
Substance Abuse and the Elderly –

**The Trinity Place Foundation of
Alberta Experience**

Self Contained Seniors Accommodation

- ❑ Located in downtown Calgary
 - ❑ 833 apartments in four buildings
 - ❑ Rent is geared to income – 30 percent plus utilities
 - ❑ Owned by the Province of Alberta
 - ❑ Managed by Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta
 - ❑ Linked to plus 15 – City Hall/Stephen Avenue Mall
 - ❑ Wheel chair accessible
 - ❑ Social space, kitchen, coin operated laundry, computers with internet access, and library.
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Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta

MISSION STATEMENT

- To enrich the quality of life of low-income Seniors in Calgary with innovative programs and services and the effective administration of the housing we manage.
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Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta

VISION

- A leading Calgary Seniors Organization seeking continuous improvement in the quality of its facilities, services, and supports to low-income Seniors.
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Tenant Characteristics

- Average annual income March 2002 - \$12,661.00
 - Marital status
 - Divorced/Separated – 35.2%
 - Married/Common law – 14.8%
 - Single – 19.7%
 - Widowed – 29.6%
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Tenant Characteristics

■ Income Sources

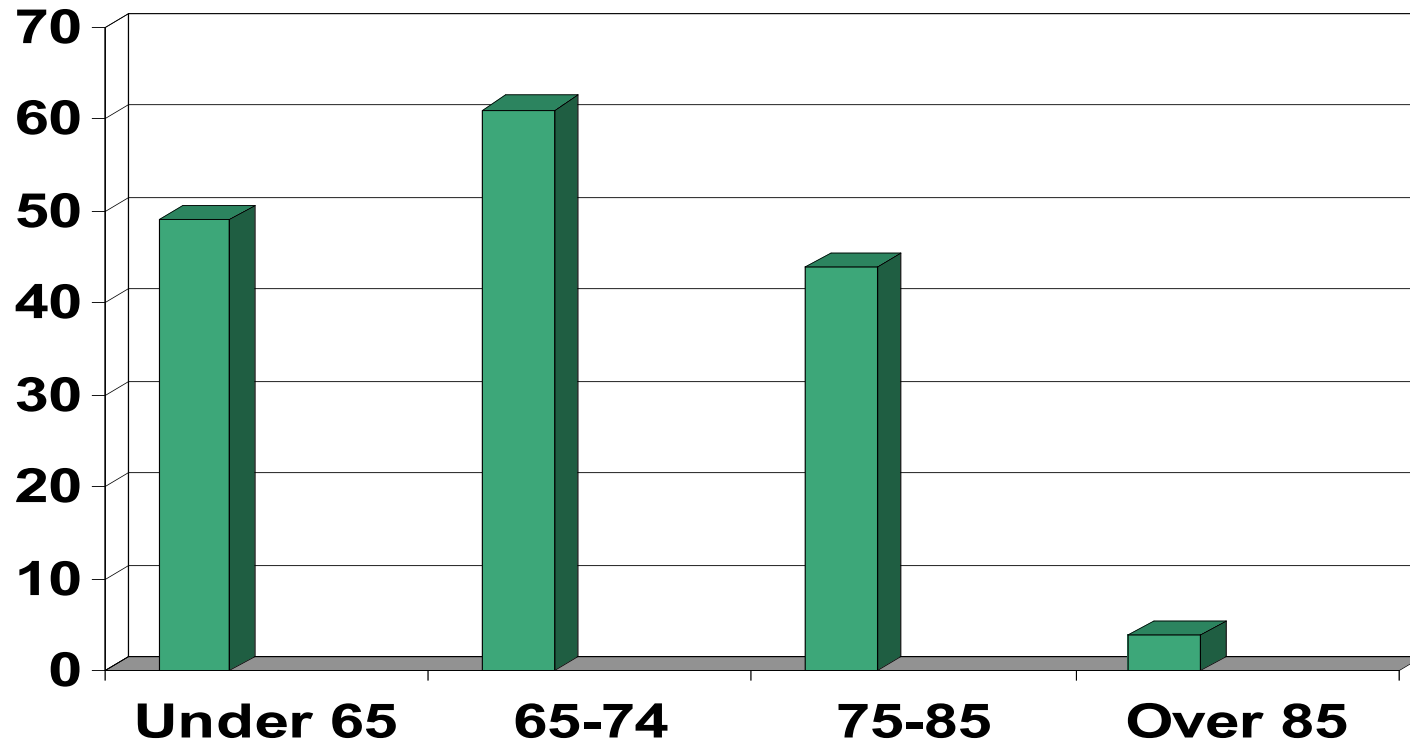
- ❑ Employment Income – 4.2 %
 - ❑ Unemployment Income – 1.4%
 - ❑ Pension Income – 78.2%
 - ❑ Social Assistance – 6.3%
 - ❑ Family support and other – 34.5%
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Tenant Characteristics:

