



Committee Report

To: Councilor Chris Peabody, Chair and
Members of the Long Term Care Homes Committee of
Management

From: Megan Garland,
Director of Long Term Care and Senior Services

Date: May 19, 2022

Re: Long Term Care Update Report - April 2022

Staff Recommendation:

The Long-Term Care Update Report for April 2022 is for information.

Background:

This is the April report to the Long-Term Care Homes Committee of Management. All members of County Council are members of the committee and are also the representatives of and act on behalf of Bruce County which is the Licensee for both Brucelea Haven and Gateway Haven.

Long Term Care Services - Regulatory Compliance

Both Bruce County long term care homes, Brucelea Haven and Gateway Haven remain in compliance with the LTCHA and associated regulations. The homes conduct regular audits and Administrators, management teams and the Director of Long-Term Care along with Senior Services continue to monitor the homes' status including ensuring that the RAI-MDS submissions are completed within timelines.

Current Census (as of April 30th ,2022)

BLH: 141

GWH: 92

BLH has retained 3 private rooms vacant at this time for potential isolation need and GWH, 4 private beds.

Site Visits, Follow Up Inspections and Opportunities for Partnership:

Ministry of Long-Term Care:

In March 2022, The Ministry of Long-Term Care conducted a follow up inspection regarding the previous compliance orders, critical incidents, and complaints. The home has received 2 compliance reports as a result of the inspection which can be located at [Search Selections for Long-Term Care homes \(ltchomes.net\)](https://ltchomes.net)

The reports confirm that the previous compliance orders for pain, skin and wound and admission process have been put into compliance and identified new findings as noted below;

- 1 Written Notification and 1 Voluntary Plan of Correction - related to pain management policy
- 1 Written Notification and 1 Compliance Order - related to application for admission and withholding approval.

The compliance order is due May 20th, and the home is currently working on complying with the order.

Pandemic Preparedness and Management

Both homes experience COVID outbreaks during the month of April. Brucelea Haven COVID outbreak lasted 11 days and impacted 2 residents and 0 staff members. Gateway Haven COVID outbreak lasted 15 days and impacted 2 residents and 5 staff members. Both homes did a great job at stopping the spread and maintaining high quality care for the residents.

Both homes also continue to experience staffing pressure related to community transmission and the quarantine requirements for health care workers. These pressures are being managed thru contingency plans and agency usage.

The homes have implemented the updated COVID immunization policy and visitor policy with residents, families, friends, and staff members. The homes are currently providing up to 4 essential and general visitors (vaccinated) and in designated areas up to 4 general visitors (unvaccinated) at a time.

On April 25th, the Ministry of Long-Term Care advised that considering the increase in COVID across Ontario, the directive which were scheduled to expire on April 27th would remain in effect until June 11, 2022. The directive continues to provide guidance to long term care homes on surveillance testing, personal protective equipment, outbreak management and the ability to redeploy staff.

In partnership with Bruce Paramedics, we have purchased an ID Now Machine to be located at both Long-Term Care Homes. These machines will provide immediate onsite testing and results for PCR for COVID 19. The intention of the machines is for both departments to be able to use for the following reasons;

- Determine if home is in an outbreak and to put precaution in place immediately
- Determine if a home is out of outbreak
- Return staff to work as quickly as possible

Implementation of the machines will begin in May 2022.

Operational Activities:

Staffing:

Staffing challenges continue in both homes, due to the number of vacant lines, staff illness and the number of staff off due to high-risk contacts. The use of agency staff continues to be high due to vacancies, outbreaks and preparing for summer holidays.

Gateway Haven Management Team Update

The Administrator and Director of Nursing resigned their positions on April 7th, 2022.

The Administrator Supervisor resigned her position on May 12th, 2022.

Recruitment is underway for all three positions.

Brucelea Haven Management Team Update

The Administrator Supervisor resigned her position on April 25th, 2022, and recruitment is underway for replacement.

Funding Announcements

Ministry of Long-Term Care has providing funding announcements for 2022-2023 outlined below;

- 1.75% increase in the level-of-care global base funding starting April 1, 2022.
- IPAC funding for April to June 2022- \$ 10,000 base line monthly, \$ 436 per bed per month for COVID prevention and \$ 35 per bed per month for Personal Protective Equipment.
- Permanent wage enhancement for PSW extension for the \$ 3.00 per hour worked.

Family and Residents Councils:

Family and Resident Councils are active in both homes (total of 4 councils). These councils provide an opportunity for both family and residents to have direct discussions with each other and our staff as they may wish. Attendance by LTC staff at these meetings is at the request of the Council. The Administrator is generally asked to attend all meetings of both groups and senior staff (Nursing, Environmental) also receive invitations to attend.

Both homes host Family and Friends town halls which is well attended.

Resident Engagement

Brucelea Haven held a cruise week which included many events such as ship shape exercise classes, smoothie bars, shuffleboard, hola hoop contest, captains fine dining and virtual travel to the Caribbean and underwater adventures.

Gateway Haven had quieter month due to the outbreaks. Resident did enjoy monthly birthday celebration, music entertainment, Easter celebrations and superhero day.

Both homes have welcomed back volunteers into the home and are looking forward to hosting home wide programs again.

Physical Plant and Equipment (planned and unplanned)

Nurse Call Bell/Phone System

The Nurse Call/Phone System replacement is nearing completion. By the end of May, the call bells will be installed, and work will begin on the phone system. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of June.

Information was provided by Emily Kussmann, Administrator at BLH to inform this report.

Approved for submission:

Derrick Thomson
Chief Administrative Officer