

## AIDS Committee of Durham Region

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"Acting Locally, Caring Globally"

March 13, 2020

To the entire extended ACDR Family, our community partners and the community at large;

## ACDR's Current Response to the Covid 19 Pandemic

Under the guidance of ACDR's Pandemic Continuity of Operations Plan I am writing to inform you of some temporary changes we are making to ensure your continued good health and reduce the risk of Covid 19 Virus infection.

At this time, ACDR has cancelled all support groups, events, interventions, workshops, fundraising events, trainings and social activities.

Food bank, case management and counselling will continue but by appointment only and most case management will be done by telephone. Face to face meetings will be arranged on a case by case basis if required.

There will be no new intakes until the pandemic passes.

The interior door to Support Services will be locked and a sanitation station set up in the vestibule. Once you have used the sanitizer and confirmed that you do not have any symptoms you will welcome to come in.

All visitors are required to make an appointment regardless of which department you may be visiting.

Harm Reduction Services continue for now but clients are being advised to stock up on materials and we are discussing client plans should ACDR's program close down temporarily.

Many Volunteer shifts have been cancelled across multiple departments; please check in with Brian Reusch-Serapio our Manager of Volunteer Engagement at extension 513 if you have questions or concerns. Some staff and students are being redeployed to other program areas.

Should infections in Durham escalate, Harm Reduction services on site will cease and all student shifts will be cancelled.

## Cancelled programs include:

In Her Skin Women's Conference,
Totally Outright,
You Lead the MSM Meth User
Support Program,
HerStory A Black Women's
Intervention,
ACDR Volunteer Appreciation Party,

Wednesday Community Drop In, Pharma Chats, Gay, Mens, & Women's Support Groups Dinner & a Movie Potlucks Pozzy Youth Meetings and Socials.

At this time the HYPE Poz Youth Summit for May 30 - June 1, 2020 has not been cancelled, but it is on the bubble.

ACDR will no longer host in person meetings on the premises but will instead offer our teleconference lines to our community partners who rely on our space for meetings.

As you know ACDR works with people who have compromised immune systems, these measures are in place solely to reduce the risk of Covid 19 infection to our HIV positive community members, volunteer and staff.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation,

Adrian Betts

**Executive Director**