

Société Alzheimer Society WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY

Celebrating 40 Years. Help for Today. Hope for Tomorrow.

Founders 1981 December 2, 2021

Marilyn Brown-Skinner (1933 – 2010) George Sims (1920 – 2004)

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Sally Bennett Olczak 2002 – Present **RE:** Accreditation with Canadian Centre for Accreditation 2022 "The Quality Journey"

Dear Clients, Persons Living with Dementia, Care Partners and Families:

The Alzheimer Society of Windsor and Essex County (ASWE) is committed to quality and safe dementia-care programming, and service excellence. As such, ASWE is preparing to undergo the first accreditation cycle with the Canadian Centre for Accreditation (CCA). CCA is a national, not-for-profit organization offering accreditation specifically tailored to community-based health and social services across Canada.

Accreditation is important because it helps to create better health care and social services for you, your care partner, family, and our community. It allows organizations like ours, to understand how to make better use of resources, increase efficiency, enhance quality and safety, and reduce risk.

Accreditation standards consist of several themes which include areas such as:

- Leadership e.g., ethical decision-making, risk management,
- client, persons living with dementia, and care partners safety e.g., medication management, incident, and complaint reporting,
- demonstration of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI),
- creating a safe and healthy work life environment for staff, students, and volunteers,
- maximizing the use of technology,
- applying current infection prevention and control principles, and
- ensuring safe and quality service delivery.

The accreditation process begins by preparing for a site survey, taking place from **November 22nd to Wednesday November 23rd, 2022**. The preparation involves reviewing processes, developing and/or revising current policies and procedures, forms, manuals etc., and training and education with staff, students, and volunteers. Therefore, we must begin early and at various times, may enlist your support to participate in our preparation phase.

The "Accreditation" process is exciting and informative. We will provide you with regular updates as we progress through the process. Along the way, we ask you to continue your role in safety by communicating with our care teams to report any illness or any other information which may affect care.

Thank you, once again for your support towards our quality journey.

Respectfully,

Sally Bennett Olczak, CEO

Alzheimer Society of Windsor and Essex County