



Addiction & Mental Health Services | services de lutte contre les dépendances et de santé mentale
Kingston Frontenac Lennox & Addington

News Release

For Immediate Release

Sept. 6, 2019

AMHS-KFLA is Expanding Access to Specialized Rehabilitative Care for Clients

Addiction and Mental Health Services – Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington (AMHS-KFLA) is pleased to announce the official completion of a capital build designed to enable the provision of a specialized rehabilitation program that will better support clients in their recovery journey.

On Wednesday August 28th, Karen Berti, AMHS-KFLA Supervisor, was joined by members of the Agency's care team and partners for a ribbon cutting and viewing of its new 43-unit state-of-the-art building. Through partnership with the City of Kingston, AMHS-KFLA has expanded their capacity in the community to support more clients with serious mental illness access specialized rehabilitation supports with wrap-around care (24 hours a day/7 days a week).

AMHS-KFLA was pleased to commemorate this achievement with Mayor Bryan Paterson, City of Kingston, Mr. Mark Gerretsen, MP Kingston and the Islands, Mr. Randy Hillier, MPP Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston and Ms. Kate Betts-Wilmott representing Mr. Ian Arthur, MPP Kingston and the Islands. Representatives from the City of Kingston's Housing and Social Services Department and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing were in attendance and recognized for their contributions to this success.

Quotes:

"In joining the Agency seven months ago, a key focus of my attention has been on ensuring these doors open to members of our communities needing specialized rehabilitation. Receiving occupancy of this building is an achievement that signals AMHS-KFLA's progress in returning to its core mandate with a focus on providing supportive care within housing for our clients.

This capital project was initiated in 2012, experienced challenges along the way, and evolved in size and scope. The building was designed with advanced accessibility and efficiency features, inclusive of a geothermal system that will reduce our carbon footprint and yield a 40 per cent savings from that of conventional ones.

This build provides clients access to their own apartment-style living unit, with wrap around support from our multi-disciplinary care teams to help build skills that will enable them to transition successfully, in their own time, to a more independent living setting. It is here, family members will know their loved ones will be better supported in their recovery journey than in the current residential group home setting.

This accomplishment is the result of hard work and the dedication of many at the Agency, past and present. There is no question that this is a beautiful legacy for all involved."

Karen Berti, AMHS-KFLA Supervisor

“Housing is a top priority for Council and of real importance to all our residents. We’re looking at innovative ways to address the pressure on our housing market. This building is inspiring and exactly the sort of innovation we need! These units will house an underserved population, those with serious mental illness, and include 24-hour care among other specially designed features. Thrilled to see this supportive housing project complete!”

Mayor Bryan Paterson, City of Kingston

" As a front-line staff member within AMHS-KFLA, supporting clients and their families, it is an exciting time for our Agency to finally see the completion of this vision. I believe, we are setting new standards for client-care, and are moving in a direction that is innovative and positive, not only in how care is provided, but to how staff teams will collaborate and nurture a positive care culture.

As an agency, we had to evolve to continue to offer the type of care those we serve so rightly deserve. With the support of our community partners and Karen herself, we will continue to push the boundaries in being compassionate, innovative, excellent, and accountable, in everything we do.”

Michael Switzer, AMHS-KFLA Staff

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24 Hour Crisis Line

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AMHS-KFLA is your local leader in mental health and addictions services and is strengthening our programs to support clients we care for and respond to a growing demand for care across our communities. We provide responsive, confidential, non-judgmental, community-based addiction and mental health services to nearly 8,000 individuals in Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. Our vision is a community where people have wellness, acceptance and a sense of belonging.