



Committee Report

To: Councilor Kenneth Craig, Chair and
Members of the Long-Term Care Homes Committee of
Management

From: Megan Garland,
Director of Long-Term Care and Senior Services

Date: October 5, 2023

Re: Long Term Care Update Report - August and September 2023

Staff Recommendation:

Receive Long-Term Care Update Report for August and September 2023.

Background:

This is the report for August and September 2023 for the Long-Term Care Homes Committee of Management. All members of the County Council are members of the committee and are also the representatives of, and act on behalf of, Bruce County, which is the Licensee for both Brucelea Haven and Gateway Haven.

Long-Term Care Services - Regulatory Compliance:

Both Bruce County long-term care homes, Brucelea Haven and Gateway Haven, remain in compliance with the LTCHA and associated regulations. The homes conduct regular audits. Administrators, management teams and the Director of Long-Term Care, along with Senior Services continue to monitor the status of the homes, including ensuring that the RAI-MDS submissions are completed within timelines.

Current Census (as of September 25, 2023)

BLH: 143
GWH: 98

Occupancy (as of September 25, 2023)

BLH: 98.66 %
GWH: 98.83 %

Site Visits, Follow Up Inspections and Opportunities for Partnership:

MINISTRY OF LONG-TERM CARE:

Brucelea Haven:

An inspection occurred on August 28, 2023 to September 13, 2023 to review critical incidents and complaints. To date we have not received the final report.

Gateway Haven:

An inspection occurred on September 19, 2023, to September 22, 2023 to follow up on the compliance order and critical incidents. The report had no findings and confirmed that we are now in compliance with the order.

The report can be found at www.publicreporting.LTC.net

Ministry of Long-Term Care Announcement/Directives:

COVID 19 Directives- Remain unchanged:

The Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC) announced the next steps in the phased approach to embed COVID-19 response measures into routine operations, which are listed below:

- Masking is no longer required for staff, students, volunteers and visitors.
- Daily temperature checks for residents are discontinued unless medically determined.
- Visitors are no longer required to have Personal Protective Equipment training.

Both homes are working on ensuring they are prepared for fall with preparation plans in place and have participated in the Grey Bruce Fall/Winter Respiratory Season Readiness tabletop exercise. Long-Term Care homes are experiencing an increase in respiratory outbreaks as the season has been early to kick off.

Staffing:

Staffing pressures continue in both homes due to the number of vacant lines, staff illness and vacation season. The staffing pressures are managed through contingency plans and agency usage.

Emily Kussman has returned from her parental leave to Administrator at Brucelea Haven and Ashley Traut has returned to her previous role as Administrative Supervisor.

Katrina Tolton started as the Recreation and Leisure Manager position at Brucelea Haven in September.

Gateway Haven is currently recruiting for an Environmental Services Manager.

Family and Residents Councils:

Family and Resident Councils are active in both homes (total of 4 councils). These councils provide an opportunity for both family and residents to have direct discussions with each other and our staff as they may wish. Attendance by LTC staff at these meetings is at the request of the Council. The Administrator is generally asked to attend all meetings of both groups and senior staff (Nursing, Environmental) also receive invitations to attend.

Both homes host Family and Friends Town Halls, which are well attended.

Resident Engagement:

Brucelea Haven had the following special events for residents and families:

- Family & Friends- Groovy 60's theme party. Staff, residents and families all dressed up and enjoyed music together and dinner from a local food truck.
- Other activities included a car show, bus trips for ice cream, art show, local outings to restaurants, bunny visits, "Grandparent Visits" and fresh corn on the cob lunches.

Gateway Haven had the following special events for residents and families:

- S'more Summer Social, Bus Trip to Wal-Mart & ice cream at McDonald's, Grandparents Day Tea and Treats, Crafts and Baking to Enter in Fair, Fall Fair Walking Trip and Museum Presentation

Resident Council Awareness Week:

Bruce County is celebrating all residents that live in the Brucelea Haven and Gateway Haven long-term care homes during Residents' Council Week, from September 11 - September 17, 2023.

Residents' Councils play an important role in shaping the place resident's call home. These Councils bring residents together as peers to discuss issues of importance, and to stay connected and engaged in home operations and decision-making. The Council is designed to form the collective voice of all residents who reside in the long-term care home, whether they attend meetings or not. All residents have the right to participate in the Residents' Council. Brucelea Haven celebrated Resident Council Awareness week by making apple pies and had an Apple Pie Social together. Gateway Haven wasn't able to celebrate due to outbreak but will be celebrating at their next Resident Council meeting.

Monthly Newsletter for Family, Friends, Residents and Staff:

Attached is September's monthly newsletter for families, friends, residents, and staff from both homes. The newsletters have been created with the aim of fostering a stronger sense of community and communication among our residents and their families. It will serve as a platform for sharing important updates, stories, events, and information about life in the homes. The newsletter are attached to the report for reference.

Physical Plant and Equipment (planned and unplanned):

No updates currently.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

No additional considerations currently.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

Information was provided by Ashley Traut, Acting Administrator at BLH, Emily Kussman, Administrator at BLH and Jacob Presseault Administrator at GWH to form this report.

Link to Strategic Goals and Elements:

Goal #1 - Build a strong and inclusive community.

Goal #2- Enhance and grow partnerships.

Goal #5-Ensure a positive, inclusive, and accountable work culture.

Goal #6-Be an employer of choice.

Approved for submission:

Christine MacDonald
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer