



MISERICORDIA
Health Centre
The future of care



M-NET
MHC Intranet



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MAY 2020

Life @MIZ

A NEWSLETTER FOR MHC STAFF, PHYSICIANS & VOLUNTEERS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: COVID-19 Working and learning together



We're here right now, facing the challenges of what has become the new normal. It's been a time of change and transformation, but also a time of learning and growth.

Our individual and collective experiences working with the COVID-19 pandemic response is teaching us many new things: new forms of heroism are being recognized and new connections in different areas of MHC are being formed.

Overall, it's been an opportunity to learn. For some MHC staff, this has meant shifting from your usual role to help support a completely new area. For example, Sleep Disorder Centre staff working night shifts at Health Links

– Info Santé and OR nurses helping facilitate FaceTime calls with long-term care residents and their loved ones.

Thank you to everyone who has helped where there's a need. Thanks for being willing to learn something new. I'm proud to see our team continue to live our values of caring, respect and trust.

It's also been a time for building. I've seen firsthand how everyone at Misericordia has collaborated. Collaboration not only allows us to learn from our colleagues, it makes us stronger as an organization.

And we've built a toolkit for the next pandemic – we'll be able to take what we've learned from COVID-19 and apply it in the future.

Dealing with COVID-19 has reinforced the extraordinary importance of preparation: working with data, working together as a health-care system, as a province, as a community – and as a family.

We also feel a new sense of appreciation and anticipation for returning to 'normal' again. Things won't necessarily be the same again – and that's OK. My hope is that some of the COVID-19 habits we've formed, such as hand-washing at entrances, will continue!

By working together, we have been successful in our response to COVID-19. Again, I want to say thank you for being flexible and so very responsive to all the changes to meet our patients' needs. You've directly made an impact on everyone who has walked through our doors during this time.

Meet MHC's Senior Leadership Team

It's so important that as an organization we continue to make connections and get to know team members. In every issue of Life@Miz, we'll be profiling an SLT member. This month, you'll meet Gillian Toth, Chief Nursing Officer.

Caroline DeKeyser

MHC FOUNDATION: Keeping up with COVID-19

Kris Gladwell, Executive Director,
MHC Foundation

COVID-19 is at the forefront of everything we do at MHC right now. It's shaped what we do at the Foundation, too. I know every day is filled with COVID-19 updates, so I'll keep this short and sweet. I want to ensure our team keeps you in-the-loop on what we've been up to.

First and foremost, we're honoured to be supporting MHC during this challenging time. Recently, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 Misericordia Golf Classic. We are working with golf sponsors to find other ways they can support Misericordia right now.

The COVID-19 Relief Fund has received incredible support from the community. To date, with this fund, we've given out 1,200 meal coupons to MHC staff. We continue to provide funding for iPads, speakers and more for long-term care residents and clients.

We are so grateful to everyone who has donated to the COVID-19 Relief Fund. I am proud to announce that all members of the MHC Senior Leadership Team and the Foundation Board have made a gift. This is unprecedented amongst health centres!

Let's continue to lead the way, together.

With gratitude,

Kris Gladwell





#COMMUNITYHEROESMB

The community support for Misericordia during this time has been incredible. From Face Masks for Manitoba donating handmade face masks for MHC staff to use for personal protective equipment (PPE) training to Magic Bird Fried Chicken donating \$2 from takeout orders and Art City creating "thank you health-care heroes" signs, we have been feeling the love! We've also been well fed thanks to Old Dutch Canada, Wendy's, Tim Hortons, Wal-Mart Lakewood, Mordens' chocolates and the list goes on! Check out the Foundation's Facebook album [#CommunityHeroesMB](#) to see more.



CONGRATS ON BEING AWESOME!

