

Memo

To: Family, Staff ,Volunteers and Visitors
From: Greg Bechard and Cheryl Peterson
Re: CoVid-19 Virus

I would like to start by stating the overall principles that guide our response to the escalating events regarding Covid-19 and the declaration by the World Health Organization that its spread warranted its elevation to Pandemic Status. We are monitoring all credible sources of information that include the World Health Organization, Government of Ontario Ministry of Health/Public Health and or the Ministry of Community and Social Services or the Government of Canada. Media Sources we are monitoring include the CBC and CTV. Our response will be an informed/commonsense approach and specific to our responsibilities, which include the people we support, and their families, our staff and their families, volunteers and visitors. It will not be based on complacency or over reaction. It will be measured and appropriate to the time. This will be a fluid process and we will need to be prepared as the situation warrants.

Steps to date include a memo to staff regarding general common sense steps to be taken by the individual regarding personal hygiene, following our outbreak protocol for our residential and day program locations and monitoring travel of staff and their family or visitors and asking that they follow the general steps of self-isolation and contact with public health. We require that people self-identify as being a potential risk and stay away from our program and residential locations until you have been deemed no risk. If unsure contact public health for clarification. Everyone has a responsibility in ensuring our collective well-being.

With the exception of our outbreak protocol which is specific to our program and residential locations I am asking that all families who have family members living at home that they follow the above protocol and inform us if they are deemed at risk and keep us up to date with respect to travel either personal or broader family or visitors. Families who have children living with us we ask that they follow the same procedure and notify us if they plan to visit. This request applies to volunteers as well. We are at this time discouraging outside visits from unknown persons or participation in large community venues.

The Health and Safety Committee over the next two weeks will be convened to develop a broader protocol to address situations that include, quarantine, closure of day programs or broader visiting restrictions, travel for business etc. In short if the situation escalates to a worst case scenario of total isolation how would we conduct business and what are the graduated steps between now and more confining protocols or a total quarantine.

In closing I would like to use an old saying that I think applies to our current situation

“Keep Calm and Carry On”.

Greg Bechard and Cheryl Peterson