

**To: All Staff**  
**From: Brad Saunders, CEO**  
**Date: January 11, 2021**  
**Re: Update on Children's and Adult Respite**

Since the beginning of the pandemic, our focus at Community Living Toronto has been on keeping the people we support and our staff safe. Over the summer, we worked closely with the provincial government and Public Health authorities to implement a staged plan for easing some restrictions that were put in place when the pandemic began. Our first phase of reopening focused on piloting a small-scale launch of our After-School Respite Program. We have opened After-School respite programs at two locations for a small number of participants. This program is operating at significantly reduced capacity due to public health restrictions. The After-School program is capped at the number of current participants in accordance with public health guidelines that have accompanied the second wave. Overnight respite programs remain closed across CLTO, aligned with and following the current Provincial Emergency orders, set to be reviewed on March 31, 2021. This includes programs at Lawson, McMillan, TREADD, Ennerdale, Wellesworth, and Gilley.

#### **Children's Respite**

Until further notice, CLTO will no longer be accepting reservation dates for service or packages for those interested in receiving Children's respite services. While we have recently reopened our After-School program on a limited basis, we are unable to expand reopening of respite services in a broader capacity for the foreseeable future. We are receiving ongoing requests from in-service families in anticipation of Overnight respite resuming. Unfortunately, the reality is such that we cannot create and send respite packages on behalf of families at this time. With Children's respite currently unavailable, it is not in families' best interest to complete respite packages, as important information can become outdated while services are paused.

#### **Adult Respite**

As above, all Adult respite programs will cease accepting packages and reservation dates for service. CLTO continues to receive family member requests for respite dates and times, with the expectation of programs reopening in the near future. Unlike Children's respite with our small-scale After-School program, Adult respite remains fully paused. These restrictions will remain in place until such a time that public health and CLTO deem it safe to resume respite services. At that time, new measures will be implemented based on the recommendations and guidelines by public health.

We know this is an incredibly difficult time and will continue to provide public updates on our respite program through our CLTO COVID-19 Update Webinars, email updates, and agency website. We thank you, as always, for your continued patience and understanding.

For further inquiries, please contact:

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