# CHATS Annual Report 2014-2015

# 5,270 visits 1,397 clients served







# Thank you to our generous donors

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Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic

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# Program and Service Highlights



Annual Report 2014 - 2015



Supporting the health and well-being of seniors and caregivers at home and in the community.









#### Letter from the Board Chair and CEO

What a year it's been at CHATS! Throughout our 35 years of service to seniors, CHATS has constantly evolved and grown to meet the changing needs of more than 7,300 York Region and South Simcoe seniors and caregivers each year. In this past year, not only did we continue to improve our capacity to serve our clients with quality and safety, we did so with a focus on ensuring a positive experience for our clients.

With the priorities identified in our Strategic Plan 2014-2017 at the centre of all we do, we set out this past year to have an impact on our objective of providing support to more seniors in York Region and South Simcoe. Through the expansion of our Assisted Living for High Risk Seniors program, Tenancy Risk Reduction Services for Seniors and our integration of the Adult Day, Assisted Living and social programs at Friuli Terrace, we moved considerably forward in this regard.

On the home front, we were delighted to be able to officially open the "Community Healthcare Hub" along with our partners the Alzheimer Society of York Region, and York Support Services Network at the new head office location in Aurora. This model of collaborative co-location has been positively received by our main funder, the Central LHIN—so much so that it was one of the highlights on a recent tour of community organizations taken by the Deputy Minister of Health and Long Term Care, Dr. Robert Bell! We also began to sow the seeds of designing, with our partner agency Circle of Care in the south, a new "one number to call" transportation model for seniors and adults with disabilities throughout the Central LHIN. We eagerly anticipate the launch of the new, integrated program, in July, 2015.

With the expected growth rate of the seniors population in the Central LHIN catchment area surpassing that of the provincial estimate over the next decade (20% for the Central LHIN versus 13% for the province), we know that demand for our programs and services will continue to rise.

This past year, the provincial government has recognized the value and role that the community service and home care sector can have in responding to this demand. Recently, Dr. Eric Hoskins, the Minister of Health and Long Term Care released Patients First: A Roadmap to Strengthen Home and Community Care, a new plan to improve and expand home and community care over the next three years. In addition to a commitment to increase funding to the sector, the plan identified how care delivered at home and in the community will be transformed, giving clients and caregivers greater say in choosing a provider, and how and when that provider delivers services, among other key initiatives.

Being the provider of choice is at the core of CHATS' actions, activities and focus on client care and experience, and our team stands ready to meet the opportunities and challenges ahead of us. CHATS' passionate volunteers, staff, funders and community partners already make a tremendous difference in the lives of seniors in our community. Last year the time dedicated by our more than 535 volunteers, amounted to the equivalent of 22 full-time positions, roughly valued at over \$800,000! We cannot even begin to put a dollar value on the impact of the care and compassion that our volunteers and staff extend to seniors every day.

It is our pleasure to extend our sincere thanks to CHATS' volunteers, Board of Directors and committee members, staff, funders, partners and donors for all you have contributed to seniors'

health and wellness in our community. We've had a year steeped in strong achievements on behalf of our clients, and look with great anticipation for doing even better, in the coming year.

Graham Constantine Board Chair





**About CHATS** Community & Home Assistance to Seniors is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that assists seniors in York Region and South Simcoe to maintain wellness and a healthy independent lifestyle.

Since its launch in 1980, CHATS has evolved into a nationally-recognized organization that delivers a continuum of services to meet the changing needs of more than **8,000** culturally, economically and geographically diverse seniors and family caregivers every year.

Under the strong experience and knowledge of 220 employees, supported by a Board of Directors, committees and about 580 volunteers, CHATS embraces professional best practices with caring and compassionate dedication - a unique combination that ultimately benefits our clients, our community partners, and the community overall.

#### **Highlights of Achievements 2014-15**

#### **Assisted Living for High Risk Seniors**

"Reaching more seniors in the community" has been a key strategic priority for CHATS and we were delighted to be named the new service provider for about 250 clients for Assisted Living sites in Schomberg, Keswick, Newmarket, Aurora, Richmond Hill, Stouffville and Woodbridge. The expansion is a result of the Central LHIN's plan to increase access to assisted living services to a greater number of high risk seniors living in the community on a 24/7 basis.

Integration of Adult Day Program, Assisted Living Services and Social Recreation Programs at Friuli Terrace CHATS and the Friuli Benevolent Corporation have undertaken an exciting collaboration in which the Friuli Terrace's Adult Day Program, Assisted Living Services and Social Recreation Programs were transitioned to become CHATS' services. The collaborative integration has allowed for more seniors to access service. The Assisted Living Program has been expanded to provide 24/7 care and the Adult Day Program has been expanded to five days a week. Ethno-specific Italian programming has continued and all staff were transitioned to CHATS employees.

#### Official opening of the Community Healthcare Hub

On October 8, 2015 The Cartwright Group Ltd. celebrated the grand opening of the new Cartwright Centre at 240 Edward St. Aurora. The site is the new home of Alzheimer Society of York Region, CHATS - Community & Home Assistance to Seniors, Hunter Engineering Company and York Support Services Network. Each organization has its own devoted space, but is accessible to each other. This set-up allows for communication and co-operation amongst the organizations, as they often deal with similar clientele.

