

Update on COVID-19 Measures at Community Living Glengarry – February 17th, 2021

COVID-19 Safety Measures have been lifted – [Enhanced Precautions Orange](#)

As we all know, as announced the lockdown has been lifted as of today February 16th, 2021. We will be in **Orange color (Enhanced Precautions)** meaning that we must comply with; Public Health Ontario's, Eastern Ontario Health Unit's as well as our Ministry of Children, Community and Social Service's (MCCSS) guidelines and directives. This means that slowly going back to the practices that were in place prior to Christmas Holiday season until March 31, 2021. Please keep in mind that during the next weeks we will plan for a different way to provide options for people to receive supports and services so that people are not left with no supports. We realize how disappointing this is for families.

We constantly will continue to try to facilitate individual circumstances. However, we need to be cautious of the concerns with variant of covid19 that could reach this community and we will be using an abundance of caution when making those determinations.

The following are just a reminder of our circumstances.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Only essential visits will be taking place at this time. Other visits are not permitted. The guidelines for visits to the residences will remain as previously established.

“Essential visitors may include family members providing care, healthcare providers, and maintenance staff. Where possible and practical, essential family visits should be conducted outside of the home with a scheduled visit being organized at the Community network Centre while observing physical distancing, hand hygiene, and active screening measures. We will provide masks, face shields, and any other personal protective equipment necessary to keep these visits safe. All other visits must be conducted outside. For specific clarification regarding sites may be subject to further restrictions beyond these guidelines. Please consult with the site supervisor or manager with questions regarding site-specific restrictions”.

Outdoor activities are permitted from our residential sites are limited to essential outings such as medical appointments, walk snowshoeing, car drives.

Should there be some changes to circumstances we will post a notice as soon as we are made aware.

COMMUNITY NETWORK CENTER

We have taken steps to significantly limit the number of people entering the Community Network Centre. Only essential staff and management are permitted entry to our offices,

and anyone entering must wear a mask and be actively screened before proceeding into the building. All in-person training remains suspended across the organization and mandatory training is being provided online.

Community Participation

These supports will remain unable to reopen large-scale congregate day programs due to provincial and local public health restrictions. Our small-scale 1 to 1 individual support will be re-introduced slowly taking into consideration public health restrictions.

While we cannot say exactly what will happen next, we know that reopening our services as we knew them is not an option. This is an opportunity to redesign our services in a way that furthers our core mission of supporting the rights and choices of our community through smaller, more individualized program offerings.

Virtual Offerings

We continue to offer virtual day supports as part of our menu of options. These activities are offered via Zoom. Activities include exercise classes, karaoke, painting demonstrations, yoga, opportunities for chats. Soon there will be added activities such as: Zumba, karaoke, party night etc.

Beyond these measures, we are ensuring that all our group homes and people have the technology they need to keep the people we support happy and connected to their families and friends.

Sil, Homeshare and Supported Employment

The above-mentioned services will be continuing the current service offerings where possible however there may need to be a stoppage if the spread continues. I am sure everyone is tired of hearing this news, families are desperate to reconnect, our mental health and our stress levels are off the charts but you have my commitment and the commitment of Community Living Glengarry employees that we are going to continue to do our best to keep your family member safe and assist both of you to make a bad situation just a little bit better.

Passport

We continue to offer very limited Passport services due to the current challenges in recruitment and minimal activities/opportunities available to participants in our community. If the spread continues, there may need to be a stoppage of passport face to face services. However, we will continue to provide in-direct support, such as purchases and facilitating connections with friends/family as well as meaningful activities/virtual events during the pandemic.

These measures will remain in effect until March 31, 2021.

If your situation has changed or you are in need of additional information, please reach out to the manager you are affiliated with. You can also reach me at any time at 613-551-5690 if you would like to discuss your individual situation.

We welcome your feedback as well as any ideas or suggestions. We must all do our best to keep each other and our communities safe. We know that vaccines are on the

horizon, but basic public health measures like physical distancing and hand washing have never been more important. We remain focused on keeping the people we support and our staff safe. Community Living Glengarry management and staff are trained and experienced in the measures required to meet this challenge.

Thanking you for your cooperation and understanding!

Danielle

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