Music Care: Current reality and future directions

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Overview

- Long term Care environment
- Music Therapy and Care
- Current realities
- Drivers for change
Bethany Care Society

• Bethany is a faith-based, not-for-profit provider of seniors’ services and affordable housing in communities in central and southern Alberta.

• We provide a full spectrum of housing and care options for seniors and adults with disabilities.
Bethany Care Foundation

- The Bethany Care Foundation is a registered charity dedicated exclusively to the acceptance and raising of funds in support of the priorities of the Bethany Care Society.
Sites and Services

- AHS contracted services (931 beds)
  - 810 LTC beds across 6 sites
  - 121 SL4 beds across 2 sites
- 211 supportive living suites
- 867 seniors housing suites
Factors Contributing to our Care Service Model

- Funded for an average of 3hrs and 20 mins of worked hours for care providers for long term care residents
- Contracted service provider; highly regulated system
- Staffing; Unionized environment, over 50% HCAs
- Residents; 80% have cognitive impairment
Traditional Music Therapy

- Contracted service
- Resourced exclusively through fundraising
- Referrals coordinated through Rec Therapy
- 1:1 and group programs
- Approx. 2hrs per week per site
- Provided to all LTC sites
Other Music in Long Term Care

- Drum circles
- Singalongs
- Community Choirs
- Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra
Music and Memory
Realities are . . .

- Key staff in supporting music care and music therapy
  - Recreational therapy staff
  - Volunteer coordinators
- Typically Mon-Fri, 8am to 4pm
- LTC is funded for 24hr nursing care
Health Care Aides: Direct Observations
(Project Funding Provided By ICCER)

- Direct Care
- Indirect Care
- Documentation
- Team Communication
- Break

7 AM 8 AM 9 AM 10 AM 11 AM 12 PM 1 PM 2 PM
Music and Technology

- Technology is increasing throughout our continuing care environments
- Community partners and donors are driving change
  - Ipods donations
  - Multimedia flash drives
National Standards

Client- and family-centred care shifts providers from doing something to or for the client—where the health care provider’s perspective is dominant—to doing something with the client—so the health care provider and the client have a true partnership.
In Summary

• We know the integration of music is important
• Current system and organizational barriers make this a challenge to get right
• Current realities highlight the importance of individual care providers in promoting and integrating music into care
Any Questions?