"I had to take my 93-year-old mother to an essential procedure at Misericordia. She was quite nervous about the whole thing (understandable). I have to say that your staff was outstanding. All the safety precautions you took put my mother at ease. She was escorted to the procedure and back by your wonderful staff. Thanks to all your staff for showing up for work and taking care of us. It makes me very grateful and proud we have such a great network of dedicated health-care staff."

-Dale W.

RECREATION DURING COVID-19

Recreation has been proven to be beneficial physically, emotionally and socially. Leisure activities reduce blood pressure, relieve stress and anxiety and create a sense of belonging and self-worth.

The recreation department continues to offer small group programs according to the current COVID-19 guidelines, such as: fitness, art classes, news and views, *Music and Memory*, cooking and baking demos, cognitive games, one-on-one staff visits and most recently, FaceTime with loved ones.

Our recreation team bring expertise from many additional areas, including: theology, kinesiology, fine art and clothing design. Their combined education and experience helps to provide MHC clients and residents with meaningful experiences.

As a team, they are carefully monitoring the current situation, continuing to engage residents and clients safely and effectively.

Cheers from the Recreation Team!

Pictured: art created by Cornish 2 clients



IN MEMORIAM... SISTER MARIE-ANNA PLAMONDON



The Misericordia Family is mourning the passing of Sister Marie-Anna Plamondon. Sister Marie-Anna had many roles here at Misericordia in Winnipeg - from hospital admitting office to registrar at the Misericordia School of Nursing to volunteer support for our patients, as well as Wolseley Family Place families.

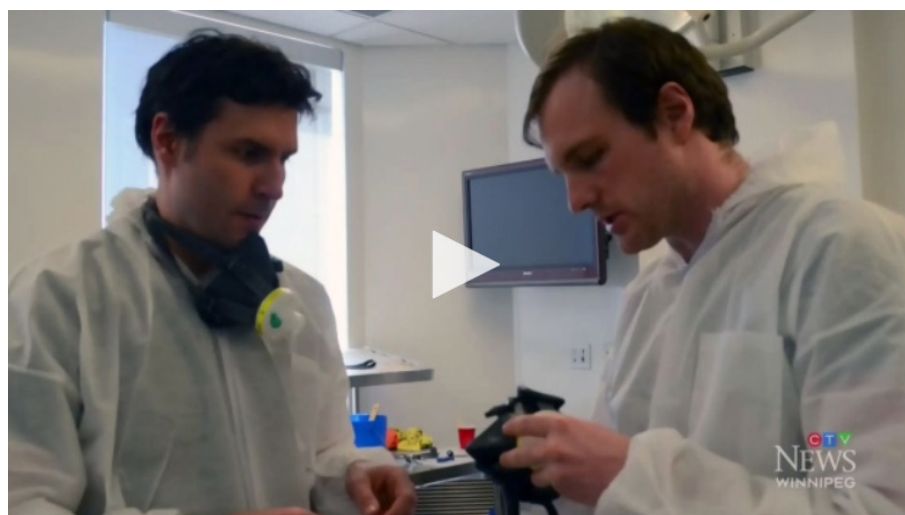
In 2015, Sister Marie-Anna was interviewed for the www.sisterslegacy.ca project. She said working alongside our staff gave her much encouragement to carry on as she could see so many staff already had the Mission in their hearts - and that she received much more than she gave.

Sister Marie-Anna passed away on Holy Thursday, April 9, 2020. Her spirit and memories will live on at Misericordia Health Centre as we continue to live her Mission.





TEAM OF MANITOBA DOCTORS PRODUCING REUSABLE N95-LIKE MASKS



Dr. William Turk (right), a graduate of MHC's ophthalmology residency program, learned how to do complex 3D printing here at Misericordia! He's now putting those skills to use with a team of doctors to produce reusable N95-like masks. What a great made-in-Manitoba story!

Learn more and watch the video: misericordia.mb.ca/news/in-the-press/

NICE COMMENTS

See what our followers and supporters are saying about MHC's amazing staff!



Gail Vande Vyvere Congratulations Misericordia. You are awesome!

