## **HNHB Regional Aphasia Programs**

www.aphasiaonwest.ca

## **Program** and **Referral Information**

Our Aphasia Programs are intended to meet the need for conversation, social interaction, information, and support for adults with Aphasia and for their families. Our Supported Conversation Groups also offer the opportunity to strengthen communication skills. Groups are NOT a replacement for individual speech therapy but a complement. The goal of the Aphasia Program is for group members to participate actively in conversation using a variety of communication strategies. Speech-Language Pathologists, Social Workers, Communicative Disorders Assistants, and trained volunteers are involved with the Aphasia Programs to help make communication easier.

## A typical session may include:

- Discussing current events and expressing opinions
- Sharing life stories and events
- Activities that focus on conversation skills using a variety of modes including speech, gestures, facial expression, writing, drawing and reading, to more effectively express and understand messages in conversation
- Supporting one another to develop skill and confidence in communicating

\*Please note there may be **individual differences** between programs.



Adult Recreation
Therapy Centre
APHASIA PROGRAM
Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk

Tel: 519-753-1882 ext. 104

Fax: 519-753-0034 www.artc.ca



Halton-Peel Community APHASIA PROGRAM Burlington

Tel: 905-875-8474

Fax: 365-601-1690 www.h-pcap.com



Niagara APHASIA PROGRAM

Tel: 905-984-2621 Toll free: 1-877-212-3922

Fax: 905-984-6409 www.hnhbhealthline.ca



S.A.M.
APHASIA PROGRAM Hamilton and
Surrounding Area

Tel: 905-525-5632

Fax: 905-525-4149

www.goodshepherdcentres.ca

Some groups are being held virtually. Please contact your local Aphasia Program.

**Virtual groups** are held **online** via **computer** or **phone**. Groups **do not** meet in person at a physical location; they are connected through technology.

## **Eligibility Criteria for Virtual Groups:**

- Varied severities/types of Aphasia due to stroke or injury to the brain e.g.,
   Acquired Brain Injury (ABI), Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA), tumor
- Individuals must be medically stable and living in the community.
- Willingness to participate in Supportive Conversation Groups to improve communication
- Demonstrate appropriate behavior in a social group setting for the duration of the program
- No/minimal cognitive difficulties
- Access to communication technology (i.e., computer, tablet, or smartphone) and internet connection
- Ability to use device and virtual group platform (e.g., Zoom) OR, if needed, access to a support person to assist with use of technology (Note: some remote support can be provided by program staff)

If you have any **questions** about the referral process, criteria for admission or the program, please contact the Aphasia Program in your area.