

COVID^{IN THE} HOUSE OF OLD



Castleview Wychwood Towers is a microcosm of Toronto

... with close to 1,000 residents and staff from all over the world. Like many of the older inhabitants here who arrived in this city decades ago, most employees are immigrants who share their resolve to succeed. Part-time or entry-level positions as Food Service Workers, Cleaners and Personal Support Workers (PSW) may lead to secure City of Toronto careers. As COVID-19 continues to ravage all in long-term care facilities, it's clear that best practices start with committed staff providing a continuity of care.

Joan and Julette, both from Jamaica, have worked as Cleaners in long-term care for 30 years. Veterans Pamela, a PSW from Guyana, and Sabrina, a Rehab Assistant from India with a talent for telling 'dirty' jokes, run a tight ship at the main entrance as screeners checking for COVID-19 symptoms. All four women are retiring within a year. Ngawang, a Recreation Services Assistant who shares his love of music with residents on the 5th floor, embodies a new wave of Tibetan employees. He started working as a Gate Attendant at the Toronto Island ferry terminal in the summer of 2018. By that fall he was a Heavy-duty Cleaner at CWT.

STAFF MEMBER, CW TOWERS, TORONTO, Spring 2020 – Pandemic Diaries 1

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