

Connecting for Care

May 2010 Edition

Care Connections Symposium “What’s It All About?”

Many hands make light work, or so they say. On May 18th and 19th over 300 health service providers, governors and consumers participated in the two-day Care Connections Symposium to continue the work of designing an integrated health system focused on the people accessing the services.



“We need to represent more than our own organization; learn from those that have worked collaboratively like the Aboriginal Health Circle and work together better to realize cost savings to the system,” noted Seán Usher, Chair, Hospice Muskoka.

In developing the LHIN’s first **Integrated Health Service Plan 2007-2010, *Imagine.... A better health care system***, the LHIN met with over 5000 people to ask what would a better health care

system in North Simcoe Muskoka look like. Based on the input from those consultations, three broad strategic directions resulted:

1. Improve the health of residents
2. Provide the right care, in the right place, at the right time.
3. Use our resources wisely.

In keeping with these strategic directions, the NSM LHIN has begun a major health system design project—***Care Connections***. This project is one of three (3) key health system priorities identified by the North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN Board of Directors in the second ***Integrated Health Service Plan 2010 – 2013 ‘Working Together to Achieve Better Health, Better Care, Better Value’***.

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Care Connections Symposium (cont'd) “What’s It All About?”

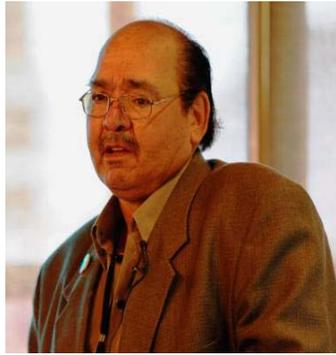
The first day saw three consumers share their health system experiences in powerful keynote addresses detailing how life, as they knew it,



provided attendees with valuable insight into the current system of care from a user’s perspective, and the need to design a more person-

changed following exposure to mental health, diabetes and stroke illnesses. Their experiences

centric health care system. Nine working groups met to look beyond participants’ specific sectors of care, at how the system could be improved. Throughout all sessions, attendees were asked to focus on the future, ‘Think 2020’, and what needs to occur between now and ten years out that would see a health care system helping people stay healthy, delivering good care when they need it and ensuring the system will



be there for their children and grandchildren.



Engaging the broader community is the next step in the development of a health system design. Community members will be asked to “Tell Your Story” about experiences they’ve had with the health care system, good and bad, which will further inform system design work.



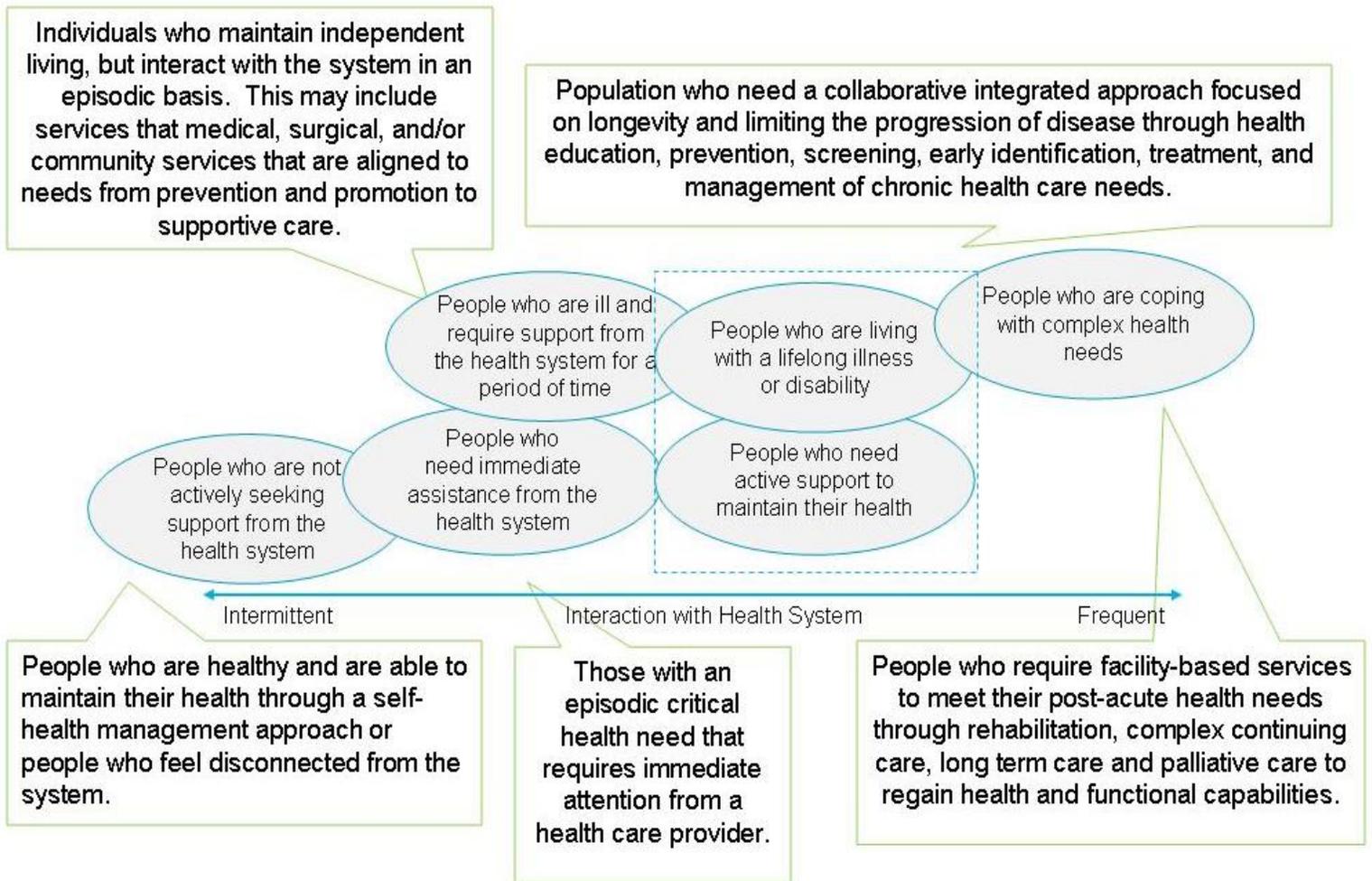
Symposium Working Groups



Symposium Governors

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Care Connections—Partnering for Healthy Communities Journey of Care - ‘Birth to End of Life’



It is recognized that the current system does not effectively respond to marginalized populations eg. Aboriginal population, people with addictions and mental health needs, children with special needs, homeless individuals, etc.

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Care Connections Project Launched March 31, 2010

On March 31st the integrated health system design project— **Care Connections - Partnering for Healthy Communities** was launched via videoconference in five NSM LHIN geographic locations.

The project logo represents service delivery, processes and technology, all of which are involved in designing a person-centric system.

The name says it all ‘Care Connections - Partnering for Healthy Communities’ because we all have a common vision for realizing care and support at the right time, in the right place, from birth to end of life.

The logo tells our residents how we will do it - through partnerships with all our stakeholders and why.



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