

17 June 2020

Dear people we support and families,

This morning, we learned that a person we support and a staff member, located at the same residence, have tested positive for COVID-19.

The person we support is receiving appropriate medical care, and they are doing well.

The staff member who tested positive has not reported to work since June 14th. They are currently self-isolating at home for the required period of time.

We are working closely with Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health to ensure the safety and health of the people we support and our staff. For those in close contact, they have been notified by Public Health, and were informed about what measures they need to take. This will include immediate and necessary measures for the residence affected, as well as required guidelines to limit risk and spread.

We have informed families of the people we support living at this residence, as well as all staff who work there.

Prior to these two positive test results, this residence had received its universal surveillance testing. All of those who were tested, received a negative COVID-19 test result at the time.

As advised by WDG Public Health, those who were receiving support or in close contact of the two positive cases, are required to self-isolate to limit any potential spread. Staff for this residence will be participating in a work-home isolation, for 14 days or until advised otherwise. People supported will be self-isolating to a specific area of this residence.

A second universal surveillance test will be performed as soon as possible.

To also help keep people safe, staff and those living in the residence are wearing additional Personal Protective Equipment.

Our staff continue to complete an Active Screening Checklist, to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. Should a staff member fail this screening, they are instructed to not report to their shift. A failed screening instructs the staff member to seek out medical advice regarding whether or not they should be tested.

We will increase our twice-daily health checks for the people we support living at this residence. This includes monitoring for symptoms, as well as temperature checks. We have also sanitized the residence, and will continue to use an increased disinfecting and hygiene procedure.

We hope for a speedy recovery and good health for the person we support, as well as our staff member. As an organization, we have been very fortunate in our good health throughout this pandemic. Our Direct Support Professionals have been tremendous in following procedures and processes that help to keep people safe and healthy. We are grateful, truly, for all that they are doing.

We will continue our work alongside the local health authority, and take every preventative measure available to us, to protect the health and wellbeing of the people we support and our staff.

Regards,


Laura Hanley
Executive Director


Gerry Walsh
Board President