



October 11, 2017

Dear Staff Member,

I want to inform you of a new program that the ProMedica Goerlich Center is participating in through a Grant Program: Reality Comprehension Clock Test (RCCT) that tells more than just time. I attended a sixteen-hour workshop where I received certification in testing the RCCT on our residents. The grant program is conducted over a three-year time span. The RCCT tells us what a resident's functional age is, global deterioration age, potential deficits, and visual spatial awareness. The functional age explains what remaining brain power is left for an individual, scored in years and months. The global deterioration stage explains the scale for assessment of primary degenerative dementia. The visual spatial awareness can help determine if the resident is at risk for falls. By knowing all of this, we the care givers at the Goerlich Center staff will be able to better cater to our resident's needs. The Grant Program is lead by Diana Waugh, author of, "I was Thinking," based on her life of living with her mother who had dementia. You will find her book on each unit, for each individual resident who is displaying negative behaviors or is on an antipsychotic. We are doing gradual dose reductions on these residents, and trying non-pharmacological interventions. It is important that you use these books, as they have very detailed information about the resident and solid interventions you could use to help them through the day. It is an expectation that we follow these books.

With this in mind the Goerlich Center is now going to offer chatter bags that Residents are encouraged to use! The chatter bags can be used in several different ways. They can just be a conversation starter, a way to have intergenerational programming with kids, or help when your resident is reminiscing. I invite you to stop in and take a look at some of the things we have available that may help trigger memories and promote conversation with your residents. The chatter bags will be located in the front lobby. In addition to the chatter bags, the Goerlich Center has a mural located on Guild (Between Country Road and Central Park). This mural was produced and donated by Bowling Green State University students. The mural is titled by the Goerlich Center as *Dancing Through Time* and you may notice a few movie themes throughout it. The mural also has 3-D parts that we encourage your residents to touch. I welcome you to take your residents on a little stroll to the mural and you may be surprised the conversation it sparks between you and your residents. Another place we encourage you to take your loved one is to our newspaper stand which is located in the front lobby. While there, you can grab a cup of coffee and sit down on the couch and read the newspaper while watching the birds! Finally, we are also offering a reminiscing board that you are welcome to visit with your residents! The reminiscing board will be located in the front lobby.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please let me know and I would be happy to meet with you!

Thank you,



Connie Coughlin  
Unit Manager  
ProMedica Goerlich Center