



Canadian Red Cross

**Aids to Independent Living (AIL) Program
Annual Report 2005/2006**

Services provided through the AIL Program

The Red Cross operates the AIL Program as a contracted service for the Fraser Health Authority and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority. The program operates in the communities of Vancouver, Richmond, North and West Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminster, the Tri-Cities, Pitt Meadows, Maple Ridge, Langley, Surrey, and White Rock. During the period of this report, the program expanded to include Abbotsford, Agassiz, Mission, Chilliwack and Hope. The program has been operating for over 11 years and is also supported by donations from clients and the public. The program operates as follows:

- Staff review all applications to ensure clients fall within the financial criteria.
- The program is targeted to home health clients with long term equipment needs. Equipment is provided for as long as it is needed.
- Delivery and in-home installation is available for all items at no charge to the client.
- In-home repairs are completed at no charge when requested by the client, family or health care professional.
- In-home modifications to wheelchairs are completed at the request of the health care professional (ex. Installation of seat belts, personal backs, H straps, brake extensions, etc.).
- Staff do semi-annual follow up with all clients. Any reported problems with equipment are followed up with a visit to the client.
- Staff refer clients to their local health authority office when they request additional equipment.
- Referring health professionals are notified when a piece of equipment is provided to a client.
- The Red Cross short term loan service (MELS) provides loan extensions to clients who are on the AIL Program waiting list.
- All equipment is recycled and loaned to another client when returned. Unusable items are dismantled and parts are re-used whenever possible.

The Palliative Equipment Program

The Red Cross is contracted by the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority to provide equipment to palliative care clients in Vancouver and Richmond. This program operates as a subsidiary of the AIL Program. The palliative program operates similarly to the AIL Program but with the following differences:

- The range of equipment includes a variety of pressure relief mattresses and cushions.
- Power mobility aids are not available.
- Equipment is available within 24 hours, seven days per week. Equipment that is not available within Red Cross inventories is rented from a medical supplier by the Red Cross.
- There is no financial eligibility criteria for palliative clients.
- Clients can use the equipment for as long as they remain on the B.C. Palliative Benefits Program.

Highlights of the Year

- The program expanded to the Fraser East area in September of 2005. AIL staff conducted information sessions for Fraser East staff in September.
- The number of equipment requests for regular AIL clients increased by 25% over the previous year. Referrals were up in all health units except for the New Westminister, Langley and Three Bridges.
- Requests for palliative clients increased by 18%.
- The amount of equipment provided increased by 6% over the previous year.
- In 2005/2006 the equipment provided to palliative clients increased by 12% over the previous year.
- Equipment provided to non-palliative clients remained the same as the previous year.
- Both health regions committed additional one time funds for equipment purchases. These funds were targeted to specific populations.
- Improvement were made to The Canadian Red Cross/La Croix-Rouge canadienne website to include a larger quantity and more detailed information about the AIL program.
- The AIL Program Advisory Committee met four times during the year. The committee consists of therapists from the participating health regions. A representative from Fraser East joined the committee this year. Business of the advisory committee included recommending types of equipment to include in the AIL stock, reviewing feedback from referring health professionals, and monitoring program activities.

Program equipment lists are attached to the end of this report.

Statistics for April 2005 to March 2006

Table 1: Clients Served & Items Loaned

Health Region	AIL clients referred during the year for new or additional item	Total number of clients using service in year	Total number of items provided in year
Vancouver	1244	2159	3789
Richmond	309	480	1245
Fraser North	305	654	685
Fraser South	214	188	382
Fraser East	142	102	249
North Shore	119	209	206
Total	2333	3792	6556

Health Region	AIL clients referred during the year for new or additional item	Total number of clients using service in year	Total number of items provided in year
Vancouver	1244	2159	
Richmond	309	480	
Fraser North	300	654	
Fraser South	182	188	
Fraser East	142	102	
North Shore	119	209	
Total	2296	3792	

*includes clients who continue to use AIL equipment provided in previous year(s)

Table 2: Requests Received (all clients)

