

Back: Dr. Sandra Belfry, Dr. Bettina DeRyck, Dr. Diana Velikonja, Linda Metham, Lawrie Dexter, Dr. Cherisse McKay Front: Grace Putman, Elaine Woods, Terri MacAleese, Dr. Denise Milovan, Dr. Jane Storrie

Storrie, Velikonja and Associates

When Drs. Jane Storrie and Diana Velikonja met as graduate students at the University of Waterloo, little did they know they would become founding partners of a practice offering clinical and neuropsychological assessment and treatment. The first Storrie, Velikonja and Associates (SVA) office in Burlington opened in 2000 and has since grown to include a team of 12 psychologists, four psychometrists, four file reviewers and four administrative staff members.

SVA is a full-service psychological clinic offering assessment and treatment services in the areas of clinical psychology, neuropsychology, rehabilitation psychology and health psychology for individuals of all ages, families and couples. The clinic also offers a number of treatment groups focused on helping children, teens and adults deal with the functional problems that arise with anxiety and depression.

Recently, their practice has expanded to include three specialty clinics.

The SVA Concussion Clinic provides multidisciplinary assessment, diagnosis and treatment of concussion/mild traumatic brain

injury, which includes symptoms of persistent post-concussive syndrome. By offering ImPACT baseline and post-injury assessments to individuals and teams, the clinic adheres to standards utilized by professional sports leagues. They also provide Return-to-Play, - School and –Work recommendations.

The SVA Healthy Aging Clinic, inspired by Storrie's experience trying to find services for her mother following a stroke, provides cognitive assessment and education regarding typical changes in thinking and emotion associated with aging, as well as dementia screening for adults and seniors concerned with memory issues and whether they can safely remain in their own home. Dr. Storrie explains that "aging in place" is of particular importance to seniors given the long waiting lists for placement in assisted living facilities, and that teaching seniors about what to expect with aging is something she says "helps to put their minds at ease."

The SVA Child and Teen Clinic provides services to address the challenging emotional and behavioural issues facing the younger generation. Psychotherapeutic interventions are used to target depression, anxiety and the impact of bullying. The clinic also offers assessment, diagnosis and treatment of autism-spectrum disorders, ADD/ADHD, learning disabilities and giftedness. Assessment services also include psychoeducational and psychovocational evaluations. The clinicians collaborate with schools, community and government agencies for placement, support and related treatment recommendations.

"We work with our patients to help them achieve their goals," Storrie says simply of the services.

It is that patient-focused approach, and SVA's dedication to providing information, recommendations and strategies that help people improve their function in all areas of their lives that has made the clinic so successful. "We focus on a holistic approach to health and wellbeing, ensuring that we are thorough and comprehensive in our assessment and treatment strategies," Storrie explains. "Collaborative care is important to us and we work with other healthcare disciplines, employers, community agencies and schools...it is important to us that we make a difference."

