

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Power of Attorney
- Become involved with your local Chapter
- Services offered at the Chatham-Kent Chapter
- Upcoming Educational Events

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- P.O.A 1
- Walk for Memories 2
- Services & Supports 2
- Forgetful not Forgotten 3
- Dementia Journey 3

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2010

HOT ISSUE - Power of Attorney

An important part of any care plan with Alzheimer's disease involves considering the effect the disease will have on that person's decision-making abilities. No one can say for certain when a person's mental capacity will deteriorate to the point that he or she can no longer make important decisions regarding finances, property, or personal care, though it is an inevitability with Alzheimer's. To avoid any legal complications when that time comes, it is best to discuss and formalize power of attorney arrangements as early as possible in the course of the disease.

A power of attorney is a legal document by which one person authorizes, or gives power, to another person to act on his or her behalf. The person giving the power is

called the donor; the person receiving it is called the 'done' or 'agent'. Because of the nature of these arrangements, it is critical



that the donor chooses a trusted, capable done for this legal contract.

There are two broad categories of power of attorney: those which begin immediately and are limited in time or specific power, and those which are considered enduring, and can begin before a person becomes mentally incapacitated, or come into effect only after the donor reaches this state.

The enduring power of attorney is most appropriate for people with Alzheimer's disease, as it isn't limited in scope or time.

In Canada, power of attorney for financial and property decisions is usually a distinct document from power of attorney for personal care, though this may vary province to province. These differences, along with different provincial laws mean you should find provincial resources to help you begin the power of attorney process.

To obtain a power of attorney kit, contact the Ministry of Attorney General at 1.800.366.0335 or contact your local M.P.P.

Safely Home®



Safely Home® is a nationwide program designed to help find the person who is lost and assist in a safe return home. Developed by the Alzheimer Society of Canada in

partnership with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, a registry stores vital information confidentially on a police database.

To obtain a registration form, or for more information, contact 519.352.1043 or visit www.safelyhome.ca

Support Services



The Alzheimer Society of Chatham-Kent support services meet the needs of those affected by Alzheimer's disease or related dementias.

Services include:

Counselling for those affected by Alzheimer's disease or related dementias.

Cognitive testing by a Registered Social Worker.

Support Groups to share experiences and learn new coping strategies.

An **In-Home Respite Care Program** which helps

individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and provides a break for the caregiver.

Day Programs provide a safe and stimulating environment for those affected by Alzheimer's disease or related dementias.

Education Programs are designed to raise public awareness regarding Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and to assist those involved in caregiving.

Participation in the nationwide **Safely Home®** program, which helps locate individuals who are lost and return them home safely.

In-Home Mobility Monitor offers a safe alternative to monitoring individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias in the home.

For further information on any of these services, please contact the Alzheimer Society of Chatham-Kent office at 519.352.1043.

Walk for Memories - THANK YOU



The annual Manulife Walk for Memories was held January 16th, 2010 at the

Downtown Chatham Centre.

We had a great turnout and over \$5,000 was raised! All of this money will remain in Chatham-Kent.

With events such as the Manulife Walk for Memories, we are able to raise money to bring awareness about the disease and promote prevention, early diagnosis, and the importance of support services for persons affected by Alzheimer's disease or related dementias.

Thank you to our sponsors for their generous support:



Newsletter - Relaunch



Welcome to the official relaunch of the Alzheimer Society of Chatham-Kent's Newsletter.

We took a brief hiatus to update and refresh the look and feel of the Newsletter. It will be issued quarterly, and if you have any

comments or suggestions we would be happy to hear them. Comments can be forwarded via email: info@alzheimerchathamkent.ca or call 519.352.1043.

Dementia Journey - May 7th, 2010



An Educational Forum for Professionals & Families

This educational forum will take place on May 7th, 2010, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm at Club Lentina (250 National Rd, Chatham). Cost is \$40.00 per person.

Key Note Speakers: Dr. Jennie Wells and Dr. J.B. Orange.

Dr. Wells is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Western Ontario. Her clinical research interests are Alzheimer's Disease and Geriatric Rehabilitation. She is an Associate Researcher with the Lawson Health Research Institute.

Dr. Wells will be discussing the topics of Down Syndrome & Alzheimer's Disease, and Frontotemporal Dementia - A Review.

