



*****EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2014*****

Local Healthcare Organizations Commit to Improving Care

Knollcrest Lodge (KL), located in Milverton, Ritz Lutheran Villa and Mitchell Nursing Home (RLV), located in Mitchell, and the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA), operating hospitals in Clinton, St. Marys, Seaforth and Stratford are pleased to announce the initiation of a Study aimed at assessing collaborative opportunities between the three organizations.

Funded by the Southwest Local Health Integration Network (SWLHIN), the Study will include assessing new and innovative methods of delivering services between KL, RLV and the HPHA. Also under consideration will be potential collaboration opportunities to implement best-practice care delivery across the spectrum of care. The study will identify existing primary care relationships, including the differing roles and accountabilities across the three organizations. As well, it will provide an overview of the various structural relationships that exist between Acute Care, Long Term Care and other services.

The Study is also aimed at:

- Assessing physician support models to strengthen partnerships, streamline and integrate care;
- Identifying opportunities to streamline patient and resident movement between organizations, including the use of technology; and
- Identifying short, mid and longer term collaborations and partnership opportunities that detail the range and scope, pros and cons, and alignment to organizational mission and mandate;

“As a key partner in the healthcare system we are excited about the opportunity to take a leadership role within the SWLHIN to help strengthen innovative partnerships that will benefit residents,” states Deb Little, Chair of the RLV.

“The primary goal of the study is to determine if the care and support we provide to our residents and patients can be improved by working closer together,” said Andrew Williams, President and CEO of the HPHA.

“We anticipate this joint study will act as an enabler to provide solutions and partnership opportunities across all organizations,” states Susan Rae, Administrator of KL.

Interested Consultants will be asked to submit expressions of interest, with the Study expected to start the beginning of March, 2014.

<p>Questions: Knollcrest Lodge Susan Rae, Chief Executive Officer 519-595-8121 ext. 102 srae@knollcrestlodge.com</p>	<p>Ritz Lutheran Villa Deb Little, Board Chair 519-348-8612 ext. 222</p>	<p>Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance Andrew Williams, President & CEO 519-272-8202 andrew.williams@hpha.ca</p>
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