

March 20, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardian

Community Living York South continues to implement strategies to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. Due to the evolving nature of this pandemic, Community Living York South is adding additional measures. This week, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Todd Smith, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, provided an update on the measures being put into place across the social services sector.

Their statement included the commitment to protecting the health and well-being of all Ontarians, including the employees and people who receive support through Ontario's social services. In line with the advice of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, and to ensure a safe and secure environment for all; **Community Living York South visitors will not be allowed in to the 24-hour support locations until further notice. Any exception will require approval from a Director.**

In addition, although it is wonderful that families are taking their family members home for visits, it is an added risk to the others who live in their home and we are now restricting families from entering the programs as of today. We will support your family member to stay connected with you remotely via face time, skype, phone calls and other virtual platforms.

If you would like your family member to come home for a visit, please be advised that this will have to be on a long term basis (no back and forth visiting) and until it has been deemed safe to resume normal routines.

We understand that this may be very stressful as a family member however, we must safeguard the people we support and our employees. We are asking you to help us avoid any potential outbreak of this highly infectious virus.

We are so grateful to families for your ongoing support and appreciate your understanding as we implement measures that are difficult but the right thing to do at this time.

If you require any additional information, please feel free to reach out to the specific Residential Supervisor, Day Supervisor or case Manager.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding!

Sincerely

Don Wilkinson
Executive Director