



MEDIA RELEASE



June 22, 2017

Hamilton, ON -- The Regional Geriatric Program central (RGPC) and St. Peter's Hospital, Hamilton Health Sciences are pleased to announce the winners of the 14th Annual Service Awards for Geriatric Excellence (SAGE).

SAGE is a unique program that celebrates the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations committed to providing the highest quality of care to older adults in our communities to ensure they can age with optimal health, independence and dignity.

The awards were presented at the SAGE event on Thursday June 1, 2017 at Sarcoa Restaurant Bar, Hamilton, Ontario.

54 nominations were received from seven regions across Southern Ontario (Hamilton, Niagara, Haldimand-Norfolk, Waterloo, Wellington, and Halton).

For more information:

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2017 SAGE WINNERS

The Executive/Senior Leadership Award



Ms. Maria Melut

*Administrator for Riviera Retirement Lodge,
Haldimand/Norfolk*

Maria is a transformational leader, she is visionary... She empowers her team by promoting professional development.

Maria collaborated with Skills for Change to hire high school graduates with the goal of career exploration and she liaised with the local high school for Co-op placements to promote intergenerational communication which provided the residents with an opportunity to interact with highly eager individuals and volunteers and staff had the opportunity to develop their mentoring skills and improve their practice.

The Individual Award



Mr. Danny Lui

*Owner of Prime Care Pharmacy,
Waterloo/Wellington*

Prime Care Pharmacy team accepted on behalf of Danny.

Danny Lui is a Pharmacist and Owner of Prime Care Pharmacy in Guelph.

Danny goes above and beyond including last winter when an elderly neighbor needed medication for her husband and called Danny after hours. The next morning he arrived at the couple's home to drop off the medication and then picked up a shovel and proceeded to clear the snow off their driveway.

The Individual Award



Ms. Deb Bryson

Psychogeriatric Consultant, Alzheimer Society of Hamilton and Halton

For 30+ years Deb Bryson has been a tireless advocate for the needs of persons living with dementia and the informal caregivers, medical and support staff that help to meet their needs.

Her knowledge combined with her passion for supporting and maintaining the independence, well-being and most importantly personhood of people living with various types and degrees of cognitive impairment in different locations of care is inspirational.

The Rosalie Senior's Choice Award



Ms. Erica Gavin

Executive Director, The Carlisle Retirement Residence, Hamilton

If you were to ask Erica what her job description looks like, she would tell you only two things. First to ensure the best possible care and concern for the residents health, happiness and welfare and second maintaining staff who are capable, caring and friendly.

Erica sets the standard by example of how the staff respond to residents, and the residents to one another. During the return of a resident from the hospital, each server in the dining room gave her a hug and a welcome back chat – clearly an example of the Executive Director, Erica's expectations of staff.

The Hamilton Health Sciences Team Award



Behavioural Supports Ontario - BSO Connect

Brant, Niagara, Haldimand/Norfolk, Hamilton, Halton

The BSO Connect team provides expert knowledge of services within our region, helping clients and their families obtain person-centered care.

Over the past 4.5 years BSO Connect has served thousands of clients and connected 100% to a service provider. On average 60% of callers have no support or service prior to calling BSO Connect.

The Hamilton Health Sciences Team Award



St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph Community Outreach Services

Wellington/Waterloo

St. Joseph's Health Centre Guelph Community Outreach Services includes: The Alzheimer Day Program; Young Onset Program; Transportation Services; Aphasia Program; Out 'N Bout Day Program for Seniors Presenting with Frailty; and The Acquired Brain Injury Program.

This team will go the 'extra mile' to ensure the needs of the seniors are met and are person centered. The seniors speak highly of the bus drivers who start their day by greeting them at their homes with smiles, empathy and care. They are the eyes in the person's home and are a valued member of the team.

This team's commitment and passion with the seniors at the center of their care is truly outstanding.

The Volunteer Award



Ms. Marilyn Cormier

Volunteer, St. Peter's Hospital, HHS

Marilyn is truly “one of a kind” volunteer. She goes beyond in her role as a volunteer within our Behavioural Health Program. Her calming and gentle presence is always welcomed and she takes great care with each patient she interacts with and ensures their dignity.

Marilyn has taken on a leadership role and acted as a formal mentor. She is instrumental in creating a supportive and inclusive environment, building volunteer capacity and ensuring the retention of volunteers.

The New Learner/Student Award



Ms. Melissa Northwood

PhD (Nursing) Student, McMaster University

Melissa returned to McMaster to pursue her PhD in gerontological nursing. She passed her comprehensive exams with distinction and is now working on her thesis focusing on older adults with diabetes and incontinence who are receiving home care services.

Melissa balances professional, academic and home life with style. She has grace under pressure epitomizing the talent, compassion and commitment that makes a difference to the care of older adults.