

October 11, 2024

Lanark Community Alliance Highlights Rural Caregivers in Launch of Pilot Episode for *Stories for Caregivers*

Lanark Community Alliance (LCA) is proud to announce the release of *Care Beyond the City Lights*, a pilot episode developed in partnership with <u>Mainspring Agency</u> and made possible through the support of the <u>TELUS Fund</u>. Developed for the <u>Stories for Caregivers</u> web series platform, this episode spotlights the unique challenges and inspiring solutions found in rural caregiving across Canada.

Premiering on **Friday, October 11**, the pilot is available for streaming on the <u>Stories for Caregivers</u> <u>website</u>, as well as on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. Viewers are invited to share their thoughts and join the conversation on rural caregiving by using the hashtags **#CareStories** and **#CareBeyondTheCityLights** on social media.

This episode highlights the grassroots, community-driven caregiving model embraced by rural communities and the often-overlooked role of caregivers, particularly in areas where support can be limited. Through the eyes of Susan Kemp, who provides essential care for Bill in a family home setting, the episode sheds light on the daily struggles and triumphs faced by caregivers in rural environments. Host families like Susan's don't just offer a place to live—they provide a nurturing environment where adults with developmental disabilities are supported, valued, accepted, and can have a real sense of belonging.

Produced by Mainspring Agency, a full-service video production company, the pilot—if successful—will be expanded into an eight-part series exploring more inspiring stories from LCA's network of rural caregivers, further showcasing the dedication and resilience of these unsung heroes.

"We are incredibly proud to present this pilot episode, which not only highlights the profound impact caregivers have in our communities but also emphasizes the urgent need for greater recognition and support for their invaluable work," said LCA Board CEO, Robert Eves. "Through their stories, we hope to inspire change and advocate for better resources and accommodations for these vital members of our society."

Join us in celebrating the launch of *Care Beyond the City Lights* on **October 11**. Together, let's recognize and support the essential work of caregivers in our community. For updates and to follow the conversation, connect with us on social media using **#CareBeyondTheCityLights** and stay tuned for more stories to come.



Carebridge Community Support connects and is a catalyst for fostering stronger, caring, person-centred communities across Lanark County by working together to meet the needs of seniors, adults with developmental disabilities and those who need affordable housing.



Community Living Association (Lanark County) is a charity supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities to enable and assist them to live a quality life in their community with dignity and respect.



Clayton Seniors Housing Corporation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing safe, affordable housing for local seniors. Incorporated in 1990, CSHC owns and operates the Linn Bower apartment building for seniors located in Clayton, Ontario.



The Lanark Community Alliance represents a coming together of independent, non-profit community agencies united in their mission to improve the lives of those they serve in Lanark County. Our alliance is built upon collaboration, support, and a shared vision for inclusive, empowered communities. Together, our organizations employ over 300 people, welcome hundreds of volunteers and serve a diverse range of individuals and families.

CONTACT

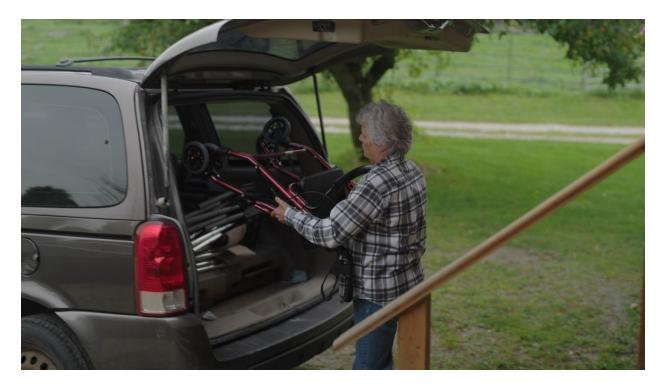
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CUTLINE: Caregiver, Susan Kemp.



CUTLINE: Bill's caregivers assist him into the vehicle, ensuring he's comfortably transported to his appointment.



CUTLINE: Susan Kemp loads walker into the vehicle.