

## **Family Council Meeting Minutes**

December 12, 2006

Refer to participant sign in sheet for those in attendance.

### **Introduction & Welcome**

Kyra Smith, Director of Social Work, welcomed everyone and thanked him or her for attending. She then introduced Margaret Haroff, Administrator.

Ms. Haroff notified everyone that on the day of the meeting, the nursing home was undergoing one of three scheduled emergency generator tests. The testing is scheduled to last for 5 hours each. The purpose is not only for emergency preparedness to ensure the functioning of the emergency generator during power outages but to also evaluate the services currently on emergency power and those which may require further justification for budgeted upgrades to the generator for the Wayne County Board of Supervisors. A question was raised if the upgrades were related to the size of the generator or to the switches. Mrs. Haroff responded that the size of the generator is sufficient, the connections or the switches to the generator is being evaluated. She further stated that items not on the generator are being listed and prioritized, for example, following the first test, it was discovered that only one outlet in the resident rooms has emergency power, often leaving resident without TVs.

A family member inquired how resident transportation was going after the change in cleaners/driver positions. Mrs. Haroff replied that transportation is going well with the outside transportation companies being used. Families inquired if this was saving the county money and Mrs. Haroff explained that the change is "cost neutral".

### **WCNH Foundation**

Mrs. Haroff then introduced Rita Otterbein and distributed an overview of the WCNH Foundation, a 501C3 non-profit foundation, incorporated for the benefit of the residents. Contributions to the foundation can be claimed as a tax deduction for the donor. A review of the foundation projects to date includes the butterfly garden, the garden club, the pasta dinner. The goal for the upcoming year is to further publicize for the Foundation, but help and increased membership is necessary. Family inquired if the money from the present Festival of Trees went to the Foundation but were informed that the benefits when directly to the Resident Activity Fund.

### **Medicare D**

Mrs. Haroff then introduced Christopher Phallen and June Ciminelli from NCS/Omnicare, the nursing home contracted pharmacy provider. Chris distributed current information on Medicare D, informing everyone that there will be new Medicare D PDP (Pharmaceutical Drug Plans) effective January 2007. For those residents in the nursing home who are currently enrolled in either GHI or Silver script, those residents should be receiving a letter from Medicare (one blue paper) with information on a new plan for 2007. Omni care provided a list of those eight residents, who will be affected, to Kyra Smith. Chris also reviewed the advantages of enrolling in "Long Term Care Friendly" PDPs under Omni care. Dr. Marrow, the nursing home Medical Director, attended the 2:00pm meeting and reinforced the benefits of enrolling in long-term care friendly PDPs and the attempt to reduce the number of PDPs from a medical management perspective. The home currently has over 40 PDPs to manage. Chris and June then reviewed individual coverage and options for those families and specific residents attending the meetings. Omni care noted that the good news following the implementation of Medicare D is a cost savings to the nursing home, as medications are no longer taken from the daily rate.