

PROJECT UPDATES

SAFE PLACES FOR AGING AND CARE

DECEMBER 2022

WRAPPING UP YEAR 2

We have completed the first two years of the four-year Canadian Institutes of Health Research-funded Safe Places for Aging and Care project. We have many achievements and transitions to celebrate, including the continued commitment of our knowledge user advisory committee; the success and advancement of former trainees, remote and in-person data collection in Manitoba; the beginning of data collection in Nova Scotia; and several project outputs.



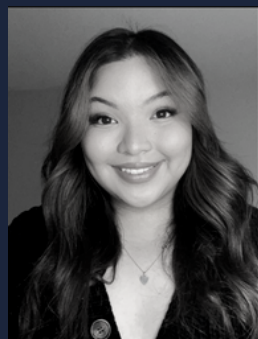
OUR EVOLVING TEAM



Kirsten Brooks



Shelby Pellerin



Patricia Estacio

We welcome new staff to the project. Kirsten Brooks has joined us as a new Manitoba-based Research Assistant. Shelby Pellerin and Patricia Estacio continue to contribute to the data collection, analysis, and reporting on their project. Several trainees have moved onto new training opportunities. Research Coordinator Madeleine Kruth began Medical School in the fall, Kyrra Rauch began Law School, Alyssa Weeks began her Master's in International Development Studies at Dalhousie University and Dr. Sheila Novek has started a CIHR-funded post doctoral fellowship at UBC. We are proud of the contributions of these team members and their transition to new opportunities beyond the project.

We would like to thank our knowledge user advisory committee for the contributions they have made and continue to make to this project. Their knowledge and expertise are invaluable.

DATA COLLECTION

The 2022 year was a year of transition for the team in terms of data collection. The team wrapped up an online survey in Manitoba, which included 103 respondents, predominantly staff, and focused on experiences of violence in long-term care settings. After a period of no in-person research, the research team also partnered with a long-term care facility to conduct in-person observational research and explore what promising practices for violence prevention look like in practice. The team spent two weeks in the facility (June 6-17th 2022). The research team took notes about what was happening in the common areas. As a team, we were very impressed with what they saw, particularly in relation to the skill, time, teamwork, and relational approaches used to mitigate violence. We noted some challenges related to evening shifts when there were fewer staff, there was more staff turnover, and residents appeared to be more agitated.

In Nova Scotia, we launched the same survey conducted in Manitoba in April 2022. To date we have received 89 responses. Interviews have also been completed with interested survey participants. Data collection will continue in Nova Scotia over the next year.

To date, 33 interviews have been transcribed, 12 interview summaries were developed, and 29 interviews have been analyzed.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

We have produced academic articles and presentations to share preliminary research findings largely with other academics. We have also produced a knowledge user report and a bulletin to share preliminary findings with partner organizations. Citations for these outputs are listed below.

- Pellerin, S. & Herron, R. (2022) A snapshot violence in personal care homes and home care in Manitoba: Knowledge user report. Brandon University, Brandon, MB.
- Herron, R. & Novek, S. (2022) Safe Places for Aging and Care: June 2022 Research Bulletin. Brandon University, Brandon, MB.
- Novek, S., Herron, R.V., Funk, L., Aubrecht, K., Spencer, D., & Luo, Y. (2022) Conceptualizing violence in nursing home policies: A citizenship perspective. *Journal of Aging Studies*.
- Novek, S., Herron, R., Doell, S., Rauch, K., Aubrecht, K. (2022). Exploring the tensions between violence prevention policy and local realities paper presented at the Canadian Association of Gerontology Meeting, Regina.

- Novek, S. & Herron, R. V. (2022, June 16). Exploring the impact of COVID-19 on violent situations in long term residential care. Poster presented at the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics World Congress (virtual conference).
- Herron, R. (2022). Safe places for aging and care? Exploring violence in care for older adults, Gilbrea Centre, McMaster University (virtual presentation).

For more information and a complete look at written reports to date, go to: www.safeplacesproject.com.

LOOKING AHEAD

Looking ahead over the next year, we will continue to focus on data collection, analysis, and reporting. Recruitment of home care workers, older adults and family carers will be a priority over the coming months. Our remote data collection methods over the past two years have catered to staff working in long-term care but are less effective in reaching older adults and family carers. We have been able to reach a few home care staff in Nova Scotia and we have reached some older adults and family carers through our observational work. We hope to conduct observational research in Nova Scotia in 2023. We look forward to sharing more about our recruitment and findings in the year ahead.

