
Erie St. Clair Local Health Integration Network

October 27, 2010

AMERHERSTURG COMMUNITY SERVICES PROVIDING A HELPING HAND AND HUMAN TOUCH

Meals on Wheels and Friendly Security Checks are two amongst many community support services that are provided by Amherstburg Community Services (ACS).

Loreeda Mousseau, a 94 year old retired school teacher who resides in LaSalle, Ontario, currently receives Meals on Wheels daily and meets with her Friendly Visitor on a weekly basis. "These programs keep me in touch with what's going on, give me ideas and different perspectives, but the best part is they keep me connected," said Loreeda Mosseau.

Due to poor health and limited mobility, Loreeda relies on these services. Loreeda's friendly visitor Annette, happens to be a school teacher whom she can connect and share stories with. Loreeda has also made friends with volunteers that deliver her meals on a daily basis and she even receives homemade gifts from Sandy – her meals on wheels driver. Loreeda is grateful for the programs in assisting her in maintaining an independent lifestyle and helping her stay connected to the community.

June Fox, an 83 year old Amherstburg resident had difficulty caring for her ill spouse, Ray, when she herself was not in the best of health. She turned to ACS programs, Meals on Wheels, Care-A-Van (transportation services) and Security Reassurance (friendly phone calls). Although June's husband Ray passed away September 10, 2010 after a long illness, she describes that while caring for Ray volunteers were kind and considerate of their situation. "It is a comfort to know that there is someone who cares and has gone through similar experiences," said Jane in reflection of this time.

The drivers were patient and careful when transporting Ray to his various appointments and receiving a friendly phone call helped June, as she was not able to get out much. June feels fortunate that there are so many programs that helped keep Ray home and continue to keep her in the comfort of her own home.

For more information on Community Support Services, visit www.ocsa.on.ca.