

July 14, 2020

Dear Friends,

I am writing to give an update of our Clubhouse. The last time I provided you with information about Pathways was the end of March, a week after we closed our physical building. Since then, we have altered our way of providing support to those living with mental health issues.

Social connection is in the heart of our services. Rather than implementing ‘social distancing,’ our Clubhouse had chosen to implement a system of ‘physical distancing.’ Now, more than ever, we needed to be socially connected with our Clubhouse members.

During the past four months, the majority of staff worked remotely with a limited amount in our building. We created our “Pathway’s Virtual Clubhouse” Facebook site that had become a lifeline for many of our members. Every day we have live feeds, links, and announcements, over 100 postings each month. By providing our members with iPads and internet access, we increased our connection with members through zoom, having over 20 meetings per week. Pathways Clubhouse has also been accepting new members and you can see our virtual tour at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZtfNo-7ybA>. Our food program is an essential part of our members’ well-being, and over 40 meals are safely made and delivered to their homes for their daily lunch.

The community has been kind to us. Because of the generosity of many, we are expanding our reach to members virtually by providing them with devices and internet access. We are also able to start our Youth Program, a venue for educated conversations, changing perceptions, and demystifying a topic that affects so many young individuals. It is our goal to give teens a platform to share their voices, empower youth to educate one another, and create a culture of peer support. Despite Covid-19 and everything else going on in the world, we still hosted our 6th Annual “Taking Care of Business” event on April 22nd. The virtual event reached hundreds of people and gave us the opportunity to thank our many employers and supporters.

And now with being in Phase 3, we had 2 “soft” openings by having a limited amount of members come into the Clubhouse, following WorkSafeBC and VCH regulations. The openings were very successful and we are moving to be open every weekday.

We understand that during this uncertain and everchanging time, individuals and businesses have experience extreme anxieties and other mental health issues, and have reached out to us. Several presentations have been made in the community to help coping during this difficult time. If we can be of support to you, or to a friend, neighbour, co-worker or loved one, please contact me at dave.macdonald@pathwaysclubhouse.com or 604-276-8834, ext. 206.

Best regards,



Dave MacDonald
Executive Director