Health Unit	# of requests (items)	Increase over last year
Fraser East - Abbotsford	95	No Data
Fraser East - Agassiz/Harrison	10	No Data
Fraser East - Chilliwack	274	No Data
Fraser East - Hope	13	No Data
Fraser East - Mission	66	No Data
Fraser North– Coquitlam/Tri-Cities	199	52%
Fraser North – New Westminster	95	-40%
Fraser North – Maple Ridge	91	21%
Fraser North - Burnaby	644	12%
Fraser South – Ladner/Delta*	66	340%
Fraser South – Langley*	147	-13%
Fraser South - Surrey*	407	213%
Fraser South – White Rock*	91	38%
North Shore	358	42%
Richmond	1561	24%
Vancouver – Pacific Spirit	1019	26%
Vancouver – North	828	9%
Vancouver - Three Bridges	755	-25%
Vancouver – Ravensong	592	59%
Vancouver – South	982	4%
Vancouver – Evergreen	589	3%
Total	8882	22%

* 2004/2005 Fraser South statistics were only for 10/12 of the year. 2005/2006 is for entire 12 month year

Table 3: Equipment Demand by Type

Equipment Type	# of requests received 05/06	# of requests received 04/05	Percentage Variance
Manual wheelchair	762	586	30%
Wall mounted grab bar	735	481	53%
Foam cushion	605	419	44%
Bed assist	478	535	-11%
Electric hospital bed	455	339	34%
4 wheeled walker with seat	444	358	24%
Foam mattress	392	313	25%
Stationary commode	384	375	2%
Frame walker	383	409	-6%
Raised toilet seat, no arms	381	333	14%
Bath chair with back	315	213	48%
Mattress overlay or pad	296	164	81%
Padded tub transfer bench	289	247	17%
Air cushion (Roho)	247	155	59%
Toilet safety frame	237	193	23%
Tall tub grip	213	169	26%
Raised toilet seat with arms	200	161	24%
Unpadded tub transfer bench	174	152	15%
Overbed table	155	117	33%
Bath chair without back	154	203	-24%
Wheeled commode	146	102	43%
Cane	132	105	26%
Flush bathboard	112	105	7%
Handipole	109	90	21%
Power patient lift (incl. ceiling lift)	99	56	77%
Tilt in space wheelchair	86	38	126%
Gel/foam combo cushion (ex. Jay)	77	72	7%
Scooter	73	63	16%
Urinal	68	41	66%
Bed blocks (sets of 4)	59	31	90%
Bathboard - Raised	52	20	160%
Transfer belt	47	39	21%
Reacher	46	26	77%

Equipment Type	# of requests received 05/06	# of requests received 04/05	Percentage Variance
Viscous gel cushion	43	62	-31%
Bed pan	40	37	81%
Obus Forme	35	20	75%
Power wheelchair	31	36	-14%
Semi-Electric Hospital Bed	25	20	25%
Hydraulic bath lift	25	21	19%
Manual Patient Lift	24	20	20%
Trapeze Bar	21	20	5%
Manual hospital bed	20	97	-79%
Personal Back, Apple board, Power bath lift, Transfer board, Wedge, Amputee board, Bed cradle, Rehab shower commode, Crutches, Short tub grip, Wheelchair tray	Less than 20	Please refer to 04/05 report	

