



March 17, 2020

Good afternoon parents, family members and advocates,

As you know the COVID 19 pandemic is resulting in extraordinary measures across our country and specifically in the province of Ontario resulting in an announcement today declaring this a state of emergency.

We are taking all of these measures seriously when it comes to supporting your loved one in our homes. To that end as of today we are ceasing all visitors to our homes with the exception of essential visitors, eg, health care practitioners. We are using a public health screening tool for all arriving staff and essential visitors before entry to the home. PCL is also attempting to restrict the number of staff per home as much as possible and will eliminate cross-home staff sharing where possible. We are developing a contingency for any potentially confirmed COVID 19 cases and will let you know what that will be as soon as that is set up.

We will arrange for Skype/face time/whatsapp video visiting for any family member who would like to 'visit' in this way. If you do not have the technology to support this, please let us know so we can try to arrange something for you. Family members may elect to take their family member home and this is encouraged if it is possible for you to do this. We understand that this is not necessarily possible for all of you. Please note, that given the fluidity of this pandemic, we cannot guarantee a date of return to the group home if you choose to take your family member home.

Our sister agencies, KW Habilitation, Christian Horizons, Extend A Family, Community Living Cambridge, Elmira Community Living, Aldaview Services and Sunbeam Executive Directors as well as our Program Supervisor from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services are engaging in weekly teleconferences for sharing of knowledge, resources and best practices.

This is going to be a challenging time for all of us. Please bear with us and feel free to reach out to our Directors of Residential Services, Community Supports or myself if you have any questions or concerns. Our contact information is listed below.

My motto continues to be, 'keep calm and wash your hands.'

Respectfully,

Katherine Loveys
Executive Director

kathyl@pclkw.org

Office: 519-742-5849 Ext. 101

Diana Darcey

Director of Residential Services

dianad@pclkw.org

Ext.107

Mary Anne Linka

Director of Community Supports

maryannel@pclkw.org

Ext. 103