#### **Tenancy Risk Reduction Services for Seniors**

We were please to launch the Tenancy Risk Reduction Services to Seniors program for the year 2014-2015. This service was designed and offered in partnership with York Support Services Network and VHA Home HelathCare. The program supported low to moderate income York Region seniors at risk of losing their tenancy due to hoarding behaviour, cluttered living spaces, uncleanliness and squalor, and/or unmaintained homes. The program was funded by the Regional Municipality of York through the Community Investment Strategy for 2014.

#### Named co-lead for the new transportation model of service in the Central LHIN

As the demand for rides has increased dramatically, CHATS has looked for ways to enhance the quality, safety and efficiency of its services to better meet seniors' needs. For that reason, we are delighted to have been named the Community Transportation Lead Agency for the North Central LHIN. Working with Circle of Care, the Community Transportation Lead Agency for the South Central LHIN, we will provide a new and comprehensive delivery model that builds on our strengths and enables continued development of capacity to respond to a broader base of needs and opportunities for improved effectiveness and efficiency. This new model will launch July 1, 2015.

# CHATS 2014-2015

#### **Community Partners**

Alzheimer Society of Greater Simcoe Alzheimer Society of York Region Apetito Aurora Presbyterian Church Bradford Legion Canadian Red Cross Carefirst Seniors and Community Services Association Catholic Community Services of York Region Central Community Care Access Centre Circle of Care City of Vaughan Community Support Services Network

COSTI Crescent Village Danube Seniors Leisure Centre Lumacare Good Neighbours Human Services Planning Board

Human Endeavour LOFT Community Services Mackenzie Health Markham Stouffville Hospital Matthews House Hospice Neighbourhood Network

of York Region

Ontario Community Support Association Ontario Trillium Foundation Operation Red Nose Philips Lifeline

Region of York, Long-Term Care & Seniors Branch Rexall Health Centre Richmond Hill Hospice

Richmond Hill United Church

**Grand Opening of the Community Healthcare Hub** 

Ryerson University Seneca College – King Campus Social Services Network Southlake Regional Health Centre St. Justin Martyr Church Stevenson Memorial Hospital Town of Aurora Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Town of East Gwillimbury Town of Georgina Town of Markham Town of New Tecumseth Town of Newmarket Town of Richmond Hill Town of Whitchurch Stouffville Transit Georgina VHA Home Health Care VON Welcome Centre York Region Catholic School Board York Region District School Board York Region Housing York Region Transit Mobility York Support Services Network York University



To support the health and well-being of seniors and caregivers at home and in the community.

Thank you, CHATS Team!

Many thanks to the

dedicated staff who

and compassion into

put so much care

their work.

**Our Mission** 

#### Our Vision

We will be recognized for leadership in • Collaboration delivering a quality experience for our • Creativity clients driven by our focus on innovation, partnership and service excellence.

#### Our Values

- Caring
- Quality

#### **We Appreciate our Volunteers!**

Many thanks to all those who selflessly give their time and effort to enhance the lives of York Region and South Simcoe seniors.

Kavas Dadabhoy

Lionel Sandiland

Magsood Mahboob

Mary Patricia Porter

Matthew Chacko

Marjaneh Amir-Sheibani

Lorna Wong

Luis Garrido

Philip Port

Ruth Ash

Teresa Sottile

Wayne Arcus

Wendy Bowes

**5 Years of Service** Elizabeth Bildfell Heather Whit Krista Van Wingerden Leslie Briggs Marie Empringham Robert Smart Robin Jacobs

#### **10 Years of Service** Marianne Still

Brian Hodgson Denise Nathaniel

#### **5 Years of Service** Alison Sanzo

Allan Saunders Chris Gogos Frances Blumfald Gary Menezes Jacqueline Eisen Jean Mennen Judy Maguire Justyn Valenzano

**15 Years of Service** 

20 Years of Service Carol Page

#### **15 Years of Service** Anne Schwarzenberg

Bernard Katugampola Cacilda Ribeiro Enid Mann Eric Stangl Gordon Macrae Jane Stangl Jean Thomas Joyce Brinkman Judy Wong Marg Curtis Peggy Hood Robert Cook Ron Brinkman William Church

#### 20 Years of Service

DorothyWagg **Dorraine Beatty** Kenneth Norris Nelda Morley

**10 Years of Service** Elizabeth Arnold Farahnaz Mahmoudasl Fluvio Rodaro Irene George Jim Paterson Mina Keshavarzy Nasrin Moradi Noushin Mirzaaghaei Tavan Sandy Sherief

### 25 Years of Service

Deb Mcintosh Jocelyn Tunnard Mildred Dionne Ron Gibson Susan Armstrong

#### 35 Years of Service

Audrey Gibson Rena Mingay

# Ann Boyle

Bev Bain Dorothy Gilbert Lorna Sheehy Phyllis Tyrie