

March 10, 2020

Dear Friends,

As concerns rise about COVID-19, I'd like to inform you about how ehm is working to understand and plan for how COVID-19 may impact our services.

We take the health and safety of ehm participants, tenants, employees, students, volunteers and donors very seriously. ehm is committed to providing a safe environment to everyone who comes through our doors.

Senior management has been participating in training sessions, meetings, and regular phone and email communication with the following agencies about COVID-19:

- Toronto Public Health
- Toronto Drop-In Network
- City of Toronto Shelter Support and Housing
- Other agencies in the community

We would like to help maintain calm and stability in the community during this time of heightened anxiety. Until we receive instructions from Toronto Public Health to do otherwise, all programs and volunteering, including community meals, will continue as normal. Currently there are no cases of COVID-19 in the shelter system, and the risk to people at ehm is very low.

We are following precautions that have been shared by Toronto Public Health. These include:

- Installing additional hand sanitizers in the building
- Encouraging everyone to wash their hands more frequently, cough in their sleeve, and not touch their face
- Add additional cleaning to surfaces that are touched frequently

In addition, volunteers and visitors are encouraged to consider staying home if feeling unwell. This is particularly helpful as many participants in ehm's Drop-In program have compromised immune systems and are at higher risk of illness in general.

In the case where someone in the shelter system or the community receives a positive diagnosis, agencies that support this population (like ehm) will be informed immediately and will receive instructions from Toronto Public Health. If we receive advice from Toronto Public Health that would require us to change or cancel programming, we will contact affected people, including all volunteer groups, to let them know immediately.



Evangel Hall Mission

A community of compassion. A place of hope.™

Thank you everyone for your support and understanding. Be assured, ehm is dedicated to staying informed and taking appropriate action based on public health advisories.

Wishing you all good health,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ainsley' in a cursive script.

Ainsley Chapman
Executive Director