Dr. Orange is an Associate Professor in and the Director of the School of Communication

Sciences and Disorders at the University of Western Ontario, London Ontario Canada.

Dr. Orange will be discussing Enhancing Cognitive-Communication for Persons with Frontotemporal Lobe Dementia.

Direct Inquiries to the Alzheimer Society of Windsor-Essex (519) 974-2220 or email rfiss@aswecare.com.

This educational forum is brought to you by the Erie St. Clair Dementia Network.

Forgetful not Forgotten - June 7th, 2010

Join the Alzheimer Society of Chatham-Kent on Monday, June 7th at the Active Lifestyles Centre (20 Merritt Ave, Chatham) 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm for a screening of *Forgetful not Forgotten*, a feature documentary by Chris Wynn.

Forgetful Not Forgotten is an intimate portrait of a family coming to grips with the

realities of early-onset Alzheimer's disease. When John Wynn is diagnosed with the disease at the relatively young age of 57, his son, Chris, decides to chronicle his family's journey to John's final days. An honest, moving, and at times heartbreaking film, *Forgetful Not Forgotten* weaves past and present to both celebrate the man who was and mourn his

painfully slow and steady disappearance. This is a feature documentary by Chris Wynn, Winner - Best International Film, Indie Spirit Film Festival.

After the screening of the film, Chris will share his experiences and answer questions.

Cost is \$5.00 in advance. To register, please call 519.352.1043.

"Provides an invaluable insight into how to cope with Alzheimer's..... honours both what is lost and what remains" - The Globe & Mail

In-Home Mobility Monitors

Do you have a family member with dementia and are concerned about wandering?

As a person with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia progresses further into the disease, they may exhibit certain behaviours that are

associated with dementia. Among these more challenging behaviours is that of wandering. Wandering may occur as an attempt to find something familiar, to communicate something, out of boredom, to relieve anxiety, or can simply be a sign of a basic need to be met.

A person with dementia may have the tendency to wake at night or walk outside without the caregiver being aware. The In-Home Mobility Monitor attaches to any door in the house and will make a sound when that door is opened, thus alerting the caregiver.

This monitor is loaned free of charge through the Alzheimer Society of Chatham-Kent. Please contact the office 519.352.1043 for further information.

Soci t  Alzheimer Society

CHATHAM - KENT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JoAn Dale,
PRESIDENT

Ed Gibson,
VICE PRESIDENT

Brenda Regnier,
SECRETARY

DIRECTORS

Kirk Early
Michele Rice

Sue Thomas

Tricia Khan

Joyce Vidler

Nancy Anderson

STAFF

Mary Ellen Parker,
CEO

Esterina Cataldo,
Finance Manager

Aimee Meriano,
Administrative/Events Coordinator

Christina Stergiou,
Social Worker/Support Services Manager

Jana Murphy,
Education Coordinator

Lina DeMattia,
Day Program Manager

Brandon Ball,
Chatham Day Program Coordinator

Louise Crow,
Chatham Day Program Assistant

Tara Seney,
Wallaceburg Day Program Coordinator

Pam Wilson,
Wallaceburg Day Program Assistant

Deborah Gammage,
Day Program Assistant, Casual

Robert VanDevelde,
Day Program Assistant, Casual

IN-HOME RESPITE CARE WORKERS

Kim Chenier

Nancy Packham

Cyndy Montgomery

Pat Spears

Nicole McMaster

Tammy Murphy-Lodewegen

Membership

Membership within our local Chapter provides on-going and vital support to our multitude of programs and services, and demonstrates your commitment to the care of families and the cure of Alzheimer's disease or related dementias.

The benefits of membership include:

- Regular updates on events and research
- Newsletter
- Voting privileges at our Annual General Meeting
- Tax receipt

Every five minutes someone in Canada develops a dementia. Within 30 years, the number is projected to grow to be one every two minutes. With support such as your membership, we are able to bring awareness about the disease and promote prevention, early diagnosis, and the importance of support services for persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia and their caregivers.

For a membership application, please contact the office via email: info@alzheimerchathamkent.ca or 519.352.1043.

MISSION STATEMENT

To improve the quality of life of people with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias through superior programs and research.

Supported by:



36 Memory Lane
Chatham, ON N7L 5M8

Phone: 519.352.1043

Fax: 519.352.3680

E-mail: info@alzheimerchathamkent.ca

www.alzheimerchathamkent.ca