

# SITUATION on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 CHSLD Heather

# Update on the situation

As you know, the COVID-19 has managed to make its way into our establishment despite the rigorous measures we had taken. We tested all of our residents and employees as a preventive measure after discovering a first case.

Although we have received the results, this is obviously an evolutionary situation and we remain alert. For the time being, however, the situation is stable.

We conduct daily resident monitoring and promptly contact residents and respondents when a positive result is found. We continue to rigorously maintain and adjust the measures in place to ensure everyone's safety and avoid possible transmission between infected residents and others.

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As requested by the government, we have already prepared an area, called "hot zone" which will be used to group residents with a positive diagnosis. We have therefore already changed room residents and the respondents have already been informed of the situation and of the new room number.

Please note that the establishment's management is monitoring the situation very closely and is working in collaboration with the CISSS.

# How many cases are there?

On April 29th, there were:

3 positive cases augmentation of 0 1 death augmentation of 0

Two of our employees also tested positive and were immediately guarantined at home.

We would like to tell the families who have lost a loved one that we are with you wholeheartedly. You have our deepest condolences. We will never forget.

#### Measures in place

- ➤ The visit promised by the government took place on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and the designated visitor was satisfied with the elements put in place
- We work in collaboration with our doctor as well as our partner the CISSS de Lanaudière.
- Personal protective equipment is still rationed, but available in sufficient quantity for our staff and those of CISSS.
- We have given additional training to our staff.
- > Our site coordinator is on site to direct operations and organize teams. She also assists teams when needed.
- > We carry out daily management of employees with symptoms. They are placed in quarantine according to recognized guidelines.
- Admissions from hospitals are stopped for an indefinite period.
- > We have created cold and hot zones according to ministerial directives and have distributed staff members in these separate zones. These employees cannot walk from one area to another.
- Elevators will be dedicated to staff members according to these areas.
- A security guard control the access 24 hours a day.
- > We have gone beyond the directives in the last few weeks, for example, 14-day mandatory isolation for new admissions.

#### Reinforcement for our teams

If necessary, CISSS personnel will be deployed to replace our fallen personnel and we appreciate it.

These people coming from the CISSS are trained professionals who are aware of the risk of not respecting infection prevention guidelines. If in doubt, and even if they are asymptomatic, our employees and those from the CISSS are and will be tested and removed for a quarantine period, should the case arise.

Training and tools aimed at supporting people with or without clinical experience on temporary assignment with us have also been developed by the MSSS. Helping staff will therefore be able to adapt more quickly to the tasks to be carried out in our establishment.

#### Hot and cold zones

Residents who have contracted COVID-19 are placed in a dedicated section of a unit, called a "hot zone," to prevent them from spreading the virus to other residents. Residents suspected of being carriers are placed in isolation in a dedicated area until the results of the tests are obtained. Depending on the number of cases in the facility, there may be hot and cold areas on each floor. The zones are clearly separated and the personnel assigned to the hot zone can only work in this zone.

#### Infection prevention

Since the start of the pandemic, we have applied all the health measures recommended by the MSSS and the National Institute of Public Health, and even more. We have rigorous measures and we are monitoring them closely.

We have active support from the CISSS infection prevention counselors to help contain the outbreak.

#### Online Video Calls with residents

Please continue to communicate with your loved ones. It creates beautiful moments for them. To make an appointment, please contact <u>loisirs.rawdon@groupesantearbec.com</u>.

# Quality of care and services

The COVID-19 measures and protocols in place have obviously changed the dynamic at the Centre. However, residents are receiving the care they need and our kitchen is running as usual. That said, it is possible that the usual way of doing things has been adapted in order to respect social distancing. Medication and meals may by brought in at a different time, but **we have the necessary staff** to provide care and services for all our residents.

Our managers, health staff and support employees are redoubling their efforts to ensure professional service, despite the circumstances.

# **Caregivers**

We are aware that you are saddened by our temporary decision not to welcome family caregivers. Family caregivers are useful beyond the comfort of the resident. However, the current context leads us to be overly cautious before opening the door for caregivers. The risks of weakening the health of residents remain very significant. We want to limit, at least in the short term, the number of people circulating in living environments.

Rest assured that we are working to organize your return, but we ask for your patience. We will contact you as soon as everything is in place, but it will not be immediate.

# Any concerns? Questions? Want to speak to someone quickly?

Contact us from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. at our new centralized line at 514-820-7303.

And continue to monitor the messages that will be sent by email, on our website and on our Facebook page.

# Thank you for your support

We are aware that this situation causes you a lot of worries and stress. Rest assured that all measures are in place, both for staff and residents.

We thank you for your support and understanding during these difficult times.