

Message from the Administrator



Here we are almost 6 months into the Covid-19 pandemic. The first 3 months were quite rough on our residents with not being able to see their families and friends. We tried all kinds of video apps by cell phone, iPad and even laptops but none of it can replace being face to face. When the Sask Health Authority (SHA) announced that outdoor visits were being allowed we decided to take advantage of the uniqueness of our Solarium locations and that we would

start doing inside visits. You could see the stress level in our residents disappear. We set up one of our tents on the front patio so that our residents would be protected from the sun and were able to have 3 areas that families could sit at to visit with their loved ones. Outdoor visits have been a tremendous success and it's great watching everyone interact even though they are 6 feet apart.



Setting this up, screening, temperature checks, disinfecting before and after and booking appointments takes multiple staff members to maintain. Our residents are worth it so we do it with a smile on our faces and joy in our hearts.

At the beginning of August the SHA opened restrictions up to allow for inside visits. Each resident is to choose 2 people that can come indoors for an in-room visit but only one at a time. This created some concern as we have 53 residents and there is no way to protect our residents and staff from Covid-19 by expanding our "bubble" to 53 visitors in our building. It's been challenging but we have restricted visits to no more than 5 in our building at set times and by appointment only. God has been good and has blessed us by keeping us Covid-19 free.

So where do we go from here? Nobody seems to know how long Covid-19 will be around. All I can tell you is that you have entrusted your loved one to us and we will do whatever it takes to protect them, our staff and their families.

Phase 1 of our AB Solarium renovation has been completed and it looks amazing. Thank you to everyone who contributed financially to this much needed project. We are looking to do Phase 2 which is the tar and gravel roof next summer.



We were very fortunate that the SHA had some extra money for capital projects so we were able to get a new spa tub for our A Wing tub room. The old tub was over 16 years old and the new tub comes with a 32 inch TV/ DVD player that greatly reduces agitation during bath time.



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Circle Drive Special Care Home

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You may have noticed that we have completed the front entrance area with a raised flower garden made of designer bricks along with some low profile shrubs, new lawn and garden ornaments, all creating a beautiful, welcoming entrance. Thank you to Colleen and her grounds crew for the amazing job they did there and at CDP.



As with many group gatherings we have had to make changes to our fundraising events. The Walk and Roll-A-Thon became a virtual event with participants sending in videos and pictures of them walking around in their neighborhoods. Even with the pandemic we were able to raise over \$8000 which went a long way in helping with the renos of the AB Solarium. Thank you to all who helped raise donations for this event. This fall would have been our 20th Anniversary of our Harvest Dinner Gala and we had some great entertainment for you from Brad Johner and his Boys. Unfortunately we had to cancel it as the

Covid-19 pandemic continues. It would have been a great evening of great food and music along with silent auction items and of course, our Pie Auction. I will definitely miss this event.

Next door at CDP we have had to implement visitor restrictions and hand washing stations at all our entrances and exits. The residents were so receptive to this that they went one step further and implemented a committee of 30 residents who went around the building weekly sanitizing and disinfecting door knobs, hand rails, exit doors and the elevators. What an amazing group of residents who decided that their home was that important that they would perform this service for everyone's benefit.

We have had no Covid-19 in either facility and we will continue to be diligent in all that we do to keep it that way.

I hope everyone has had a great summer so far as we are learning to experience our holidays in a new way.

To everyone who is receiving this newsletter I pray that you will stay safe and healthy and if you are not feeling well, please stay home and get better!

~ Clint Kinchen, CEO



Message from Dianne Martin, Director of Care

On Friday, March 13 many things changed for residents and staff at Circle Drive Special Care Home. Friends, family members and volunteers could no longer visit, bring gifts or flowers, or assist the staff with the walking program, meals, or lead Sunday church services. All contract services such as hair dressing, dentist and foot care were on hold. Care conferences were postponed.

Any resident that had an outside appointment or any new resident was isolated for 14 days. Physicians visited every two weeks. Residents' spiritual health was cared for by phone contacts with Noreen, Spiritual Care Coordinator, who was working remotely from home. The Saskatchewan Health Authority provided information daily and our Administrator was on numerous calls per week with other administrators and Seniors Health and Continuing Care. Tamara, Nursing Care Coordinator, and I kept in touch with the infection control practitioner and other health care providers.

Over the course of the next months, there were many changes prescribed by the Saskatchewan Health Authority. Screening procedures included temperature checks for staff at the start and end of shifts.

The Recreation staff and Marlie began Facetime visits for Residents and their family members. Many pictures and videos were posted on our Facebook page.



The postings sometimes had well over one thousand views. Many families sent encouraging messages that we posted in the care home for staff and residents to see.

Whenever possible we modified activities to accommodate for smaller groups. Residents still happily socialized with each other and with staff in spite of missing friends and family members. Unfortunately we had to cancel the annual Spring Tea and Bake Sale. Delanie is devising a plan for the Recreation Department to have a modified Fall Tea and Bake Sale so that we can raise funds for Resident Council.



