



May 9, 2020

Dear Residents, Families and Employees,

When the World Health Organization designated 2020 as the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife, it couldn't have chosen a more appropriate group to recognize. The WHO originally chose this group to focus on during 2020 in part to mark the 200th birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. As 2020 has played out, the choice seems prescient, as the COVID-19 pandemic has brought into even sharper focus the critical role these heroes play in our collective ability to fight a virus intent on global suffering.

During National Nursing Week (May 11 – 17), we have another opportunity to pause and celebrate the people who have made nursing others' health their life's work. It takes a special person to be a nurse, someone who not only can manage often complex medical situations, but someone who is also brave enough to bring comfort to people in pain, to bring compassion to those afraid of what's to come, and to bring some solace to those grieving. It is a physically, mentally and emotionally demanding job, and one, I'm told, is also tremendously rewarding.

We're a company that has been providing seniors care in Canada for nearly 60 years. We are fortunate to have many nurses within our team, and we have always valued their contributions immensely. We know that there are countless families and residents who have felt the same way. The times we are living in right now, however, are unlike anything we've seen. And our nurses are working tirelessly, doing everything they can to adapt to a constantly-changing situation and prevent the spread of this terrible virus.

It is a healthcare challenge like no other, and yet, again, it is the nurses and other healthcare professionals who are leading the way to help us get through this. Every day that a nurse comes in to work at one of our long term care homes or retirement residences that is experiencing an outbreak, they are showing courage. Every time that they hold a resident's hand, because that person's loved ones can't visit right now, they are showing compassion. And every time they put on their PPE and provide care to a resident who has tested positive to COVID-19, they are showing commitment.

And then they get up, and do it all again the next day.

The COVID-19 pandemic, for many of us, has been scary. We don't yet know enough about the virus. Science is learning more about how it spreads and who it targets every day. Nurses are not immune to these feelings, and yet they manage to put fears for their personal safety aside, and they persevere. Florence Nightingale once said, "How little can be done under the spirit of fear." During this pandemic, not surprisingly, nurses are embracing hope and not fear, serving as models for all of us.

During National Nursing Week, and every day, I am proud to salute the nurses of Revera.



Please reach out to your Executive Director if you have any questions at any time. To keep in touch with Revera, please visit our COVID-19 section on our website, reveraliving.com.

Be well. Stay safe. Stay strong. Wash your hands.

Sincerely,

Thomas Wellner

President & CEO, Revera Inc.