

NEWSPRINT

Helping People Live at Home Safely since 1983

FEBRUARY 2010

SPRINT completes community needs assessment

By Jane Moore, Executive Director

In the fall, SPRINT completed a community needs assessment to help our board and leadership develop our agency's strategies for the next three years.

Clients, volunteers and staff were all asked to provide us with feedback on our services. We also surveyed colleagues working in other organizations.

A joint taskforce of board members and staff pored over demographic data and resources provided by different government bodies, including the Toronto Central LHIN (Local Health Integration Network).

All this information is now helping us to better understand the needs in our community and develop appropriate strategies for 2011-2013.

Results of the needs assessment show that over 90% of clients surveyed agree that SPRINT has a good reputation. Over 80% of clients also said that SPRINT offers the right mix of programs and services to meet their needs.

Almost 80% of SPRINT staff second our clients' opinion that the mix of programs offered meets the varied needs of our diverse client base.

When we asked our colleagues at other agencies if SPRINT provides the right mix of services, about 60% said they strongly agree or agree we do. We will continue to work in collaboration with others to explore how we can integrate services where this is *(continued page 2)*

What's **INSIDE** this Issue?

SPRINT reintroduces values statement page 2
 First Nation Elder carries torch page 2
 Ewart Angus Home celebrates 10 years page 3
 Tribute gifts page 3

Editorial Contacts: NEWSPRINT is published by SPRINT two times a year. Publisher: Jane Moore. Editor: Nandy Heule. We welcome your comments or story ideas. Contact the Information Desk at **(416) 481-6411**.

SPRINT client carries Olympic Torch



Meals on wheels client Lillian McGregor

Community Needs Assessment

best for our clients and how we can continuously improve our programs. For example, our staff is exploring how we can better serve “younger seniors” and members of the Lesbian and Gay communities. Over 60% of SPRINT clients are age 80 or older, including 11 individuals over the age of 100 years old!

We are glad to report that most of our volunteers surveyed agreed that their participation in SPRINT is benefiting our community. Our volunteer department is planning to explore additional opportunities for volunteers to become a part of SPRINT.

SPRINT re-introduces values statement

As part of the strategic planning process this winter, the SPRINT Board also introduced a new way to describe our core values.

SPRINT CARES. In all we do we strive to always focus on:

- **Client centred care** - *putting clients & families first.*
- **Accessibility** - *providing timely & equitable services.*
- **Respect** - *valuing the intrinsic worth of every individual.*
- **Effectiveness** - *doing the right things to achieve exceptional outcomes.*
- **Safety** - *keeping people safe: clients, volunteers, staff.*

A communication plan has been developed to ensure the values are disseminated throughout our agency.

The SPRINT ethics committee also reviewed and accepted these values. The committee recommended that our 14 original values remain under the heading “SPRINT principles.”



First Nation Elder carries Olympic torch down Yonge Street with pride

When Lillian McGregor, age 85, finished carrying the Olympic torch down Yonge Street towards Eglinton earlier this winter, she says she planned to do a little ‘sprint’ to promote the people who bring her hot meals during cold winter days.

Unfortunately, she says, “The police officer didn’t allow me to get up from my wheelchair.” Ms. McGregor says she enjoys the hot, tasty meals delivered to her doorstep every weekday by meals on wheels volunteers.

Ms. McGregor is a respected First Nations Elder from the Whitefish River First Nation (Birch Island). She now lives in Toronto.

“I love to cook, but it’s very tiring to cook,” she says, adding she needs to sit down to butter her toast for breakfast. That’s why she says she loves meals on wheels.

Born in 1924, the year the first winter Olympics were held in France, Ms. McGregor says she was chosen to carry the torch because of her role in community development. For example, she travelled to Russia in 2001 to support Toronto’s bid for the 2008 summer Olympics.

“My dad built the first outdoor hockey rink on the reserve,” says Ms. McGregor. “I really got to like sports and would like to acknowledge the older people who started the winter Olympics.”

Ewart Angus Home celebrates 10 years of caring for Alzheimer's patients

Ewart Angus SPRINT Homes recently celebrated 10 years of caring for residents with Alzheimer's and other dementias with a reception for families, friends and dignitaries.

The Ewart Angus facility at 268 Merton Street offers a home-like setting dedicated to the care of 20 people with early to mid-stage dementias. Staff encourage residents to be involved, as they are able, in the activities of everyday living. Residents can help prepare meals or tidy up their own rooms. Lifelong routines are respected and accommodated.

"When families were no longer able to care for a relative with mid-stage Alzheimer Disease at home, they faced an agonizing decision," says Leah-Anne Chirico, a SPRINT manager at the home. "Placing their loved ones in a nursing home seemed premature and inappropriate – but no other options were available."



