

Media Release



For Immediate Release

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New OLTCA CEO Views Technology to Improve Medication Safety

Arthur...Carressant Care Arthur demonstrated how the use of new technology is improving medication safety in the home to new OLTCA CEO Christina Bisanz.

In August the home began using a new Electronic Medication Administration Record (EMAR) system replacing its manual paper based system. The new system contains each resident's list of current medications and profile including allergies, diagnosis, diet, lab investigations and treatments. Registered staff are able to easily access any residents' profile by simply touching a flat screen attached to the medication cart.

"This is another example of the dedication of homes and staff to the residents and their innovative approaches to making care a quality living experience," Ms. Bisanz said. "Everywhere I go on my tour of Member homes presents an eye opening experience of the valuable contribution that long term care makes to residents, families, their community and Ontario's healthcare system."

"The EMAR system allows us to be more efficient and accurate because we have up-to-date information for each resident in our home," said Lisa Canada, Administrator. "Registered staff have commented that since using the system it allows them extra time to spend one on one with each resident and providing that extra TLC that all our residents deserve."

Since her appointment as OLTCA CEO in June Ms. Bisanz has been touring a number of the association's 428 not for profit, charitable, private and municipal homes across Ontario to familiarize herself with the accomplishments, challenges and issues.

"I am seeing a unique blend of compassion and care skills being applied in a way that is all about serving the resident and their quality of life despite limited resources," Ms. Bisanz said. "I have been seeing one of the most under-recognized sectors in Ontario that holds much potential to meet the growing needs of our aging population."

"It certainly provides me with the impetus I need to work on their behalf so that they have the resources and support they need to continue the valuable work that they do."

OLTCA represents the not-for-profit, charitable, private and municipal operators of 428 long term care homes that provide care and services to some 50,000 residents throughout



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