



Valley Manor

Matters

The Newsletter of Valley Manor · Barry's Bay, ON · Fall 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO – Trisha DesLaurier

Our team has pulled together admirably to continue delivering extraordinary care in the face of this unprecedented pandemic. All frontline staff and leadership have worked tirelessly in uncertain circumstances to protect our most vulnerable residents, fight the spread of infection, care for those afflicted with the virus and support each other. The incredible response from our Valley Manor team and our community shows that we truly are all in this together, making it the essence of our annual report.

A tremendous amount of work took place before the pandemic to build partnerships and position us for success. These community partnerships have been key to our ability to respond to the pandemic and will be key in our work to create a stronger, more integrated healthcare system.

There has been a lot of change and a lot of progress over the last year. Valley Manor continues to be an integral part of the planning, coordination and submission of the Network 24 Ontario Health Team application and we were also recognized as an exemplary leader in palliative care by the Ministry of Health and Think Research.

We continue to make significant advances with technology. Now, with COVID, our innovation in this area will be accelerating and changing the way we provide care. Access to virtual care will be a significant focus moving forward.

The demolition of the Old Sherwood Public School right beside our partner hospital St. Francis Memorial has come to this Fall. This is a significant milestone achievement in our redevelopment journey.

Thanks to the generosity of its incredible donors and volunteers, and the proceeds from the popular Catch the Ace lottery, the St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation has raised **\$1 Million** for the redevelopment project which will help bring a new long-term care home in Barry's Bay to fruition. We personally commend everyone involved with the Foundation which includes the leaders, staff and the volunteers that contributed to the success of the campaign for Valley Manor Redevelopment. It is with heartfelt thanks and gratitude to everyone in the community that has donated money and time to raise funds for our project. What an incredible community!

Keeping an eye towards the future, our redevelopment plans continue to evolve so that we can continue to provide the best long term care delivery to Barry's Bay and area for many years to

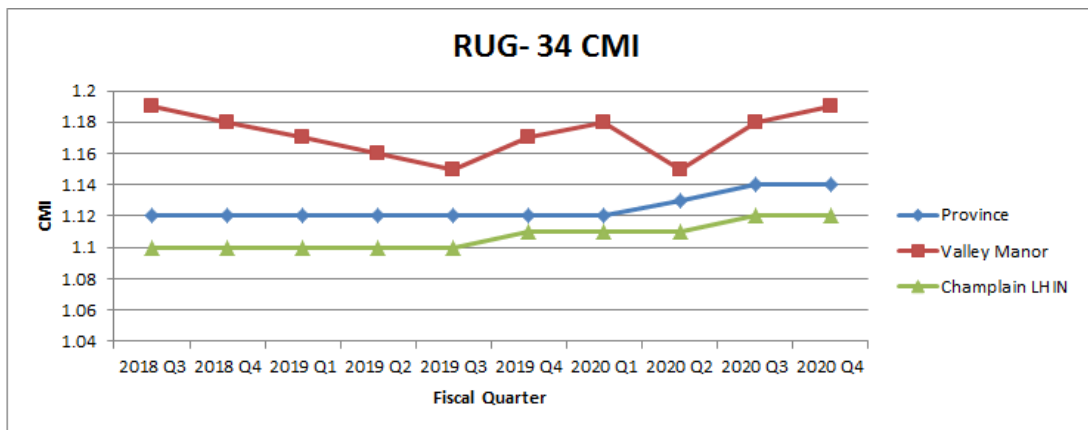
come. The pandemic has caused additional delays for the project, however, the excellent work of the Long-Term Care Commission and the Auditor General's Long Term Care report has provided much insight to allow us to refuel and fine tune our redevelopment plans to post pandemic directives which will benefit our new home in the future.

As we navigate these challenging times, our caring culture underpins our work and supports our teams, healthcare partners and the community. In a year where many hard decisions were made and many more hard decisions are yet to come, we are hopeful that we will see the pandemic in the rear-view mirror.

We also remain hopeful for the appropriate investment and attention to the care of the most vulnerable and those that serve them. With hope and thanks to all staff, residents and families or your unwavering commitment to our home this past year.

