

20 March 2020

Dear people we support and families,

Right now, we are diligently working with staff to ensure that our self-assessment practices are up to date, and guided by the science provided by our provincial and federal health leaders. This self-assessment is a great tool for staff to check themselves prior to coming to work, as well as the people we support, to ensure that we are all doing our part to prevent the transmission of COVID-19.

The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services has also taken a few steps, effective immediately, to limit in-person contact. The following measures are now in effect for those accessing Employment Support Services (ODSP):

- People supported do not need to submit their income statements at this time (unless they submit electronically)
- Special Diet Allowances, already in pay, will continue even if they are set to expire – people supported need not to worry about getting their signed forms in for now (unless they submit electronically)
- MCCSS will not require forms and verification for Mandatory Special Necessities, as they will issue these benefits and obtain what is needed later on (unless they submit electronically)

We are continuing to monitor best practices and any additional measures needed during this time. Our management team are working with other community partners, both in Guelph and Wellington County, as well as across the province, to determine additional preventative measures in the event of more escalation. As new information becomes available, we will be sharing that with you.

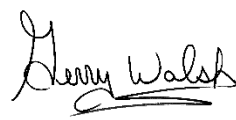
For families who have not done so yet, we encourage you to be in contact with your respective CLGW residence. Setting up a routine of calls and/or facetimeing, where technology permits, is a great way to be in touch, during this time of social distancing. Even if your call is with a DSP, it's a small step to help keep us all connected.

Thank you again, for supporting us through this difficult time.

We will continue to keep you informed of any new developments, and you can read the latest at: [clgw.ca/covid19](http://clgw.ca/covid19)

Regards,

  
**Laura Hanley**  
Executive Director

  
**Gerry Walsh**  
Board President