

# Fewer Strokes. Better Outcomes.

ANNUAL REPORT 2013 - 2014



## Chatham Kent District Stroke Centre – 2013/14

The Chatham Kent District Stroke Centre is very proud of our four-bed integrated stroke unit housed on the in-patient Rehabilitation Unit, our TIA/ Stroke Prevention Clinics, and our partnership with the Coronary Artery Disease clinics. We share the Internal Medicine physician and administrative staff and operate both clinics under the District Stroke Centre umbrella. We are working diligently to reduce vascular disease in Chatham-Kent!

The District Stroke Centre is pleased to announce that we have been fully staffed since October 2013. We welcome Janet Shaw, RN, to our team! She is employed in a composite full-time position where she is accountable to both our Stroke Prevention and Cardiac clinics. With more “hands on deck” we look forward to working more closely with our community to improve its health. This is an exciting time for us!

The event was held on the riverbank outside of the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance, Chatham campus and enjoyed by local survivors of stroke and their families. Many staff and volunteers worked together to make this event a successful celebration – inclusive of food, drink and a talented magician!

With Quality Based Procedures on our radar, our Stroke Centre is focused on proper coding for our stroke patients. To do this we’ve been offering education to more of our staff through the Canadian Institute of Health Information’s online training, “Different Codes for Different Strokes.” We are currently updating our stroke order sets to meet best practice care and examining our processes throughout the continuum including diagnostics to ensure we are meeting Quality Based Procedure recommendations in our district.

Finally, we participated in the development of the Acute Stroke Unit Nursing Orientation Guide to be released June 2014. We eagerly anticipate this release and plan on using this tool in our own established unit to foster empowerment and knowledge translation.

We anticipate another exciting year ahead and have gathered an awesome team together to do our best to reduce stroke and cardiac incidence in Chatham-Kent. We know that prevention and stroke awareness will again be a strong focus of our work. With the help of our Communications Department we will repeat our basic stroke signs and symptoms awareness presentation that repeats in sequence with other health information on the television screens across the Emergency Department.



Our Garden Party invitation.

Our tenth annual Stroke Garden Party was held in June 2013 with the theme of, “A Brain, A Heart and Courage; The Yellow Brick Road to Recovery”.