Chart 1

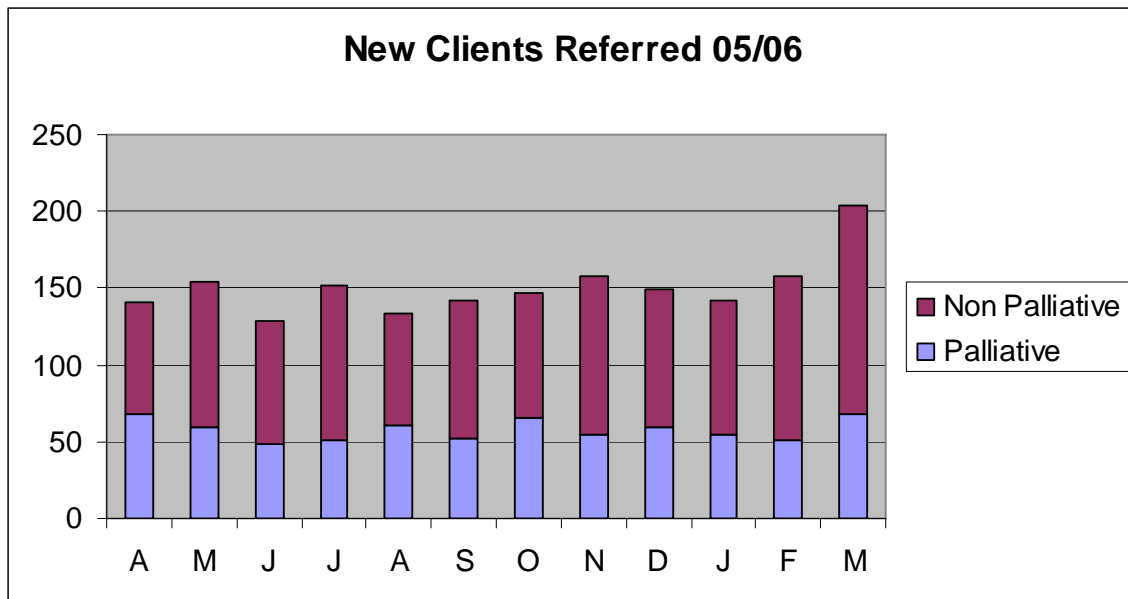


Chart 2

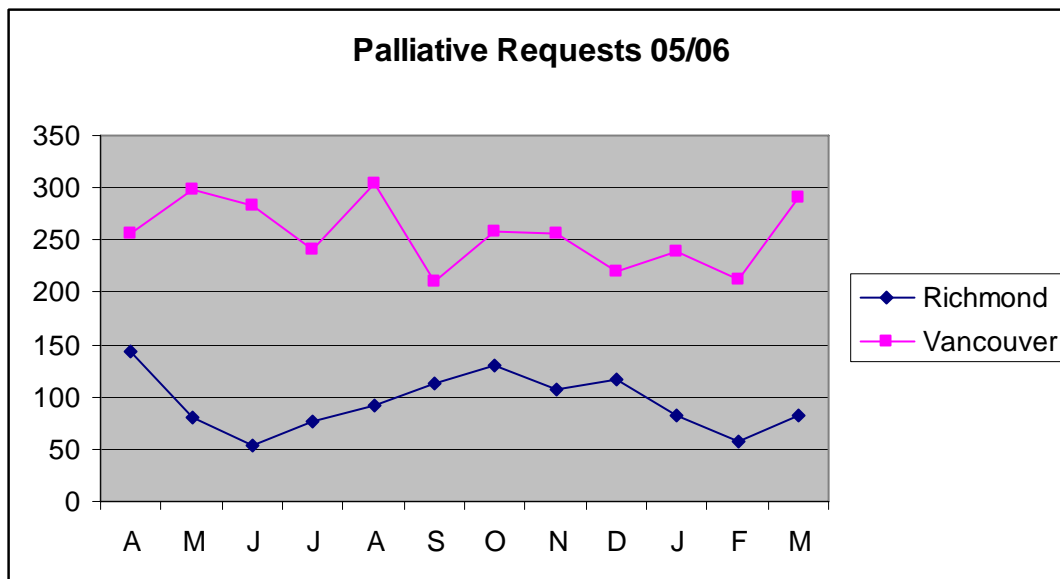


Chart 3

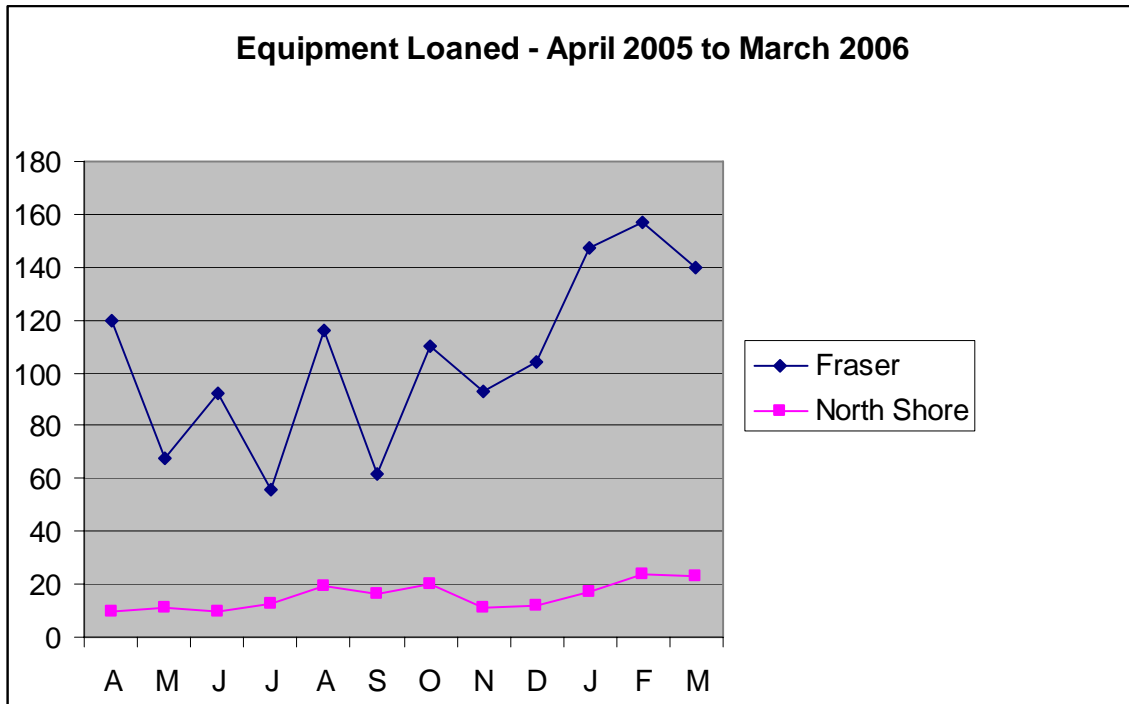


Chart 4

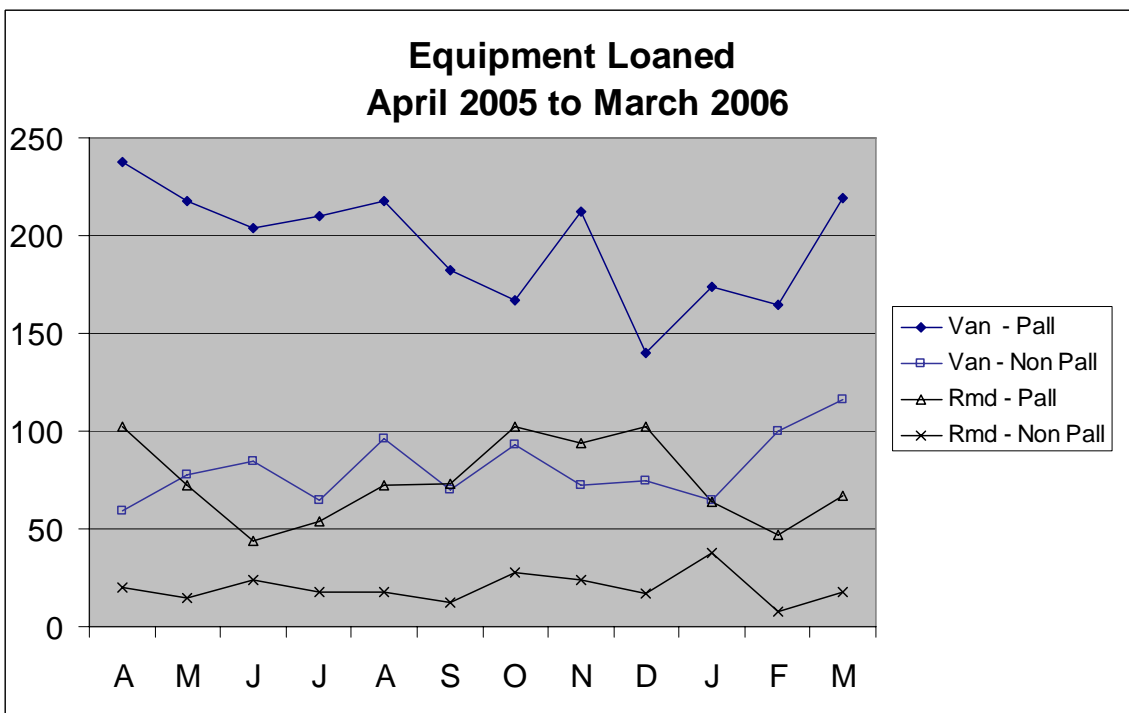


Table 4: Items loaned by region and population

Region/Population Served	Total Items Loaned*(B)	Change Over Last Year
Vancouver - Palliative	2347	9%
Vancouver - Non Palliative	951	-30%
Richmond - Palliative	893	20%
Richmond - Non Palliative	240	-10%
Fraser South*(A)	370	67%
Fraser North	647	4%
Fraser East	248	No Data
North Shore	186	4%
Total	5905	6%

*(A) 2004/2005 Fraser South statistics were only for 10/12 of the year.
2005/2006 is for entire 12 month year

*(B) Includes items exchanged, does not include rentals or donations to the client.

Equipment donated to the client (usually wall-mounted grab bars): **600**

Equipment provided out of AIL stock: **6485** items having a replacement value of **\$1986731.00**

Equipment donated to the program: **784** items having a replacement value of **\$306760.00**

Equipment rented on behalf of palliative clients: **421** items.

Equipment obtained through the Red Cross short term loan service for palliative clients: **268** items

of requests withdrawn by therapist or client: **1421**