Food Services adjusted their routines. Room dividers were set up in the dining room and to further allow for distancing some of the dining tables were moved to the living room. As with every cloud, there is a silver lining. Residents enjoy eating in the living room with the lovely view of the patio and people coming and going, albeit mostly the mailman and our staff.

Marc, our physio assistant, continues to do his best to provide exercise and movement for the Residents.

On April 28 there was a major change for our staff. Long term care and personal care homes could not have a staff member working in more than one facility. We made many changes to our schedules in order to accommodate and meet this mandate. Josie, our scheduler, worked long hours during this time.

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When the weather became warmer, we began window visits. We used a white board to write notes, or if the resident had a phone, family talked to them by phone. The window had to

remain closed to prevent the possibility of droplet spread.

Recently the Saskatchewan Health Authority has allowed two family members or support persons to visit inside, one at a time. They must follow safety requirements including the wearing of Personal Protection Equipment, physical distancing, hand hygiene, limited movement within the

home according to current public health orders, and their temperature must not be over 38 C.

We will continue to follow these guidelines to protect all 53 residents, 118 staff and their families. We take this duty and responsibility very seriously. We are grateful that through these efforts and by the grace of God, Circle Drive Special Care Home to date has remained Covid-19 free.

A sincere thank you to the friends and families who have adjusted to all of the changes, sent pizza, doughnuts and ice cream to encourage the staff, and made generous donations for us to improve life for the Residents.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philippians 4:6

~ Dianne Martin, R.N., B.S.N., G.N.C., P.N., Director of Care

Recreation News



We can't be-leaf it's already fall and summer has passed us by. The rec team has kept busy with fun and games as well as patio visits. This summer we enjoyed some great weather by going out on the patio and having some of our programs outside.

There were two summer carnivals with popcorn, mini donuts, lemonade, games and prizes. This summer we also introduced minute to win it, chair dance exercises and interactive skits. We really miss having weekly entertainers but were blessed to have two outdoor performances. A big thank you goes out to Trevor Baker and Salt Water

Joy for bringing back the joy of live music! Looking ahead to autumn we will welcome the beautiful warm colours with crafts, sing-alongs, games, and time with the Lord.



The Recreation Department was blessed to have Jocelyn Baetz for the third time as our summer student. Jocelyn is a kind, patient young woman who has a wonderful touch with all of the residents. We will miss her very much and wish her the best of luck in her final year of social work in Ottawa. As we say goodbye to Jocelyn we will be welcoming a new member to our team. Tom Liske will be joining us at the end of September. Tom brings 30 years of recreation experience with him.



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Another big thank you to everyone who graciously made donations to the Resident Council and the Recreation Department. We are excited to be purchasing a new smart TV for the activity room donated in memory of a beloved former resident, Zella Hurd. Our wish list this fall is for donations to the Resident Council for entertainment honorariums (approximately \$100 per group), a shuffle toss game (\$125.00), an indoor soft boccia set (\$150), and a parachute (\$50).



Our annual Fall Tea & Bake Sale will be changed this year. We are in the process of working out a Virtual Bake Sale. The idea is that we will have a list of baked goods that can be purchased for pick up. More details to follow.

Thanks to all of the families for their kind words as Kirsten and I work hard to provide fun and meaningful activities for their loved ones.

Delanie Gatin, Recreation Supervisor



LEAVING A LEGACY TO CIRCLE DRIVE SPECIAL CARE HOME

(Charity #106929128RR0001)

- ☐ Please contact me about making a planned gift (through will, life insurance, stocks, RRSPs, trusts).
- ☐ Please contact me about becoming a monthly donor.
- ☐ I wish to make a donation toward resident care of \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1000 \$_____
- ☐ You have my permission to publish my name as a donor.
- ☐ Please email newsletters to me.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Clip and mail form to Circle Drive Special Care Home or drop it off on your next visit.

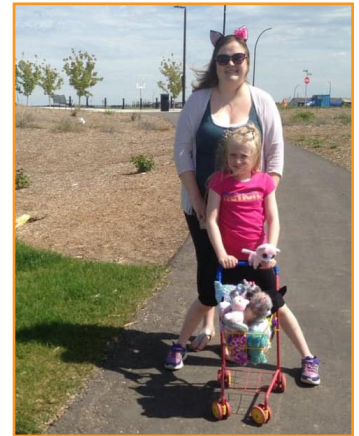
Karen Lilly, Community Services Coordinator
3055 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, SK S7T 1C3
Phone 306 955 4800 ext. 23 Email: karen.lilly@saskhealthauthority.ca

Thank you for your support!

Our Mission: Circle Drive Special Care Home commits to honouring the spiritual, physical, mental, emotional and social needs of those entrusted to our care, in a Christian spirit.

