



**CONCLUDED
PROBLEM REPORT
PS-1**

Problem ID: 57

Reporting Division : NORTH

District: DICKINSFIELD

Neighbourhood: NORTHMOUNT

Address: 9113-144 AVENUE

Reg	Rank	Last Name	First Name
1822	CST	CLARK	K

Key Description : ALZHEIMER PATIENTS

Problem Description :

The above address houses the Alzheimer Care Center, a pilot project of the Capital Care Commission. One of only two such facilities on the continent when it opened in 1994, it is an innovation in the treatment of Alzheimer patients.

Housing 35 clients, the facility strives to "de-institutionalize" the care of Alzheimer sufferers. Patients are divided among three color coded wings, have their own rooms, and tend to partake in all activities in small groups. The key principle is FAMILIARITY, and everything imaginable is done to foster this environment.

The building is substantially secure, but the philosophy precludes outright fortification. Clients do not wear ID bracelets and while there have been no escapes, there have been attempts.

Problem solving strategies and results :

During routine liaison with the community, turf Constable Kim Clark met with the program coordinators. Police received a more thorough understanding of the facility while the care center met the neighbourhood officer. Very much in its infancy, the facility had encountered no problems to date. By every standard, it is a successful program.

In discussing potential problems, the only one that really exists is the possibility of one of the patients wandering away. While these elderly persons pose no danger to the outside world, the risk lies in the grief they can impose upon themselves when they become lost and disoriented. Likely they would come to the attention of the police, who would be hindered by the lack of information.

In a cooperative effort, the Alzheimer Care Center and Constable Clark have compiled a (potential) wandering persons registry. A profile of each patient (background information, physical description, familiar contact persons, etc.) is listed in conjunction with an updated photograph. A copy of this registry is kept at both North Division and the center. There have been no "escapes" to date, however, something potentially useful is in place should one occur.

This serves as an inexpensive, easily maintained project that builds cooperation between the community and the police. It is an example of where logic dictates where there may be a potential problem and small steps that can be taken to minimize the seriousness of future events.