

Riverforks Community Update – November 2020

Dear Riverforks Community Member,

It has been some time since we last communicated with you, and I hope that our presence at 54 Riverview Ave has continued to be a positive addition to the neighbourhood. As was promised when LHSC first moved into the building in 2014, I am writing to provide an update on the planned use for this space.

In addition to LHSC's Adult Eating Disorders Service, corporate training program, and our partners at Canadian Mental Health Association Middlesex that currently occupy the facility, I am pleased to share the planned expansion of our First Episode Mood and Anxiety Program (FEMAP) into 54 Riverview Ave.

Established in 2006, FEMAP is a novel health-care delivery model that is offered collaboratively through the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Care Program at LHSC's Children's Hospital and LHSC's Adult Mental Health Services. FEMAP helps older teens and young adults (age 16–25) with emotional concerns that fall into the categories of mood and/or anxiety symptoms. You can learn more about [FEMAP on our website](#).

FEMAP currently occupies a space near St. Joseph's Hospital, and this expansion into 54 Riverview—funded through generous donations to London Health Sciences Foundation and Children's Health Foundation—will allow the program to increase its ability to provide care in a safe and confidential place where youth can get help before symptoms begin to disrupt their lives. Funding to facilitate the expansion has been secured and additional fundraising is underway to ensure the program can be sustained over the next five years.

LHSC is in the Request for Proposals phase of determining a contractor that will oversee the renovation work required to prepare the spaces for FEMAP. We do not anticipate there will be any disruption to your home or neighbourhood during construction, which is expected to begin sometime in December and last approximately two months. FEMAP intends to move into its new expanded space shortly after construction is complete.

Expanding FEMAP into the 54 Riverview Ave site is an ideal fit, both for FEMAP patients and the existing clients who utilize this facility. LHSC remains committed to its promise of being a good neighbour to those who live in the area, and I encourage you to send me any questions or concerns. Additionally, please feel free to share this message with others in your area who may not receive these updates. If you do not wish to receive further updates regarding this facility, please let us know by replying to this e-mail.

You can read previous Riverforks Community updates on the LHSC [website](#).

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Woods
President and CEO
London Health Sciences Centre