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**Canadian Alliance to Protect and Equip Seniors Living Donates \$470,000+ 15-12-21**

*The Canadian Alliance to Protect and Equip Seniors Living (CAPES) donates over \$470,000 to support senior living sector workers.*

**TORONTO, December 15, 2021 /CNW/**

The Senior Living CaRES Fund today announced it has received a transformative gift of \$474,673 from the Canadian Alliance to Protect and Equip Seniors Living (CAPES). CAPES, a volunteer-based initiative, was founded in wave one of the pandemic by the private sector to quickly source, supply and share PPE across the seniors living sector, particularly to assist smaller operators at a time when PPE was only available for acute care facilities.

Responding to the urgent need for sufficient quantities of PPE for frontline healthcare workers, senior living organizations from across the country joined together to launch and fund the CAPES project. These organizations overfunded their own orders by 35% to source reserve PPE supplies, amounting to millions of dollars of PPE to be made available to smaller operators. The equipment, including level 1 and 2 masks, isolation gowns and gloves, was distributed across multiple channels with the reserve supplying those small operators most in need. CAPES is made up of a cross-sector group of organizations committed to the health and well-being of seniors and the healthcare workers who care for them.

This gift will support the Senior Living CaRES Fund (the Fund) build a legacy for the future providing financial support for senior living sectors workers experiencing hardship and to support workers in the sector as they pursue relevant educational opportunities to advance their careers.

Since May 2020, the Fund has awarded more than \$2.4 million in financial assistance to 761 senior living employees across the country. As the Fund evolves, it will always be rooted in the history of COVID-19 so that Canadians will never forget the heroic contributions and dedication of senior living sector employees.

"I will always remember how frontline employees went to work every day over these last 21 months to care for residents who needed their help. To me, these workers are the real heroes

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of the pandemic. I'm thrilled CAPES chose to support the Senior Living CaRES Fund", says Hazel McCallion, Honorary Chair, Senior Living CaRES Fund. "This tremendous gift comes at a critical time, when CaRES is preparing to shift its focus to supporting senior living sector workers pursue educational opportunities to advance their careers and continue to serve seniors in their care."

The Fund continues to welcome the participation of all operators as partners. Interested operators can email [info@seniorlivingcares.ca](mailto:info@seniorlivingcares.ca) to join in recognizing the extraordinary efforts of senior living employees.

### **An Initiative for the Future**

The Senior Living CaRES Fund has recently secured charitable registration. As a registered charity, the Fund will continue its legacy post-COVID-19 with the mandate to provide consistent support to employees. The Fund will build a legacy for the future with the goal to continue to provide financial support for workers experiencing hardship and to support workers in the sector as they pursue relevant educational opportunities to advance their careers. As the Fund evolves, it will always be rooted in the history of COVID-19 so that Canadians will never forget the heroic contributions and dedication of senior living sector employees.

### **About The Senior Living CaRES Fund**

The Senior Living CaRES Fund was established by founding partners Chartwell Retirement Residences, Revera Inc., Extendicare and Sienna Senior Living. Open to all employees in the sector, and inspired by their dedication and commitment, the Fund provides financial assistance to those facing extraordinary circumstances and will build a legacy for future investment to support urgent financial needs and employee education. In 2021, the Fund welcomed Southbridge Care Homes as a Platinum sponsor and OMNI Health Care as a Gold sponsor.

For more information contact:

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