**Social Work Department**

Bridgepoint Social Workers are Unit based with one member of the team on each Unit other than 9S & N/4N/6S which share support. All of the Social Workers have a Masters in Social Work and work to the full scope of their practice. The discipline operates from a psychosocial perspective taking into account the bio/psycho/social determinants of health for patients at Bridgepoint. The main roles of the Social Work team are:

* To provide emotional and practical support for patients as they come to terms with significant changes in their health status and function
* To act as the main point of contact between patients/families/caregivers and the care team – Social Workers usually arrange family meetings
* To act as the main point of contact between patients and community supports
* To take the lead in discharge planning, may involve finding housing or a discharge destination.
* To work with patients in a counselling role to enable them to optimise their stay at Bridgepoint (may involve support for addictions, mental health concerns, isolation)
* To make referrals to appropriate external community supports and to advocate for patients’ needs
* To assist patients/families with instrumental tasks such as applying for income support (OAS, ODSP, etc.), obtaining ID and Health Cards, Immigration concerns and similar practical things
* To provide behaviour management support for patients and Teams
* Social Workers also coordinate patient rounds in many Teams

Social Workers collaborate with all members of the patient’s care team in addition to maintaining a significant connection with many external organisations. Interprofessional collaboration, information provision and a systems perspective are all key attributes of Bridgepoint Social Workers.

#### I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do. Edward Everett Hale