



Bethesda Community Services
3280 Schmon Parkway
Thorold ON L2V 4Y6
905.684.6918

For Immediate Release

PUBLIC HEALTH DECLARES OUTBREAK AT BETHESDA

(VINELAND, ON) On April 26, 2020 a staff working at one of Bethesda's residential programs at Fly Road tested positive for COVID-19. Since receiving notification of such, Bethesda has been working diligently with Niagara Public Health to minimize the potential for other positive cases. This is the only confirmed case of COVID-19 in all of Bethesda's operations at this time. Bethesda's leadership will continue to work with Niagara Public Health to minimize the effects of this situation on others. "We wish this staff all the best and a speedy recovery," shared Chief Executive Officer, Brian Davies in a public letter released on April 27.

Based on Niagara Public Health's direction and determination, this situation has been deemed as an "outbreak" and listed on their website as such. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bethesda has been working closely with Niagara Public Health to ensure that screening tools, messaging and information provided has been up to date, accurate and to the required standards. All staff who were in contact with this individual are now self-isolating for 14 days and are being tested. The three people we support who came into contact with this staff have also been isolated from one another and will remain separated for a period of 14 days. This is the only case of COVID-19 associated with Bethesda at this time and preventative measures have been implemented to minimize the risk associated with this situation.

Bethesda's leadership team are grateful for the incredible job that all staff are doing during this challenging time, especially the organization's essential staff who work to ensure the safety of those living in group home settings. Thank you for your dedication to Bethesda and its vision.

For additional information, please contact Meaghan Erb, Manager Community Relations at merb@bethesdaservices.com.

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