

Toronto, October 7 2020

## CAH MANAGEMENT PRESS RELEASE

We are once again here faced with the change of season with its colors and temperature variations... and the beginning of the second phase of the COVID 19 pandemic and all the concerns that come with it.

I am glad we all enjoyed the summer months, just a little bit closer together, with beautiful, sunny weather. However, it looks like we will have to take a few steps back as winter approaches.

This week we will celebrate Thanksgiving, this time with social distancing. Nevertheless, it is an opportunity to say thank you and express our gratitude, and I believe we have much to be thankful for.

We may not be able to be physically close, but we have managed to stay connected. Together, we used the quiet summer months to prepare for the challenges ahead. Together, we learned how to use virtual platforms and new technologies. Together we were able to re-launch most of our programs by implementing all personal protection recommendations and infection prevention and control measures. Our journey continues. We have rearranged our space to meet our needs in a safe manner and we make sure that everyone wears a mask. We can all be very proud of our success and we are encouraged to continue our cautious attitude. I believe that together we can ensure everyone's safety and commitment.

What a wonderful coincidence! We have just purchased the new adapted and accessible van thanks to our fundraising campaign over the past two years. We really want to thank each and everyone of you, friends and donors, who made a donation and made this possible. This van will go a long way in helping our clients get around the city for their medical appointments and hopefully soon for community outreach and social events.

It is comforting to see how our community has supported us and continues to do so. When many things had to slow down and sometimes had to stop, our donors and friends continued to reach out to us and offer their encouragement and support. Thanks to you, we have been able to continue to do what we do best - keep our clients and caregivers safe and engaged.

Although our major community engagement and fundraising events were suspended this year, exposing us to a potentially critical shortfall, we were still able to run a successful campaign and ensure that our clients have access to appropriate and affordable technology to stay connected and active in their homes. We were able to provide tailored training and coaching to clients and staff to build confidence to learn and interact in this new environment. So yes, we really want to take this opportunity to thank you all and give you a little taste of our new normal.

Stay tuned, as our journey continues and we will have much to share as we go along. of road, as we strive to create many opportunities for connection and engagement.

Let us enjoy the season, be thankful and stay safe. In addition, this year, more than ever, we invite you to get vaccinated!

Barbara Ceccarelli, CAH Executive Director