



HEALTH RECRUITMENT PARTNERSHIP

CONFERENCE CALL

8:30 A.M.

April 4, 2022

1. Disclosures of Conflict of Interest
2. Confirmation of Minutes : March 7, 2021
3. Activity Report and Recruitment Projects : Cheryl Fish, Health Recruiter
Attached
4. New Business
5. Unfinished Business
6. Next Meeting
7. Adjournment

St. Thomas –Elgin Recruitment Committee

Update Report

March 2022

Activities:

- 1) I'm extremely pleased to advise that an agreement has been signed between Dr. Gregory and Dr. Ikafia for him to take over the practice on May 31st. Until this time Dr. Ikafia will be a locum to cover Dr. Gregory's patients. The paperwork has been signed and submitted to the Ministry and Dr. Ikafia has met with Sandra Datars Bere to request the incentive fund. I'm so happy for Dr. Gregory that he can retire with the peace of mind that his patients will be well taken care of. Dr. Ikafia has been practicing for many years in B.C. His wife will be completing her medical training in the U.S. in June and they have 2 young sons. They are very happy to be coming back together and are looking forward to being in Southwestern Ontario. Dr. Ikafia will be a wonderful asset to our medical community.
- 2) The St. Thomas-Elgin Health Recruitment Partnership will once again this year provide support to the St. Thomas-Elgin Medical Association (STEMA) by providing the funding for door prizes at their Dr. McLay Miller dinner hosted at the Golf Course on April 30th. In return for this support we are provided with 2 complimentary tickets which I can offer to a Resident or new grad that has expressed an interest in practicing in Elgin County. Once again I have been offered the opportunity to purchase a ticket to attend. My ability to attend this event has offered a great opportunity to network with our medical community.
- 3) A survey of our scholarship recipients identified that the best date for the majority of them to attend a dinner during March break was Monday March 21st. I made arrangements at the St Thomas Golf Course. The timing was good for the scholarship recipients however it meant that several of our committee members were unable to attend. I revised the guest list and decided to invite a number of our recently recruited new physicians. I'm pleased to advise that Dr. Bolzon, Dr. Robinson and Dr. Bell supported this event. Many thanks to Julie at the County who also provided two special guests. The evening was a great success and personalized "Thank You" notes have been sent to everyone who participated.
- 4) In the month of March I had the pleasure of speaking with three (3) new grads. They will be completing their training in June 2022. All the opportunities which exist in St Thomas and Elgin County were discussed and arrangements were made for them to have ongoing communication with the retiring physicians and contact was established with representatives from other clinics where practice opportunities are available.

- 5) I reached out to Sheri Nolan at STEGH and arranged a time to have a telephone call to provide an orientation on the Recruitment committee and also on what our roles have been in the past to host "Discovery Week". I think Sheri found this helpful and is looking forward to participating at our next committee meeting scheduled for Monday April 4th.
- 6) We have been advised that Discovery Week will take place this year and Sheri has confirmed that 6 students will be hosted the week of May 30-June 3rd. I'm pleased to advise that Cindy Bratt the Executive Director at the East Elgin Family Health Team has decided they would like to host 4 students. I contacted Cindy and suggested that we all work together to host a combined event as we have done in the past. Sheri, Cindy and I will be meeting on Thursday March 31st to start the planning for placements and events.
- 7) Contact information was received from Sheri at STEGH on Residents doing placements with them from March 7- April 11th. Six (6) emails were sent to placements offering to have telephone calls to discuss the practice opportunities that are available in St Thomas and Elgin County now and what will be coming available in the near future. I have heard back from 2 Residents so far. Follow up will take place before the end of their placement.
- 8) This month I re-established our contacts at Westervelt College. My original contact has retired and I'm pleased to say that Karla McConnaghy will be providing us with the same services. If a new or existing physician requires clinical office staff then Westervelt will be happy to post for free the job description on their web site. Both Dr. Ikafia and Dr. Ajogwu are utilizing this service.
- 9) I have had two requests this month for locum coverage over the summer. As you may recall I keep a list of new grads looking to do locums and put them in contact with physicians in our area who are in need of coverage.
- 10) Thanks to Dr. Scott for forwarding the information from the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) regarding the event they host for retiring physicians to meet with Residents looking to take over a practice. This event is hosted in London on May 11th. I have passed it along to Dr. Toth and Dr. Grigore.
- 11) Once again I met with Mike McMahon, Executive Director for the Thames Valley Family Health Team (TVFHT). We continue with discussions on what the TVFHT could offer to our existing and new physicians. Once more details have been proposed Mr. McMahon will be scheduled to meet with our committee.

Submitted by: Cheryl Fish – Health Recruiter