



AGING AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PROJECT

That older adults with a developmental disability have the same rights to support and services as all older Ontarians

UPDATE APRIL 2007

OPADD DISTRIBUTES PRESS RELEASE

Opadd distributed a press release to all regions and other members across Ontario to re-iterate the work of the partnership and accomplishments that are building system capacity to support older adults with a developmental disability. The release was prepared as a growing public discourse in the media about older adults with a developmental disability seemed to be uninformed about the progress that is being made across Ontario through cross sector partnership. OPADD members have work to do to contribute to the discourse and help others understand how much has been accomplished and what remains to be done.

FACTS ABOUT PEOPLE WITH A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY IN LONG TERM CARE HOMES

Media coverage about older adults with a developmental disability has contained some factual errors about numbers in long term care homes. Data from the MOHLTC provides an accurate and current source of information such as:

- Number of people with a developmental disability in long term care homes in 2005/2006: 1160.
- The average number of people with a developmental disability in LTCHs between 1995 and 2006: 1159.
- Of the 420 residents with developmental disabilities under 65 years of age, more than 95% are between 45 and 64 years of age.
- The proportion of LTC residents with a developmental disability under 45 years of age has decreased from .11% in 1999 to .09% in 2006.
- Since 2002 the number of long term care beds has increased by 35% the numbers of people with a developmental disability increased by 7%.

BUILDING LOCAL EQUITY

Share the wealth of knowledge and innovation taking place in local communities across Ontario. If you are part of a project, have developed a policy or protocol or are aware of a cross sector initiative, please send us a brief written description or tell us who to contact for information. Send info to Ron at ronc@tnt21.com

SUSTAINABILITY

The Collaborative Committee has completed discussions about sustainability. A summary of their findings appears in the spring edition of the OPADD Letter. One important piece in the way forward will be to focus discussion with each of the regions around the value of the partnership, expectations for support and accountability, and strategies for sustainability.

REGIONAL CO-CHAIR TRAINING FOLLOW-UP

We are still waiting on a response from some regions. The findings from the survey on how we can build our communication capacity will be tabulated in the near future. Watch for an update.

OPADD GUIDE ON ACCESSING SENIORS COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Copies of the Guide in CD ROM format can be made available to all participants at your workshop or other regional event at a reduced price. The Access Guide provides an excellent resource for front line staff working in either sector as well as adults with a developmental disability who have some computer literacy.