



## COVID-19 Update

### Universal Face Shields/Eye Protection Implementation

Hi Everyone,

The second wave of COVID-19 is upon us as we see case numbers rising and outbreaks occurring in the community. We continue to learn from the health sector outbreak experiences and review our internal precautions and plans regularly. Thrive group continues to be committed to ensuring the health and safety of our staff, residents and clients.

Starting today, November 3<sup>rd</sup> we are beginning to roll out universal eye protection in all of our programs. Going forward, all staff and essential visitors, which includes essential caregivers are required to wear face shields in addition to a face mask while at any of our sites. Although universal face shields are not a provincially mandated precaution, it is one that we feel is important to implement as the risk of COVID-19 being unknowingly brought into one of our sites increases, as there are more active cases in the community.

Universal use of masks and eye protection reduces the release of respiratory secretions from talking, sneezing, and coughing or droplets of other body fluids during personal care. It also protects the eyes, nose and mouth from exposure from others. **Wearing masks and eye protection protects you from others and protects others from you.**

If you are an essential visitor to one of our homes and you do have a face shield, please begin bringing it to your visits. Our sites can provide visitors that do not have a face shield one shield that they will be responsible to care for, clean and reuse.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Take good care,

Lucy Sheehan  
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Community Services

Renee Guder  
Senior Administrator  
Long-Term Care

Janine Mills  
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