca](mailto:achristiansen@sjlhc.ca)

## 'GRANT A WISH' CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

Throughout the month of November, St. Joseph's Lifecare Foundation is running its Grant A Wish campaign, seeking donations of personal care items for long-term care residents who are of lesser means. The campaign will run until Giving Tuesday, December 3rd.

The campaign is modelled after a highly successful 2023 campaign at Stedman Community Hospice where members of the public were invited to donate baking supplies.

"This kind of campaign is a great way to engage those who may not be in a position to make a significant monetary donation, but want to contribute to a cause in some way," says Julie Powell, President and CEO of the Foundation.

To donate, please pick up a copy of the Wish List from Reception or [click here to download the file](#).

### BRANTLIFE TV INTERVIEW



Dave Carrol of BrantLife, a Rogers Cable show, interviews Life Enrichment Manager Shelley Murray about the Grant A Wish Campaign. Click on the photo above to play video (at the 10:10 mark)



# Family Council News



## St. Joseph's Holiday Bazaar

Family Council had a very successful raffle and honey table. THANKS to everyone who donated such a variety of lovely items for our raffle and for the generous donation of local honey. Proceeds go to support programs and projects for our residents that Family Council hosts and/or sponsors.

**Seasonal Reminder:** A reminder to remove your loved ones' summer/ fall clothes to make room for their winter clothing. Any new clothing you bring in needs to be labeled before it goes into their closets or drawers. Leave the unlabeled clothed in a bag with the [Labelling Form linked here](#) or pick up at Reception during business hours.

## 8 Reasons to Become Involved in Family Council

1. Keeps you informed on what is going on in the facility
2. Gives you input into decisions & changes at St. Joseph Lifecare that may affect your family member
3. Enables you to identify Residents' needs that can be met through an organized effort.
4. Gives you an opportunity to voice your concerns and become a more informed and effective advocate
5. Gives you an opportunity to meet other families
6. Gives you support and understanding through shared experiences with other families
7. Provides education through invited guest speakers giving you opportunity to learn more about the care environment
8. Gives you an opportunity to use your experience, skills, interests and talents to benefit all residents

To learn more about the Family Council and how you can get involved, email [sjlcfamilycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcfamilycouncil@gmail.com) or call the Family Council Chair, Michelle MacInnis at (519) 802-2951 or Vice Chair Janet Bell at (519) 209-8638

## Notice of Upcoming Events & Activities

Working together, we accomplish more.

MONDAY, NOV 25	Deadline to submit your name for the 2025 Family Council Executive. Please email <a href="mailto:sjlcfamilycouncil@gmail.com">sjlcfamilycouncil@gmail.com</a> .
TUESDAY, NOV 26	Family Council Meeting and Annual Election of officers, 1:30 p.m. in the boardroom. Reports and updates will be presented.
MONDAY, DEC 9	"Did You Know" hour, in McMillen Hall at 4 p.m. Bring your questions and give your feedback. RSVP to <a href="mailto:sjlcfamilycouncil@gmail.com">sjlcfamilycouncil@gmail.com</a> .
SUNDAY, DEC 15	Join us for the Christmas edition of Resident & Family Social, 1:30 p.m. in McMillen Hall. Wear red and green; surprises, fun and yummy refreshments.

## ProjectSEARCH interns developing essential workplace skills

Our current group of eager ProjectSEARCH interns have had a busy fall at St. Joseph's Lifecare Centre, developing essential skills that will serve them well when seeking out meaningful employment at the end of their internships.

Activities have included Employment Planning meetings, participating in a wellness fair, staff barbecue, and exhibiting at the SJLCB 20th Anniversary Celebration.



[Download our ProjectSEARCH newsletter](#)



Both Resident Council and Family Council had the pleasure of hosting an information booth at St. Joe's 20th Anniversary event on October 29th.

Many thanks to residents and volunteers who made themselves available to host tables. Our thanks to all who stopped by to learn more about our activities.

## St. Joe's Stars of the Month



### **Congratulations to October's Star PSW Leah Kirby**

Leah was nominated by her work colleague, Blair Silversmith, who shared: *"Leah has the best personality at St. Joes. She is always smiling, willing to help without hesitation. Leah takes time out her day to sit and get to know the residents better, the empathy and compassion Leah shows makes her a star. Leah is committed to pursuing the highest of possible standards."*



### **Congratulations to November's Star PSW Nicole Wellwood**

Nicole was nominated by Lily, a resident family member who shared: *"Nicole is a very friendly and courteous PSW. She greets residents by name and takes time to chat and acknowledge residents that may be anxious or calling out. Nicole works quickly and efficiently, and also remembers residents' likes and dislikes, especially at dinner hour. One day I asked her if she ever takes a day off and Nicole replied 'This is my Family.'"*

Nominate a deserving member  
of our team for

**STAR OF THE MONTH**

[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE  
FILLABLE NOMINATION FORM](#)