



NEWS RELEASE

From Halton Healthcare

For Immediate Release

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Halton Healthcare Receives Leadership Award for Dementia Care and Education

Halton Healthcare is the recipient of a 2017-2018 Advanced Gerontological Education (AGE) Recognition Award with distinction (category of Acute Care/Hospital) for providing staff knowledge, skills and confidence in caring for patients with dementia. The award was received from AGE for Halton Healthcare's commitment to Gentle Persuasive Approaches (GPA) education, an innovative dementia care education curriculum based on a person-centred care approach

"We are very proud to receive this award and we continue to embed Gentle Persuasive Approaches into our everyday practice," said Sylvia Rodgers, Senior Vice President, Clinical Programs and Chief Nursing Executive, Halton Healthcare. "Since 2016 nearly 500 individuals have been trained in GPA which initially focused on nursing and more recently expanded to include unit clerks, diagnostic imaging staff, volunteers and housekeeping staff."

"All behaviour has meaning. When a patient is upset, they are responding to something in their environment," said Martha Budgell, Safer Elder Care Professional Practice Clinician, Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. "The training has helped our staff to better understand and appreciate that an elderly patient with dementia or delirium may be visibly upset because they may simply be tired, hungry or in pain. Our staff can approach them confidently and in a calm manner using their newly acquired skills and tools."

The AGE Recognition Awards Review Panel noted Halton Healthcare's exceptional commitment to GPA, for modelling the respectful person-centred care through dementia education and being a leader in sustaining a person-centred model of care.



Many of Halton Healthcare's GPA Coaches are seen here who lead skill-building workshops on assessing and responding to challenging behaviours associated with dementia.

About Halton Healthcare

Halton Healthcare is a healthcare organization comprised of three community hospitals - Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital and Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital and several community programs and services including: Burlington Dialysis Centre, Oakville Hospital Footcare & Orthotic Centre, Georgetown Diabetes Program, one-Link, and North Halton Mental Health Clinics. Together we provide healthcare services to nearly 400,000 residents in the communities of Halton Hills, Milton and Oakville. Halton Healthcare has been recognized for its best practices in a number of patient safety and patient care initiatives.

For more information, visit www.haltonhealthcare.com Follow us on Twitter @HaltonHlthcare and Facebook.

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