Walk and Roll-a-thon

We had our annual Walk and Roll-a-Thon on Thursday, June 18 with our residents. Several dressed in costumes and did laps outside on the care home grounds. Following the walk, we had an ice cream and sundae social on the patio. The following Saturday, the residents had a pancake breakfast.

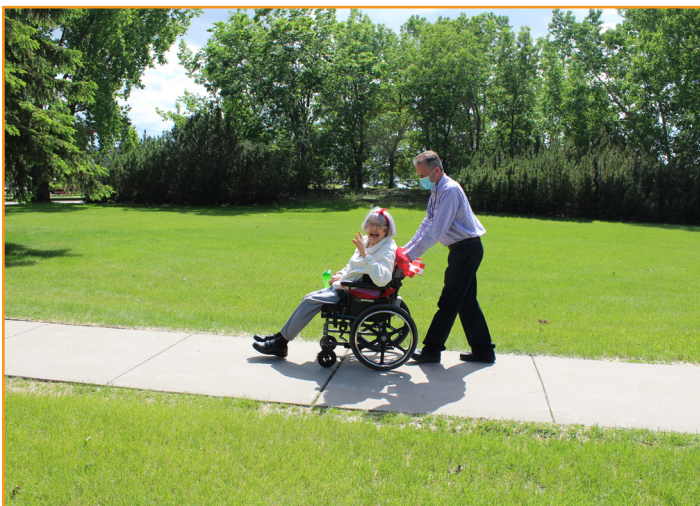


Our friends at Circle Drive Place donated to their in-house team, "The Isolators". Jean and Carol, dressed in their "isolation" gear collected \$2,270.00!

The donations, totaling over \$8,000.00 are being used to update AB Solarium.

We give God the glory!

Karen Lilly,
Community Services
Coordinator



Harvest Dinner Gala

The annual Harvest Dinner Gala has been a Circle Drive Special Care Home fixture for many years. We were set to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Gala this October. We have regretfully cancelled the dinner because of Covid 19 constraints.

The Gala had humble beginnings. The first few years the dinner took place at Circle Drive Alliance Church and was a simple fowl supper. The event grew and by 2004 we gathered at the Western Development Museum and were entertained by Martin Janovsky. In subsequent years the entertainers were the Hunter Brothers, Solstice, B.J. Harris Quintet, Brenda Lee Cottrell, Rory Allen, and Graham Dyck and the iconic Maurice Drouin.



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This year our feature was to have been Brad Johner, who graciously returned the deposit, even though the entertainment business has struggled because of many cancellations.



We are blessed by comments like these from families:

"Special Care Home is a very fitting name for your facility. We cannot thank you enough for the care and attention that you gave our Mom in the past two years. You were always so thoughtful in providing the little extras that made her life more comfortable. Mom's appearance was very important to her – we appreciate your patience as she selected her wardrobe and accessories for the day." A daughter.



"I am so moved that you are doing the wonderful work with guidance from above. That is how I saw it every time I came to visit. I saw the respect that the staff showed to the residents and the special care they gave to each one that was there. I know it wasn't always an easy thing to do when some residents including my husband weren't always being nice to them but they knew when to walk away and come back a little later to try again. The staff was also very kind to me when I was there as well and always willing to help me any way they could.

I have only good memories of the excellent care that was given to my husband and others at Circle Drive and have said so to everyone I speak to about it, and I think about the trials you face now with the covid 19 and I find myself silently praying for all of you that you make it thru yet another uncertain time with the help of spiritual guidance I know you receive there all the time.

God Bless you all and know you are not alone; there are many of us praying and thinking about you and what you are doing for others every day." From a former resident's wife.

"I am very grateful for the kindness and care the staff members are giving my mother. I am enclosing a gift in appreciation to be spent on something special for those caring workers." A daughter.

We are grateful that many of you faithfully tithe throughout the year. Many of you make a large donation each year at the Harvest Dinner Gala. We would humbly ask that you consider designating a donation to enable us to continue to fund the extra resident care.

~ Karen Lilly, Community Services Coordinator



In 2005 the Silent Auction and the Pie Auction were introduced. Local chefs and others donated pies, some of which were works of art. The pies were auctioned to the table making the highest bid. Some pies were so big that a table of eight left enough pie to send back for re-auction. Some pies were auctioned three times. Many pies sold for over \$1,000.00. The highest amount paid for one pie was \$3,650.00. Amazing!

The bids from the silent auction, the pie auction and the donations at the tables were designated to fund Resident Care positions over and above what the SK Health Authority funds. At Circle Drive Special Care Home, we know that life is valuable and to be honoured at every stage. Our mission statement is to honour the spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, and social needs of those entrusted to our care, in a Christian spirit. The inspiration for the Gala fundraiser was

so that we can deliver the high quality of care that our board and staff are passionate about and for which we are known.

