

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AVAILABLE FOR SENIORS

(Thunder Bay, ON August 4, 2010) The North West Community Care Access Centre (CCAC) is still accepting applications from seniors in Thunder Bay and the region interested in moving into a Transitional Supportive Housing apartment at McKellar Place, 325 Archibald St. S. The remaining apartments will be rented to seniors meeting eligibility criteria on a first come, first served basis. McKellar Place will open in October 2010.

The funding for the 75 Transitional Housing at McKellar Place will transfer to the Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services (CEISS) when it is ready for occupancy. Tenants of McKellar Place will be guaranteed a supportive housing apartment at the CEISS, should they wish to move.

Seniors' Supportive Housing apartments are designed for seniors who are able to live in an independent apartment with some support from staff within the building. Supportive Housing Staff are onsite 24-hours a day/7 days a week to assist tenants with tasks such as personal care needs, bathing assistance, medication reminders, housekeeping, laundry, social activities, outings and appointments. Family income of prospective tenants cannot exceed \$60,672 per year.

Seniors interested in moving into supportive housing at McKellar Place should contact Brenda, Community Care Coordinator with the North West CCAC at 766-2814. The North West CCAC will conduct eligibility assessments for interested seniors.

The North West CCAC, North West LHIN and St. Joseph's Care Group have been working in partnership to make these temporary supportive housing units available at McKellar Place. Funding is provided by the North West LHIN, eligibility assessments are being conducted by the North West CCAC and the supportive housing units will be managed by St. Joseph's Care Group.

Construction of the 132 Supportive Housing Apartments at the Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services located on Lillie Street North, is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2012. For more information and updates about the CEISS project please visit www.ceisstbay.ca.

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For further information contact:

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St. Joseph's Care Group
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Attached: Backgrounder - CEISS Transitional Supportive Housing



Backgrounder

CEISS Transitional Supportive Housing

Seniors' Supportive Housing

Seniors' Supportive Housing is a coordinated and comprehensive array of services and programs designed to maintain each individual's optimal level of health and well-being. These services range from assistance with bathing, showering and shaving to help with meal preparation, housekeeping and medication reminders.

Supportive housing provides a secure living environment and regular contact with staff. It promotes independence and socializing in a home-like environment.

Funding

The funding is being made available through the North West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to establish supportive housing in a temporary location, until the Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services (CEISS) is established. The cost to tenants for support services represents only thirty percent of the total cost. Seventy percent is funded by the North West LHIN.

Location of the Transitional Housing

The 75 transitional support housing apartments are located at McKellar Place, 325 Archibald St. S., on the site of the former McKellar Hospital.

Who is Eligible

Seniors who have both: (a) care needs and (b) a total household income of under \$60,672 are welcome to apply for Transitional Housing at McKellar Place.

What Transitional Housing Means

The supportive housing will be in a temporary location until the CEISS apartments is ready for occupancy. Once the CEISS is open, the 75 clients living within McKellar Place will have the option of then moving over to the new CEISS Supportive Housing.

The Importance of this Transitional Support Housing

These transitional support housing apartments will help reduce the wait lists for supportive housing. It will provide spaces for seniors at home with moderate to high support needs who require support to live independently. The supportive housing will also accommodate seniors waiting in hospital in acute care beds for available supportive housing. This will provide seniors with a more appropriate care environment and help reduce bed shortages in hospitals.

Planned Opening

The transitional support housing apartments will become available for occupancy on October 2010.

Interested in Moving to McKellar Place?

Interested individuals are to contact Brenda, Community Care Coordinator at the North West Community Care Access Centre (NWCCAC) at 766-2814. The NWCCAC will establish a client waiting list for McKellar Place and oversee the referrals to the Transitional Support Housing Program.

The Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services

- Enhanced services for existing supportive housing units
- Community support services for an additional 120 clients
- Special funding for services provided by LHIN funded organizations, to support a senior client temporarily on a higher service level.
- 336 new long-term care beds, including 64 beds for seniors in the Northwest with responsive behaviours (i.e. dementia)
- 132 new supportive housing units

For more information about the Centre of Excellence for Integrated Seniors' Services (CEISS) visit www.ceisstbay.ca.