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Good Shepherd  
Faith in people.

## **Notice of Proposed Voluntary Integration of the SAM Program and Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton**

August 19, 2015

**Good Shepherd** and the **Seniors Activation Maintenance (SAM) Program** are working to integrate their services for older adults and for adults requiring supports in the community. A proposal for the voluntary integration of the SAM Program with Good Shepherd Centre Hamilton is being submitted to the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN) for consideration.

Following the proposed voluntary consolidation, Good Shepherd would become the program's coordinating agency with a target date of April 1, 2016. SAM service will continue for all clients without any program disruptions. The day programs will still operate under the "SAM Program" name.

The SAM Program has been in operation since 1981. SAM is a not-for-profit Adult Day program for seniors and adults with diminished abilities who live in the community. SAM offers of a variety of activities designed to maintain and enhance the well-being of the participants. SAM offers a variety of physical, social, creative and mentally stimulating activities, as well as a meal and assistance with personal care. An on-site registered nurse addresses health and wellness.

Additional support for people participating in activities sets the SAM Program apart from other local drop-in Senior's Centres. Physical, cognitive or communication challenges are accommodated with a focus on what people "can do" not on what they "can't do". Program sites in East Hamilton, Central Hamilton and Waterdown support the growing needs of the older adult population in the community.

Good Shepherd has been serving Hamilton since 1961. Good Shepherd offers a continuum of services to people in need in our community. For older adults, it offers supportive housing to older adults requiring assisted living services in order for them to remain in their own home. As well, Good Shepherd provides community support services for adults in the form of personal needs and care services. End-of-life care is provided at Emmanuel House and palliative care outreach services in the broader community.

SAM and Good Shepherd have already been successfully working together for two years with the relocation of the SAM Central site and SAM Administration office to the Good Shepherd Seniors Wellness Centre site. We have similar values and goals in care for seniors and other adults and look forward to new opportunities for clients and staff.

The goals of this proposed integration are:

1. To take advantage of organizational infrastructure in order to redeploy resources for front line services
2. To deliver these services in a manner that provides a seamless spectrum of services to older adults including enhanced case coordination and patient focused care
3. To ensure that staff have the most appropriate skill set to deliver care to their clients

This integration will build upon the strengths of both organizations and position us to take advantage of emerging needs in community based care. The resulting consolidation will support an enhanced response to the needs of the growing older adult population in our community.

**To express any concerns or for more information regarding this proposed integration, please contact:**

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