 # of requests rejected for being over financial limit: **117**
 # of requests rejected as item not part of the program: **72**
 # of requests placed on the waiting list: **1192**
 # of requests on waiting list at year end: **405**
 # of items in stock as of April 1, 2006: **2514**
 # of items out on loan as of April 1, 2006: **5361**
 # of staff at year end: **10.25 FTE**

Report Prepared and Submitted by:
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 Canadian Red Cross

September 1, 2006



Canadian Red Cross

AIDS TO INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM Equipment List

Mobility Aids

Manual wheelchairs
-lightweight
-hemi height
-interchangeable backs
-anti-tippers, seat belts
Recliners
Tilt in space wheelchairs

Power wheelchairs
Scooters
Cushions
-Roho, Jay, foam, Action gel
Obus forms

Bath Aids

Bath seats with or without backs
Tub transfer benches, padded or unpadded
*Bath boards, flush and raised
*Bath lifts – power and hydraulic

Beds and accessories

*Electric hospital beds
*Manual hospital beds
*Bed rails
*Bed assists
*Overbed tables
*Alternating air overlays and pumps
*Arco rails

Grab Bars

*Clamp on tub rails – various sizes
*Wall mounted grab bars – various sizes

Transfer Aids

*Handipoles
*Trapezes
-Bed mount or freestanding
Transfer boards
*Chair/bed blocks – various sizes
Patient lifts – hydraulic, power,
ceiling.

Toileting Aids

*Clamp on raised toilet seats
*Bubble raised toilet seats
