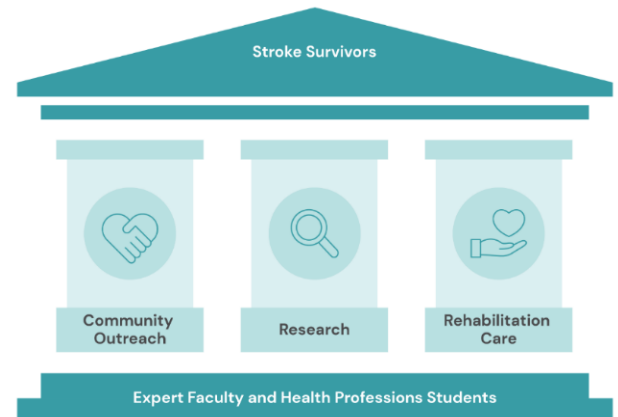


Executive Summary: In the first half of 2025, the Tedy's Team Center of Excellence in Stroke Recovery continued to advance its mission of improving stroke recovery outcomes, promoting stroke awareness, and supporting cutting-edge research. The Center has expanded its community outreach efforts, launched new initiatives to foster leadership and advocacy, and sustained the delivery of high-quality rehabilitation care. Research fellows made significant progress on pilot studies that will inform future large-scale projects. The Center also introduced two recognition awards to celebrate the impact of students and faculty in stroke prevention and recovery.



Community Outreach

The Center continued to spread awareness about the signs of stroke across the Greater Boston area through a series of workshops and health fairs. Community outreach uses BE FAST and engages communities in how to seek help if a stroke is suspected. This year's outreach focused on diverse audiences, from youth to older adults, through partnerships with key community organizations:

- CSI Constitution Co-op, Charlestown
- Arlington Senior Housing, Arlington
- Harvard Kent School, Charlestown
- NEW Health, Charlestown
- La Colaborativa Youth Cohort, Chelsea

Impact and Feedback:

Community partners consistently praised the quality and engagement of these sessions. One collaborator at the Charlestown CSI Constitution Co-op reported: "This was the most successful presentation I have to date! I think that it was excellently facilitated, and I loved the balance of information and engagement." A focus group conducted by Chelsea Community Connections found that participants who attended a Tedy's Team workshop felt the information was valuable and meaningful to their lives.

Stroke Awareness

Partnering with the Office of Strategic Communications, the Center optimized its website and expanded media outreach to raise awareness of the Mission. This media campaign included:

- [A feature interview with Center leaders Kim Erler and Gwen Larsen reflecting on the Center's second anniversary](#)
- [A stroke survivor profile sharing the lived experience of recovery and hope](#)
- [A NewsCenter 5 story highlighting the work of the Center: 'Stroke survivor cheers for Tedy's Team at Boston Marathon'](#)

Research

The Tedy's Team Stroke Research Fellows continued their impactful work on innovative pilot projects, including:

- Exploring psychosocial, physical activity, and communication factors on fall status after stroke through ecological momentary assessment
- Piloting a home-practice version of Melodic Intonation Therapy
- Tracking outcomes after an Intensive Comprehensive Aphasia Program

These studies aim to provide the preliminary data necessary for securing external funding for larger research initiatives focused on rehabilitation and recovery after stroke. The MGH Institute Research and Scholarship Day will be held on Friday May 9th and will feature the research of the fellows and other scientists associated with the Center.

Rehabilitation Care

Stroke survivors remain at the heart of the Center's mission. More than **60 clients** received personalized rehabilitation care through individual and group sessions this spring semester. Services included Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Pathology, and Nursing.

At the end of the academic year, each client is asked to fill out a satisfaction survey to help us evaluate our program and ensure every client is receiving the care they need. This survey asks about every part of their visit including logistics around accessing the building, whether they felt respected, if they felt heard, and if they were provided with clear explanations to their questions. While full survey results for 2025 are not available until late May, clients have shared the positive impact of their care:

"Helps me stay positive"

"I am able to keep making progress toward my goals when I wouldn't get therapy otherwise"

"I feel part of a community at the Center."

New Initiatives

Recognition Awards:

In early 2025, the Center introduced two awards to honor students and faculty who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and innovation in stroke prevention, recovery, and community engagement.

Stroke Faculty Collaborative:

The Center finalized plans for the Stroke Faculty Collaborative, designed to bring together faculty across the Institute with shared interests in stroke research, education, and community partnership.

This group will officially launch after the 2025 graduation cycle.

Stroke Awareness Advocates Program:

This new program invites students to serve as Stroke Awareness Advocates, empowering them to design and implement educational projects using the BE FAST tool. Advocates receive mentorship, develop community partnerships, and promote stroke preparedness in the communities with which they feel most connected.

The Tedy's Team Center of Excellence in Stroke Recovery at MGH Institute of Health Professions has made significant strides in community outreach, research, and rehabilitation care. With continued collaboration and innovation, the Center remains committed to advancing stroke recovery and improving the lives of stroke survivors and their families.