



RMHC[®]
Newfoundland
& Labrador

RMHC NL MISSION FORWARD
PLAN



June 2020



June 8, 2020

RMHC NL Mission Forward Plan – UPDATE #11

At Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador, the safety, security, and health of our families, staff, and volunteers is always our top priority. As we all know, Covid-19 is a serious concern to public health here in our province, across Canada and around the world. Here at Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador we take this public health concern very seriously.

In order to prevent exposure and the spread of COVID-19 and protect the families already in our care, on March 20, 2020 RMHC NL moved to a Mission Paused Phase and suspended acceptance of any new families, paused all programs that involved outside groups, paused our volunteer program and restricted all non-essential visitors. Since that time, we remained focused on our core mission of providing overnight accommodations, meals and support for the families currently staying at our house. Over the past several weeks, our occupancy moved from 67% occupancy to 20%. Due to several preventative measures and strengthened infectious control processes, thankfully, Ronald McDonald House did not have any guests or staff under investigation or infected by Covid-19.

“NL Life with Covid-19”

On April 30, 2020 the Government announced NL Life with Covid-19, a program to ease back on restrictions that have been imposed under the Public Health Emergency. The plan is for a 5 “Alert Level” program, with restrictions being eased and relaxed as the Government moves through the Alert Levels from 5 to 1. Regular movement through the various Alert Levels is not guaranteed, and reversion to a more restrictive Alert Level may be required depending upon the assessment of various factors.

Based on our review of a Mission Forward Plan presented to RMHC Global, we are pleased to announce that RMHC Newfoundland and Labrador is approved to move from the Mission Paused to Mission Renewal (phase 1). Mission Renewal is the critical first phase of return to limited operations. Also, as of this morning, the province moved to “Alert Level 3” with further local restrictions being eased and relaxed.

Every day, families continue to travel to St. John’s for medical reasons with their child. **Our mission is needed now more than ever.** To balance the need for our programs and services with the health and safety of current families, staff and volunteers, we have developed a four-phased plan titled **RMHC NL Mission Forward**.

During this phased approach, RMHC NL will take extra measures to ensure the health and safety of everyone at Ronald McDonald House by closely aligning our phases with the epidemiological data and NL Living with COVID-19 Alert levels currently active in our province.

We have implemented new specific criteria for new families, enhanced screening processes, a minimum 14-day waiting period between welcoming new families, among many other preventative measures.

Please see attached the RMHC NL Mission Forward Summary for details that include the following in Phase 1 – Mission Renewal

- Slow and steady increase in occupancy to support and care for families with sick children
- Limited criteria and added screening protocols for all families requesting accommodations
- Increase daily infectious control precautions including the use of masks in common areas and daily temperature checks.
- Limit use of common areas to only kitchen and laundry facilities with a rotation schedule
- Continue to pause in house Volunteer Program.
- No in house programing conducted by outside groups
- No visitors

While we are anxious to expand our mission to help those families who need our immediate services, we will continue to monitor the evolving COVID-19 situation and follow the guidance and recommendations of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

As we now enter Phase 1 - Mission Renewal - of the RMHC NL Mission Forward Plan, we will provide a further updates if there is a need to fall back to Mission Paused or when we decide it is safe to move forward through our phases.

Should you have any questions surrounding RMHC NL Mission Forward Plan, please feel free to contact us.



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RMHC NL Phases MISSION FORWARD PLAN	Phase 0 - Mission Pause	Phase 1 Mission Renewal	Phase 2 Mission Momentum	Phase 3 Mission Stronger	Phase 4 Mission Forward
Government of NL Public Health Alert Levels	Provincial Alert Level 5 or 4	Provincial Alert Level 4 or 3	Provincial Alert Level 3 or 2	Provincial Alert Level 2 or 1	Provincial Alert Level 1 or Normal Living without Alert Levels
		RMHC NL will decide safe movement along these phases, not necessarily at the same schedule as the Government of NL Alerts example indicated above. Should at any time, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Alert Level increase, RMHC NL will return to Mission Pause to re-evaluate			
Occupancy Level	Paused on current occupancy	33% (5 Families)	47% (7 Families)	67% (10 families)	100% (15 Families) full operating status
Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue providing mission to existing families only. Suspend acceptance of new families. As families check out – no new families can check in. 	<p>RMHC NL have identified limited and specific families for in-take into Ronald McDonald House, with extensive compliance milestones. Careful consideration of the Alert level within our Province and any change in the Provincial Epidemiology.</p> <p>Once a group of families has been welcomed to RMHC, no new families will be permitted to check in for a minimum of 14 days. After the 14-day period has ended (with no PUIs and no confirmed COVID-19 cases among families or staff), we will evaluate moving forward to welcome another group of families during a subsequent in-take window. This will be closely aligned with the epidemiological data and Alert levels in our province.</p> <p><i>Consideration only to Families in the following categories that can also meet our screening requirement:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families, who have been in self-isolation for 14 days or more, prior to seeking to stay at the House. <i>*This would apply to instances of a planned hospitalization and families can prepare</i> Individuals who have stayed at the bedside of the patient in a non-COVID-19 ward for 14 days or longer OR Individuals who have stayed in alternate lodging facilities within the community where the RMHC Program is located for a period of 14 days or longer. Individuals traveling from a confirmed *declining incidence of COVID-19 (14 days or longer). Families requesting admittance who cannot comply with above but who need emergency accommodation <p><i>Families must meet all the following family in-take criteria:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure our immediate support to families with critically ill children with urgent needs we will only consider acceptance of families with children being care for in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), oncology or with other critical illnesses indicated by medical staff at our partner hospital. Families with children currently being treated as an in-patient. If discharged as an outpatient and required to stay in close proximity to our partner hospital, the child must be able to maintain restrictions such as social distancing, hand and respiratory etiquette and stay in their room for extended periods To reduce turnover of families in our care, families must require stays of five days or longer. For health and safety of all families staying at Ronald McDonald House, only parents/guardians will be accommodated. Families may not go home and return back to RMHC during their current stay. 			To be determined
Added Infectious Control Precautions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strict daily Health Screening for all families, staff and essential service providers Strict physical distancing and respiratory etiquette Space out the family suites that are being utilized Stringent levels of cleaning and disinfection Staff and Families use masks in main/common areas of house 				To be determined
Communal Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitchen/Laundry Room Open with a rotation Schedule All other communal areas are closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kitchen/Laundry Room Open with Rotation Schedule Some additional communal areas will open but restricted based on a schedule. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More Communal areas may open with strict adherence to social distancing 	To be determined	
In House Volunteer Program	Paused			Possible return of a limited volunteer schedule	To be determined
Activities/Programs Organized by Outside Groups	Paused				To be determined
Non-essential Visitation	Paused				To be determined



Jared Edgar (22 Months)
from Middle Arm, NL.
4 stays, 160 nights.

**PULLING
TOGETHER
FOR FAMILIES**