Love · Reply · Message · 2w



Margo Watson I am grateful to the staff on MP2 for taking the time to help my mother FaceTime with family.

Like · Reply · Message · 2w



STAFF PROFILE

Gillian Toth, Chief Nursing Officer

Gillian Toth has been at Misericordia since 2012, formerly as the Director of Acute-Care Programs and now as the Chief Nursing Officer. Previous to her time at MHC, Gillian was at Health Sciences Centre, where she was the Manager of the Acute and Chronic Dialysis Unit.

With COVID-19 declared a pandemic, her role has shifted to Operations Chief, as per the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS). She works alongside Senior Leadership Team members to disseminate new information, address issues as they arise, follow up with respective departments and ensure mandated changes are implemented.

Gillian notes how incredibly open-minded, adaptable and helpful MHC staff have been during this time of rapid change.

While COVID-19 has impacted most people's routines, Gillian finds calm in doing the activities she normally would do, but just a bit differently. She's been keeping up with her Ashtanga yoga practice via live Zoom sessions. This summer she's looking forward to biking to The Forks with her husband and doing some gardening!

THANK YOU!

On behalf of Ellen Locke and the Recreation Services team:

Roberta, Jaclyn and Rose: a big thank you. The nurses you sent have been great! Residents and clients in isolation (new admits) got friendly visits. Brad made us a data sheet and connected and scheduled FaceTimes for all of c6 residents, saving us so much time. Sally is so kind – I feel like she has visited about 25 residents at Miz Place! Tara is a pro at FaceTiming, and because of her, we have got many extra family visits in. We really appreciate your support and wonderful team of nurses.



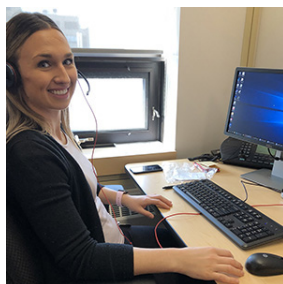
HEALTH STORIES: COVID-19 staff profiles

The COVID-19 pandemic is changing our world, and Misericordia Health Centre staff are on the front lines.



"Positivity is also contagious. This is a serious matter, but it's important to stay positive." - Chero Belle Laqui, Mailroom & Environmental Services

"When one of us gets a rough call we all sit and talk about it and talk about the advice we gave. It's really supportive. It's great." - Tanya Kapelus, Operating Room to Health Links – Info Santé



"It can be stressful, but we don't show it. We all want to provide the same safe and comfortable patient experience (pre-COVID-19) for everyone involved." - Brenda Wong, Diagnostic Imaging

"Everybody is responsible for patients and the whole team's health. We support each other and it's working well." - Baruch Akbashev, Biomedical Engineering



Due to COVID-19, all volunteer participation at MHC has been put on hold as a safety precaution.

"The volunteer services' offices went from being a beehive to being very quiet." - Mirna Alberto, Volunteer Services

Read all the staff profiles online at misericordia.mb.ca/news/health-stories

Have someone in mind for a staff profile?
Send your suggestion to info@misericordia.mb.ca



NEW HIRES

Sophie Rebizant, HCA, C6/Float Pool

Tammy Holowchuk, LPN, C2

Laurie Walus, RN II, Health Links – Info Santé

Alexandra Cyr, LPN, C6

Monique Gauthier,
Ophthalmic Assistant, Ophthalmology Clinic

Gil Bernardo, RN II, C6/Float Pool

Robertson Rodella, LPN, C6

Jashmanpreet Kaur,
Corporate Admin Assistant, Corporate Office

Dana McCormac, HCA, PRIME/Float Pool

Danielle Hall, Intake Operator, PHCC

Angela Vandenberg,
RN II, Health Links – Info Santé

Myra Schaffer, RN II, Health Links – Info Santé

RETIREEES

Judith Iwanchuk, RN, OR

Sergio Carlo Alambra, HCA, PRIME