

# Moving On

A Semi-Annual Newsletter for our Families, Partners and Donors

December 2021

## *A Stroke in Time of COVID*

Our Intensive Community Transitional Services (ICTS) Program supports people who have recently had a stroke, brain injury, or a significant change in their circumstances, and are generally transitioning from another care setting such as a hospital, to home or a new living arrangement. Services can be as intensive as 16 hours a day at the beginning and gradually decreasing to 4 hours per day over a 6 month period. The poem below, was written by one of our ICTS clients Wendy, to summarize her experience.

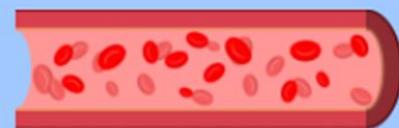
*Back in October, when I first had my stroke,  
I fell in a puddle and my shoulder was broke.  
I began to feel weak, and my words were slurring,  
And then my right eye became very blurry.  
So off to the hospital I went in a hurry.  
Blood pressure sky high and my family waving good-bye!*

*After a very painful, bumpy ride, I arrived at emerg and at that  
time, there was a COVID surge  
I was a little dizzy as I watched essential workers running  
around kind of busy.  
An X-ray was done and a splint was applied,  
A lateral humerous break was the cause of my pain, they  
decide!*

*Then it was homeward bound for another car ride  
My face started to fall and my mouth was a drawl, COVID!  
There I lay wondering why, All I could do was lay there and  
cry! I was in great pain and my left side had become lame,  
I thought I would go insane!*

*I stayed there a month and tried to reach goals but it was a  
dark time for my soul!  
I finally was sent to Parkwood for care and remained another  
month and a half there.  
It was a great place to be, and I felt blessed as can be.*

### What Is Stroke?



A stroke occurs when the blood supply to part of your brain is interrupted or reduced, preventing brain tissue from getting oxygen and nutrients. Brain cells start to die within minutes.

*We build futures.*



### ***A Stroke in time of COVID (continued from cover)***

*The teams worked hard day and night,  
To help me get over my terrible plight!  
Excellent team care helped me reach many goals there,  
So on Christmas Eve, I was allowed to leave there and said  
good-bye, to the many friends I made there!*

*I was happy to get home again even though Christmas was  
limited to ten,  
My body was still very lame but that's when I was given home  
care by Dale Brain!  
Two new caregivers came to my aid and new goals were  
quickly made!*

*We set some goals and installed a shower pole,  
I had to really try as the standards were set fairly high. I can't  
believe the excellent care I was given at my home there!*

*Every safety detail was set in those goals and working with  
me, I soon met my goals! Then a slow transition of leaving my  
home, after six months, unfolds.*

*I am so grateful for all Dale Brain has done and for hours of  
laughing and having fun! They have been so great all through  
the COVID Streak, now I attend group therapy one day a week!*

“Wendy received supports through our ICTS program starting in early 2021. She is an incredibly kind, outgoing, and motivated person. One thing that really stood out to me about Wendy was her determination. She told me when I met her that the hospital had given her a discharge date weeks after Christmas, but she wasn't happy with that. She worked so hard that she was able to achieve all her in hospital goals early and be home for the holidays! In ICTS she set more goals, and bit by bit achieved all those as well.

Wendy is an inspiration, and has been a joy to work with her on her rehabilitation journey. Now she is receiving support in our Group Services Program at the Nigel and Rhonda Gilby Centre for New Tomorrows (CNT), and I'm sure she will continue to work hard, inspire others, and share her compassionate heart with those around her. She truly brightens up a room! Well done Wendy, keep up the fantastic work!”  
~ Leanne B, Rehabilitation Facilitator on Wendy's Team

## *Respite Services... Did you know?*

Respite services are provided either in home or in DBIS' residential setting in the London area. Respite Services are intended for individuals who require short-term respite to provide the care partner some time away from their caregiving duties; for clients who are in crisis, or for those who live alone and require support while recovering from an illness or medical procedure.

In-home respite hours typically range between 2-6 hours per week and are based on client needs.

For more information, contact Nancy Docherty at 519-668-0023.

**In-home respite services are available on short notice and can be scheduled on a recurring basis or requested only as needed.**



## What do Your Donations do at DBIS?

Donations are vitally important to DBIS as they enable us to fund client subsidies, activities, holiday treats, equipment, and renovations for example; things that we cannot do within our existing funding envelope from the provincial government. Donations allow us to supplement our existing funding so that we can enhance our supports. Please consider donating this year to our Enriching Lives Fund (ELF).

**The Enriching Lives Fund (ELF):** Donations that are designated by donors for ELF, are used to subsidize client programming, enabling clients to attend community events such as concerts, sporting events, dinners out, or movies - community outings that they cannot otherwise afford on their fixed disability/pension incomes. We also use ELF to subsidize client rent and food on a short-term basis in our Residential Transitional Program, or for respite stays, if clients are unable to afford the full cost. These funds also go towards purchasing or subsidizing client's basic needs such as winter clothing and boots, dentures, and household goods.



To donate or for more information about how you can help this Holiday Season, please contact Cassie Taylor at 226-374-8771 or [cassiet@daleservices.on.ca](mailto:cassiet@daleservices.on.ca)



OR – donate online today by clicking the red button below! Your donations truly make a difference in the lives of the clients we serve.



FROM ALL OF US AT DALE BRAIN INJURY SERVICES, HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



## **WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

**Thank you to those that donated to DBIS initiatives from April 2020 – March 2021**

### **Capital Donations**

Anonymous  
Catherine McGarrell  
Jody Palmer  
Nigel & Rhonda Gilby  
Wendy Anderson

### **Enriching Lives**

#### **Fund/Walkathon 2020**

Anonymous  
Aileen MacQueen  
Alan Lawrence  
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Andrea DeBruyn  
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Anne Marie McIlmoyl  
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Barbara Hall  
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Willem Tuinstra

### **General Donations**

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London Hydro - ECCO  
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Meredith Ramos  
Rodolfo Ramos  
Theresa Naus  
William Johnson  
**Donations in Memory  
of Eugene Leibold**  
Jeffrey Kowatsch

**Donations in Memory  
of Peter Vander Vecht**  
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Vuteq

### **Group Services Donations**

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KPMG  
Elaine Russell

### **Donations in Memory of John Mastrandrea**

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Silvana Cordoba  
Wayne Kummer  
William Stapleton



### **ERRORS & OMISSIONS**

*Every effort has been made to ensure complete accuracy of this publication.  
If any errors are noticed, please contact Cassie Taylor at 519-668-0023.*

*Please accept our sincere apologies in advance. Each and every gift makes a difference and is deeply appreciated.*