



**Media Statement – COVID-19 Outbreak at Westney Gardens Retirement Residence – Ajax
- Dr. Rhonda Collins, Chief Medical Officer, Revera**

December 29, 2020

On December 29, Durham Public Health declared an outbreak at Westney Gardens retirement residence after one staff member tested positive for COVID-19. An additional staff member has since tested positive. The staff members are in self-isolation at home. All residents and staff members are being tested in consultation with Durham Public Health.

We are working closely with Durham Public Health officials to implement pandemic outbreak protocols and infection control practices. Residents are isolated in their rooms and monitored for symptoms twice daily. All staff are screened at the beginning and end of their shifts and are required to wear a surgical mask and eye protection in the residence at all times.

We are doing enhanced cleaning at Westney Gardens, disinfecting high touch surfaces like handrails and doors, resident rooms, common areas and staff rooms frequently.

To promote physical distancing, residents are being served meals in their rooms. Group recreation programming has been replaced by one-on-one activities with residents for social engagement.

We have informed residents, their families and the staff of the status of the outbreak. Visits have been cancelled during the outbreak, except for essential visitors. We appreciate the patience and understanding of our residents and their families as we take these precautions. After the outbreak is resolved, we will notify families as soon as we are able to resume visits.

Revera continues to do everything we can to keep our residents and employees safe as we work to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at our retirement residences and long term care homes.