

# Developing a *Campus of Care*



## Mount Nemo, Shalom Manor & Gardens and Wellingstone Christian Home

September 2017

For several years now Mount Nemo Christian Nursing Home, Shalom Manor and Wellingstone Christian Home have been working on a '*Campus of Care*' concept with a view to having a new and multi-service location for serving the seniors in our reformed communities. Such a Campus of Care would include possibilities for independent living, assisted living, and long term care. These different types of living situations can be described as follows:

- **Independent Living**: Complete apartment units in which residents, singles or couples, look after all their own needs or have some individual arrangements for some services. Examples are Ebenezer Villa, Evergreen Terrace located next to Shalom and Wellingstone Christian Home.
- **Assisted Living**: Somewhat smaller apartment units in which residents, singles or couples, have living and sleeping arrangements but also a set of helpful services such as cleaning, laundry, congregate dining, personal support. An example is Shalom Gardens.
- **Long Term Care**: Complete nursing and personal care. Examples are Mount Nemo and Shalom Manor.

These first years have been spent in finding the best way of bringing together these three separate organizations since each one has its own membership, its own levels of governance and responsibilities, and its own focus. At the same time we needed to find an appropriate location for this new development and this involved having the helpful co-operation of Mount Hamilton Christian Reformed Church. And constantly threaded throughout these two steps (and always continuing) we have to seek the 'political' support of government ministries and of councillors, MPPs, and MPs via multiple meetings and discussions. Today, by God's grace, the basic building blocks for this project are in place and a general update for our respective communities is in order.

**LOCATION:** The planned location is the property directly behind Wellingstone Christian Home in Hamilton. A portion of this property is vacant land that Wellingstone has donated to the project. Abutting this land is the Mount Hamilton Christian Reformed Church. The Church has plans to move and therefore Shalom was able to enter into a purchase and sale agreement with the Church for that property. The result is a single piece of land that can accommodate building the wished for facilities, that is next to the already existing independent living units of Wellingstone.

**FACILITIES:** The main focus will be building a new 64-bed long term care facility on the property and moving Mount Nemo to the new home, under the management of Shalom. Mount Nemo is under Ministry directive to upgrade its facilities but such an upgrade cannot be accommodated in its present location. A move is necessary and accomplishing this under the umbrella of Shalom has the beneficial





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effect of having Shalom's Christian focus, experience, and good reputation. Concurrently, we will be pursuing the addition of Assisted Living units on the same property since the total land space appears sufficient. We will also look for ways and means to connect all three facilities (Wellingstone Independent Living Units, Assisted Living Units, and Long Term Care) so that residents may easily go from one facility to another and also possibly share some services such as dining, laundry and personal support. In this way the concept of a single and unified '*Campus of Care*' may be realized. We have been greatly helped in coming to an understanding of the needs and possibilities for such a '*Campus*' by having made tours of several other campus of care type facilities in Ontario.



**ORGANIZATION:** The amalgamation of Mount Nemo and Shalom is under the direction of the Integration Committee (IC) which includes representation from Mount Nemo and Shalom Boards and is responsible to their respective Boards. This IC has retained Konnie Peet (former CEO of Shalom) as the re-development project manager. The overall concept of the '*Campus of Care*' is under the direction of the Campus of Care Committee which includes Board representatives from Wellingstone in addition to all the members of the IC. Two major committees, but one single united project.

**Target "move-in"  
goal is 2021 (DV)**

**TIME LINE:** The full project is now at the stage where we can begin the development of more firm architectural drawings and site plans, expanding on the specifics of financial plans, drafting applications for permits, submitting finalized documents for Ministry re-development approval, etc. These steps all take quite some time and need to be finalized before 'a shovel hits the ground.' Therefore our preliminary target date for 'moving in' is 2021, the Lord willing.

**FINANCING:** In addition to donations already promised/received from each of the three organizations we also will be looking to our collective communities for support. A certain level of 'donated support' needs to be in place before construction financing can be obtained. To that end the IC has organized a financial advisory committee to make plans for raising funds. Progress continues.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Lord's blessing the 'dream' of having a single 'campus of care' in a centralized location, through the co-operation of three very distinct organizations is well on its way to becoming a reality. Much work still needs to be done, but the unity of spirit bodes well for the unity of the project. The persons involved continue to seek the guidance and blessing of the Lord.

### **Committee Members:**

#### **Mount Nemo Representatives**

Hank Gelderman (hgelderman@gelderman.com)  
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#### **Shalom Representatives**

Eric DeVries, chairman of Shalom Board (ericdevries@gmail.com)  
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#### **Wellingstone Representatives**

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