

Family Council Matters

MVH-Minneapolis

February, 2009

A Letter from Kirk Larson, Chairperson

Hello! And welcome to the very first edition of the Family Council Matters Newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend one of our monthly meetings, so we can get better acquainted. The Family Council is comprised of family members and friends who have a loved one living at the MVH-Minneapolis. To give you some idea about the Family Council, our vision consists of families and friends supporting families and friends. In addition, Family Council members participate in the ultimate partnership with the Administration at MVH-Minneapolis. Please consider this letter as an open invitation for you to attend one of our monthly meetings. You can be assured that the experience of family members and friends supporting one another at the meetings -- is a good one. Not only that, by attending the meetings on behalf of your loved one, and sharing your ideas, your concerns, and your successes -- all of these are invaluable input about which other family members and friends, as well as the Administration, will benefit from knowing. Without a doubt, you are a vital link in the chain that delivers dignified and respectful care to your loved one. And by attending Family Council Meetings, that chain is strengthened. Monthly meetings are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month. **Have a heart and join us at the February Meeting, which just so happens to fall on Valentine's Day this year!** More information about the meeting follows.



Saturday, February 14th, 2009

12:30pm till 2:00pm

Building 15, Center of Excellence [Room Below the Auditorium]

Speaker: Reverend John Steiner, Chaplain

Thanks for considering this invitation. We look forward to seeing you at a meeting sometime soon.

Regards,

Kirk Larson
Family Council Chairperson
MVH-Minneapolis

New Staff at MVH-Minneapolis

Mary Zabel, Assistant Administrator
Ron Kaylor, Quality Management Director
Reverend Jim Leith, Chaplain
Reverend John Steiner, Chaplain



Family Council Web Page

The Family Council web page is located at www.mvh.state.mn.us. Once that page opens, in the left-hand column, click on **Family Council**. Once that page opens, at the bottom, click on **Minneapolis**, which opens an **About Us** page that includes links to other information at the top. One link opens our **By-Laws**, and under another, titled **Meeting Minutes and Articles**, you will find several documents, to include Meeting Minutes, as well as a **Quarterly Care Conferences Guidelines for Families**, **Tips for Visits with Our Loved Ones who Struggle with Dementia**, and even a copy of the Family Council's **Testimony at Senator Vickerman's January 15, 2009, Committee Meeting**. There is lots of other information, so check it out one day when you have a few minutes.

Up Close and Personal



This is a photo of Ted Barott, who has lived at the MVH-Minneapolis since January, 2000. Ted is pictured with

his daughter, Diane (Barott) Windham, who is the Family Council Co-Chairperson. Ted was in the Navy during the Korean War. A brain hemorrhage in 1965 catapulted the then nearly-31-year-old Ted into a life that was dramatically different from anything he had ever known. Ted is a survivor who has lived in long term care institutions for more than 40 years. Unfortunately, the damage to his brain has locked away the wealth of knowledge that he has surely gained over the years. In any case, he is living the good life these days -- with Maria, his closest and genuinely devoted caregiver, at his side. More information about Ted can be found on his website, which is located at ... www.caringbridge.org/visit/tedbarott

If you would like to see a photo and brief story about you and your loved one who lives at the MVH-Minneapolis -- in this corner of the newsletter, please contact the Family Council.

Family Council Officers Contact Information

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2009 Meeting Dates

Second Saturday of Each Month

February 14

March 14

April 11

May 9

June 13

July 11

August 8

September 12

October 10

November 14

December 12