



SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

Social work has a long history of playing a significant role in the provision of care for persons in long-term care (LTC). Social Workers provide an important voice in the LTC system for maintaining the inherent dignity of each person and not losing sight of the individuality of each resident.

Helping to ease the social and emotional impact of physical and mental illness or impairment.

Preservation and enhancement of physical and social functioning.

Promotion and maintenance of physical and mental health and an optimal quality of life.
(NASW, 1981).

Building on existing strengths, modifying risks and seeking solutions to issues that interfere with optimal quality of life.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

Responding to enquiries and providing education to persons in the community regarding the long term care system

Providing psychosocial expertise in aspects of care relevant to the mandate of the facility

Enhanced resident care:
including holistic approaches to client care; therapeutic relationships with clients and families including specialized individual and family counselling; client advocacy, family support groups, family councils, resident councils, and co-ordination with other community services



Manitoba Association of Personal Care Home Social Workers

Social Work Services for Residents and their Loved Ones

We're Here to Help



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PRE-ADMISSIONS ASSISTANCE

The Social Worker is often the first contact a resident/family will have with the PCH.

Moving to a PCH is a time when the resident and/or family are beginning the difficult task of dealing with their feelings about placement.

The Social Worker provides information about the facility including a tour, policy discussion, and assessment of the client needs.

The Social Worker begins to develop a care plan to meet the resident's diverse needs.

Liaison with community and hospital case coordinators and the Long Term Access Centre Coordinators to facilitate admissions to PCH.



ADMISSION TO PCH

The Social Worker assists the resident and their family members to become familiar with their new home and the offered services and resources available to them. The Social Worker coordinates the admission process for all new residents in the following ways:

Provide support (counselling, mediation, and advocacy) to a resident/ resident's family who are struggling with the transition to their new home;

Help families redefine their role as caregivers;

Complete social history and psychosocial assessment;

Provide education to residents/ family members re advance care directives;

Assist in mediation and conflict resolution as issues arise;

Facilitate and ensure resident/family participation in the initial care conference, and in care planning.

LIVING AT A PCH

The Social Worker works with residents and their families to facilitate the resident's independence and right to self-determination within their new home.

Internal and External Advocacy; practical problem-solving support in managing Activities of Daily Living.

Mediate concerns that may arise between resident and family or the personal care home team.

As a multidisciplinary team member, participate in ongoing care planning, involving resident and family as much as possible.



References

NASW. 1981. *Standards for Social Work Services in Long-Term Care Facilities.*