

December 21, 2021

TCMH CEO's Christmas Message

The Holiday Season is a time to reflect – a time to look back at on the year and make plans for the future. This year should be no different, but rather than dredging up a year of uncomfortable changes during a pandemic, I would like to reflect and give thanks for the many good things we experienced this year instead.

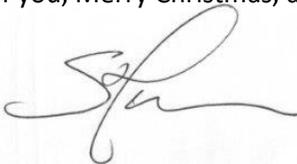
I am thankful for each of you and the effort you continue to put forward. You have done what was asked of you, sometimes willingly, and sometimes needing encouragement, but you did it all the same. Whether supported individual or resident, family member or community member, staff or volunteer you made the necessary changes to help keep everyone safe – thank you. Your collective strength gave us a chance to pause and give thanks. I know it was not an easy year, and difficult times are still ahead, but I also know kindness can help us get through the difficulties.

I am thankful for the ingenuity and creative thinking that made the best of a tricky situation. We have all had to adapt to new and different ways of living and working. We have shifted from traditional ways of doing things and have adopted new practices. Albeit slowly, delayed, and not in the normal fashion, TCMH is growing, redeveloping, and welcoming new people and partnerships into our community. Through our service to others and our leadership in care we are collectively *Making Every Day Matter* for the individuals who call TCMH home – thank you. Our mission and values are solid: they have withstood the pressures of a global pandemic. Our collective and unwavering commitment to our mission and values will help carry us through to better times.

I am thankful for optimism and encouragement. It is the daily commitment from our staff that gives me hope for the days ahead. It is the calls and messages of support from our families and community that encourage and challenge us to keep going – thank you. I believe that optimism and hope will help us overcome any obstacle in our future. Looking ahead to the new year, TCMH will continue to uphold its commitments to the individuals in our care. We will grow our organization, strengthen ourselves, and persevere.

I am thankful for everything we have learned during the last 2 years. One of the most important things I learned is to appreciate the moments and opportunities that bring us together rather than dwelling on the things that are lost. By focusing on the good and learning from mistakes, we shall persevere. A respected politician from Scotland and former British Minister of Health, Walter Elliot, once said: “perseverance is not a long race: it is many short races one after the other”. Today more than ever I thank you for your continued perseverance and dedication in the face of adversity. Whether you are staff, an individual in care, or a member of our community, thank you for your commitment to TCMH.

As we all take some time to celebrate birth, renewal, and family, I hope you also take some time to be thankful for the little things, for the big things, and for everything in between. From my family to yours, from TCMH to all of you, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!



Dr. Steven Harrison, CEO