*Raised toilet seats with arms
Wheeled commodes
Stationary commodes
Rehab shower commodes
*Toilet safety frames

Walking Aids

4 wheeled walkers
Folding walkers – youth, adult
-with wheels and glide brakes
Canes
Crutches
Quad canes
Forearm crutches

*** indicates installation is provided for these items**
Please note: there may be a wait for some items



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PALLIATIVE PROGRAM Equipment List

Alternating air mattresses

Alternating air overlays

Bath boards - raised and flush

Bath lifts

Bath stools and chairs

Bed assists

Bed blocks

Bed cradles

Bed pans

Bed rails

Canes

Commodes - wheeled, stationary, and **shower**

Crutches

Cushions - Roho, **Jay Gel, Action Gel, foam**

Foam mattress toppers (LTC200 Comfort Rest Cloud 9 Topper)

Foam mattresses (LTC 2000, Integriderm)

Hospital beds – manual and electric

Low air loss mattresses

Obus forms

Overbed tables

Padded tub transfer benches

Patient lifts - power and hydraulic

Reachers

Toilet safety frames

Toilet seats - incl padded

Trapezes

Transfer belts

Transfer boards

Tub grips

Urinals

Walkers - folding (wheels and glide brakes optional)

- Evolution type walkers

Wall-mounted grab bars

Wheelchairs - companion, standard, recliners, **tilt/recliners**

NOTE: bolded items are **not** available on weekends.