SPRINT board member Mary Pat Moore talks to resident Joyce Jennings and her son Nick at the 10th anniversary party for Ewart Angus Homes

All this changed when the former Eglinton United Church and SPRINT worked together to obtain funding from various sources to provide services and

build a facility for 20 persons with dementia as well as 18 apartments for independent seniors. The funding for the building came largely from a bequest from Ewart Angus who left funds in trust to the United Church of Canada.

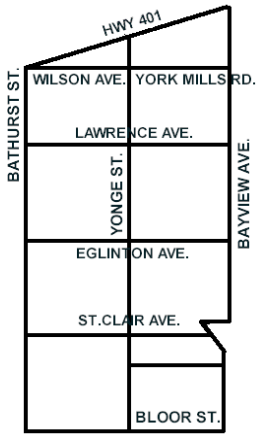
Tribute gifts in winter 2009

The Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges tribute gifts received on behalf of the individuals listed below.

In Memory of Kenneth Darling: Ms. Dorothy Ann; BDO Dunwoody LLP; Ms. Lorna Bethell; Ms. Patricia Cader; Mrs. Cynthia Churchill-Smith; Ms. Ann Clements; Ms. Joan Currie; Mr. & Mrs. Ronald & Kathleen De La Ronde; Johan Draper; Ms. Sandra Dudley; Ms. Joan Eddy; Hon. George Ferguson; Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Leslie Gallant; Mr. & Mrs. Bruce & Beverley Gillingham, Mrs. Janet Hannon; Mr. Rupert Harris; Ms. Claudia Harrison; Mr. & Mrs. Mary & Charles Hayward; Ms. Barbara Hill; Mr. & Mrs. Diana & Jim Hindess; Ms. Barbara Ann Hynes; Ms. Anne Le Feuvre; Ms. Jocelyn MacDonald; Ms. Elaine Ann MacFarlane; Ms. Marjorie MacKinnon; Mr. R.G. McBoyle; Ms. Ann McVittie; Mr. & Mrs. Ted & Mary Mercer; Mr. & Mrs. Jack & Linda Meyer; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Barbara Munford; Mr. & Mrs. Deane & Mary Nesbitt; Mr. & Mrs. Hugh & Jane Norsworthy; Mr. William Nurse; Ms. Ann O'Brian; Mr. & Mrs. James & Louisa O'Reilly; Mr. Alan Smith; Mr. J.B. Southey; Mr. & Mrs. Oscar & Barbara Stangeland; Mr. Frank Stark; Ms. Anne Statton; Mr. & Mrs. John & Suzanne Stohn; Ms. Kate Sutherland; Mr. Peter Turcot; Ms. Sally Wallace; Ms. Barbara Whitley.

In Memory of Sheila Shotton: Ms Penny Perry

Your generous gift made in memory of a loved one will help SPRINT provide subsidies for eligible seniors who require support but are unable to pay for services. We will send an acknowledgement card to the recipient of your 'in memory gift.' Please call SPRINT at (416) 481-6411, ext. 248.



This map shows the area SPRINT services. Call us at (416) 481-6411, ext 225 for more information.

SPRINT is a non-profit agency. Within resources available, no eligible person is denied service solely due to an inability to pay.



Donating to **SPRINT**

YES! I want to make a donation to help North Toronto seniors live at home safely and independently.

PLEASE CHECK ONE:
(All donations over \$10 will be issued a receipt)

\$35 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other _____

METHOD:

» I enclose my cheque.

Please make cheque payable to SPRINT and mail your donation and this form in the reply envelope to 140 Merton Street, 2nd floor, Toronto, Ont. M4S 1A1.

» I wish to charge my VISA card.

Card No: _____ Exp. date _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

» I wish to donate online.

You can also donate to SPRINT online with all major credit cards. Our online donations are accepted at www.CanadaHelps.org. Please follow the simple instructions on this fully secure website.

» I would like to become a monthly donor to SPRINT. Please use the enclosed form.

SPRINT Board of Directors

Chair: Lee Shouldice

Vice chair: Mary Pat Moore

Secretary: Vaunet Dunn

Treasurer: Elliott Rothman

Members: Katie Armitage, Jane Bright; Dr. Carole Cohen, J.E. Fordyce, Ian Fraser, Linda Jackson, Abbyann Lynch, Hazel Sebastian, Tammy Smith, Ru Taggar.

After Hilda MacMinn passed away, her daughter **Anne McNamara** sent SPRINT a kind letter and a generous donation. "I wish I could hug those ladies involved in the wonderful care they gave to Mom," wrote Ms. McNamara. In tribute to her mother, the family agreed to share this photo with NEWSPRINT readers.



Hilda MacMinn was able to live at home safely with the support of SPRINT Personal Support Workers

Toronto RIDE

Last year, 14 Toronto Ride agencies received close to **200,000** requests for rides. About 1/3 of the rides bring clients to medical appointments. SPRINT is the lead agency for this partnership.