

March 30, 2020

To: All Staff, Stakeholders

From: Adrienne Monks, Interim Executive Director

CRADACL Update:

Administration: Most of the Administration Team is working from home. Kevin, Jo Anne and Cheryl have all been set up on their home computers to do what they can from home. Darcey is able at this time to do everything via web-based programs, so she is limiting her time in the office. Hart, Michelle and myself are meeting Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays to keep up to date on information that is coming to us daily. We are receiving emails via our phones, so if anything comes to us, we are sharing that information with each other and with those who it applies to. I have asked for weekly updates from all programs as to what services they have provided through the week, and any other information that is pertinent. This way we will be able to keep our funders informed of our progress. Last week we had teleconferences with BCCEO Network, CLBC, and CSSEA. There are many great stories out there of how the individuals we serve in this Province are being supported through this difficult time, while following the guidelines of BCCDC, and “staying home”.

Ironwood Place – Rita is working very hard with Island Health and following their directives in regards to Assisted Living Facilities. Visitors are not allowed in the building with the exception of essential visits. They are working to get another cook in order to provide breakfasts, as the residents are limited in their ability to shop. They have a greeter at the door to ensure all individuals coming into the building are practicing universal protocols to keep the building as safe as possible for the residents. Activities have been cancelled.

Day Programs (Leisure, Passages, Confidence in Community, HYPE and Employment): These programs remain closed for now, although the individuals who need some form of support are being supported in adapted ways. Most participants remain at home, self isolating as requested by BCCDC. The staff will and are being reassigned to our essential programs – Ironwood Place, Group Homes, and Semi Independent Living. Some staff have had to self isolate due to colds or compromised immune systems. Thanks to those that have reached out and offered to do anything that is needed to keep our people supported when and where needed. Supervisors are checking in with participants to see how people are doing, and if any support is needed.

Semi Independent Living: Debbie and her team are still providing services, but on a limited basis. They have been doing the shopping and banking for those who need support, and have been making frozen meals for those who receive service on this program.

Dogwood Place: The Supervisors of these programs are working on how to provide tele-therapy to the families on their caseloads. The last couple of weeks, they’ve been doing on-line staff development, and developing therapy resources they can use over the internet. This week the team is figuring out the technology they need, and how to roll that out. This is a learning curve for all.

Group Homes: The group homes are still up and running as usual. Thank you to all of the RCW's, and CSW's and Supervisors who have managed to keep our residents living in their homes with the least amount of disruption. A few residents have gone home to isolate with their families which has eased a bit of pressure. Last week we asked staff to work only in one location in order to lessen the chance of cross-contamination. With this, some staff had to choose which organization they would work for, as they work in different homes with different employers. We made this decision on information that was being shared by the Health Authorities. It has now been clarified that this only applies to Long Term Care Facilities in the Province, so our staff can work with other employers. We are still trying to lessen the chance of cross-contamination within our organization, and lessen the burden of orientating the displaced CSW's at different locations. Therefore, the day program staff will still be reassigned to one essential service program, and the casuals will be assigned to where they have been orientated. All staff who work for other organizations, do not have to choose which organization they will work for. They are able to continue working for multiple organizations, in multiple locations. I have attached a document that was shared with us from Island Health – Community Care Facilities Licensing.

Thank you to all employees of CRADACL! You have all stepped up when needed, encouraged coworkers and the folks we serve, been reassigned without a blink of an eye, followed the advice of BCCDC on handwashing, sanitizing, and physical distancing. You are all doing your part, and I am so proud to be part of this organization of dedicated individuals who are putting the needs of others before themselves.

Stay safe!