■ Ethnicity

- ❑ East Asian – 33%
 - ❑ Asian – 13%
 - ❑ Canadian – 27%
 - ❑ European – 10.5%
 - ❑ Philippines – 9%
 - ❑ Latin America – 6%
 - ❑ USA – 1%
 - ❑ Caribbean -0.5%
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Tenant Composition by age



A Partnership Approach to Client Service

- We work closely with several agencies and service providers to provide needed tenant supports
 - Alexandra Health Care Centre – Seniors Health Clinic
 - Calgary Seniors Resource Society
 - Bethany Care Society
 - Calgary Catholic Immigration Society
 - AADAC
 - Connecting Generations
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Alexandra Health Care Centre

- The Seniors Health Clinic is renovating and locating in King Tower
 - The clinic includes the services of
 - 2 full time physicians
 - 1 nurse practitioner
 - 1 social worker
 - 1 recreation therapist
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Bethany Care Society

- Through a partnership arrangement, a part time nurse position is made available to the tenants at Carter Place.
 - The focus of this position is on prevention, support, referral, and collaboration
 - Works closely with existing services such as Home Care.
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AADAC

- AADAC funds a smoking cessation program for the tenants in all four buildings.
 - Utilizes a self-help approach on the assumption that seniors who choose to smoke need the support and encouragement of other seniors to meet their objectives to reduce or eliminate smoking.
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Community Resource Coordinator

- Grant from Community Lottery Board
 - Partnership with:
 - Calgary Health Region
 - Alberta Seniors Department
 - Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta
 - Gracewood Housing
 - Advisory and Working Committees Formed
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Community Resource Coordinator

Service Coordination within the Building

- Advocate with service providers to meet the changing needs of the residents.
 - Coordination among service providers
 - Promote collaboration and partnerships
 - Maximize the use of limited resources
 - Monitor satisfaction and adequacy of services
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Community Resource Coordinator

Facilitating Services outside of Edwards Place

- Alexandra Seniors Clinic
 - Pharmacists
 - Calgary Family Services
 - Veterans Affairs
 - AADAC
 - Laboratory Services
 - Tom Baker Cancer Centre
 - Red Cross
 - Food Bank
 - Transportation
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Programs and Services Developed at Edwards Place by the CRC

- Capsule of Life
 - Rounds by regular service providers to enhance coordination
 - Presentations – Fall Prevention, Fire Safety, Personal Safety
 - Tax Clinics
 - Shopping Buses
 - Classes – ESL, Exercise
 - Seniors PHN monthly clinic
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OUTPUTS during March 2002

- a typical month

- 87.5 hrs. direct service
 - 18 Office Visits
 - 82 Home Visits
 - 36 Other Sites
 - 45 Phone Calls
 - 15 hrs. case notes
 - 6.5 hrs. Social Work Student supervision
 - 32 hours in agency collaboration.
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Indicators – March 2002

out of 146 tenants

- 9 – Kirby Shopping Program
 - 6 – Meals on Wheels
 - 13 – Seniors PHN
 - 8 – Foot care
 - 3 – Department of Veterans Affairs
 - 5 – Palliative Care
 - 9 – Calgary Cooperative Memorial Society
 - 46 – Capsule of Life
 - 23 – Home Care Coordinator
 - 26 – Receiving homemaker/PCA services
 - 9 – ESL students and 2 tutorial students
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OUTCOMES

| Year | Total Emergency Department Visits | Costs for EMS and visit to ER \$1000 each | Number of inpatient admissions | Estimated costs for Hospital \$800/day |
|--------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 1999 – 2000 | 117 | \$117,000 | 73 | \$702,552 |
| 2000 – 2001 | 114 | \$114,000 | 66 | \$635,184 |
| 2001 – 2002 | 59 | \$59,000 | 38 | \$365,600 |

OUTCOMES – Savings to the Health Care System

Assuming that the average length of stay did not vary from 1999 – 2002 we calculate the savings from reduced inpatient admissions to be \$336,840.00.

The savings calculated from reduced EMS visits is \$58,000.

Total savings = \$394,840.00

Outcomes - Limitations

- The correlation between the impact of the CRC and the reduction in hospital admissions and EMS usage is not clearly understood.
 - We believe that as tenants learn to access available resources, EMS is seen as a last resort.
 - We believe that hospitalizations are reduced because tenants are able to access needed community medical services and supports in a timely fashion.
 - Further study is needed to test these assumptions.
 - During this study, there were no enhancements in services that might explain the reductions observed.
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