CMI – Case Mix Index - UPDATE

Submitted by Colleen Kobylka, RAI-MDS Coordinator



RUG 34 CMI (Case Mix Index) is the RUG group based upon the RUG groupings and is determined by the MDS assessments through accurate coding of our residents.

Our CMI average continues to be higher than our LHIN and the Province.

CMI- is a numeric value assigned to a Long Term Care home and is used as a measure of the average care requirements of residents in the long term care home. Increasing the CMI hinges on having clinical documentation that accurately reflects the severity level of the residents' conditions and complexity of the residents in the facility. A higher CMI indicates a more complex and resource-intensive case load.

Valley Manor's CMI value as of September 1, 2021 was 1.2 according to PointClickCare.

Long Term Care Medication Safety Technology (MST) Program

Submitted by Gail Yantha , Director of Care

The Ministry of Long Term Care has made a commitment to strengthen the medication safety in LTC Homes. The program results from the Public Inquiry into the Safety and Security of Residents in the LTC Homes System. Justice Gillese made a series of findings and recommendations to strengthen medication safety. This resulted from the unfortunate deaths caused by a Nurse who knowingly provided lethal doses of insulin to unsuspecting residents.

The Ministry launched an **MST** program in April 2021 to support LTC homes in adopting technologies that will help strengthen LTC medication management systems. This is a three-year program.

Valley Manor has started into the program by initiating a Medication Safety Self-Assessment. This is in collaboration with the Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP). This Self-Assessment creates a road map to be followed to strengthen our internal systems. We are pleased to say that Valley Manor does have very strong practices.

Valley Manor has entered into a new pharmacy agreement and partnership with MediSystem effective September 1st, 2021. MediSystem is a dedicated team of pharmacists that provide 24/7/365 support and service to our Home. They are committed to resident safety, innovation and technology. MediSystem has knowledge and experience with the **MST** Program and are eager to assist.

Valley Manor also wishes to acknowledge our long standing and professional partnership with Lorraine's Pharmacy for the last 40 years. The decision to move to a new provider was a very difficult decision for both Lorraine's Pharmacy and Valley Manor. The Medication Management changes and expectations by the Ministry have expedited the mutual decision for change.

I would like to acknowledge our professional and experienced team at Valley Manor. The Nursing Team has embraced this change and the transition to MediSystem has been very smooth. We are confident the Medical Team will also embrace the changes as they present over the next years. We will be moving toward electronic prescribing. Our Medical Director, Dr. Malinowski, will be working closely with the team as we move forward.

If anyone has questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the Manor.

New Program, “Java Music Club”

Submitted by Lisa Yantha, Activities Director

We are very excited to announce that Valley Manor had applied for and received a grant to initiate the Java Music Club program and Java Memory Care program here at our home. The grant includes all materials needed to facilitate this program as well as the training required for all of the Activity Staff.

The Java Music Club program is a research-based peer support activity group program designed for residential care. The program has been implemented in over 1000 organizations across Canada and the US. The focus is on peer support – residents helping residents – which adds purpose and meaning to their lives. The program is unique because the focus is on peer support. It is based on the altruistic concept that people are happiest when they are helping one another. All the components of the program are geared to make this happen. It is different from typical recreation programs in that it is not about what the staff can do for the group participants, but what the participants can do for one another. Research has shown that having such a variety of components in one program (themes, photography, music, readings and the talking stick), makes for a highly participatory group. Once the Java Music Club program is established (ideally throughout the organization) which ours is soon at this point, the next steps include implementing the Java Memory Care program for those living with advanced dementia which will start in November 2021. The Java Memory Care Program is an adaptation of the successful Java Music Club program and is designed to improve quality of life for those living with late stage dementia.

Quotes from Residents Participating in Java Music Club at Valley Manor

This is something I look forward to each week. “Margaret Cooper”

“Everything’s good, good snacks, good music, and good to get to know each other better.” Donnie Palubeskie

“There are no strangers here-only friends you haven’t met yet. Java has proved this true time and time again.” Gloria Marujo

