

GuestHouse

A home away from home



Premier Dalton McGuinty Kicks Off the Sod-Turning Ceremony for the Guest House - *A home away from home* August 18, 2006

On August 18, 2006, the sod turning ceremony of the Guest House -- *A home away from home* was held on the grounds of the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre with the help of Premier Dalton McGuinty. Close to 200 supporters and donors of this project attended. This one-of-a-kind respite program fills a well-identified gap in community support for people affected by dementia. Occupancy date is expected in March 2007.

"By arranging a respite stay in the Guest House for loved ones with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia, family caregivers will be able to reenergize in order to continue caring for their spouse or parent at home. The Province has recognized the need for smaller community-based homes for people with dementia, and is leading the way by providing operational funding for the Guest House," said Richard Charlebois, Chair of the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre Board of Directors.

GuestHouse

A home away from home

The Guest House is the result of a partnership of three organizations, the Perley Rideau and Veterans' Health Centre, Alzheimer Society of Ottawa, and the Victorian Order of Nurses Ottawa-Renfrew County Branch. It is an 8,000 square foot, 12-bedroom bungalow that will provide respite services for people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The Guest House will operate year-round, 24 hours a day, with emergency, overnight, and flexible accommodation available. Each guest may access the Guest House for up to 90 days per year.

In Ottawa, there are approximately 10,000 people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This number does not include family members and carers who must also cope with the effects of Alzheimer's disease.

Thanks to the support of individuals, businesses, and organizations in Ottawa, across the country and overseas, \$2.3 M of the \$2.8 M required to build the Guest House has been raised, and the City of Ottawa has generously agreed to waive building fees.

The partnering organizations are confident the Friends of the Guest House Capital Campaign will be successful in raising the final \$500,000 needed to complete the construction of this respite bungalow. To make a donation in support of the Guest House, contact the Campaign Office at 613-526-7170 ext. 2200 or foundation@prvhc.com

