

March 19, 2020

## **UPDATE**

To the children, youth and adults we support, their families and staff members,

Further to the memo of March 15, 2020, I would like to provide an update and further information regarding closures and modifications to service and support provisions at Bethesda.

As I am sure you are aware, on March 17, 2020 the Premier of Ontario enacted a declaration of emergency. The impact is significant for our Province. Bethesda continues to diligently monitor the situation and we have stayed in close contact with our local, provincial and federal health agencies. As a result, we will continue with the following closures and service modifications until at least April 5, 2020, at which time an update will be provided.

## **DAY ACTIVITIES**

As previously implemented, Day Activity programs continue to be suspended. Staff are to continue to arrive for work as directed.

## **CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**

As previously implemented, face-to-face services continue to be suspended. Staff will continue to work remotely to support children, youth and their families through a variety of options, including:

- Regular phone and /or videoconference check-ins with families who are active in service.
- Service Coordination support by phone and / or videoconference, including helping families' complete applications for OAP one-time funding.
- Coffee Chat – Parent Support Group is now offered through videoconferencing.
- Workshops offered through videoconferencing (next date: Monday, March 23 from 6:00-8:00pm – ASD and Anxiety).
- Offering tip sheets through Bethesda's website and Facebook page.

## **ADULT CLINICAL SERVICES**

Program modifications continue to remain in effect until further notice. All face-to-face involvement (unless critical in nature) remains suspended. We continue to be available to those receiving service, utilizing phone, email, etc.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

As previously directed and until further notice, all administrative staff are to work from home where possible.

## **RESPIRE**

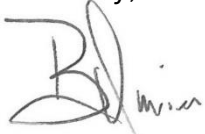
As previously directed and until further notice, Adult Respite continues to be suspended. Staff are to continue to arrive for work as directed.

## **GUEST VISITS**

All non-essential guest visits continue to be suspended until further notice.

As always, should you have any questions please ask your Bethesda contact or contact us at [info@bethesdaservices.com](mailto:info@bethesdaservices.com) and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Davies', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Brian Davies  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bethesda