

October 14, 2020

Carol and Michelle We Grow Food Oshawa, ON

Dear Carol and Michelle,

As your neighbour, friend, and partner, we at Lakeridge Health Foundation are thankful for the community work and positive impact We Grow Food has within our community.

Alexandra's Bounty is a stunning community garden and we are fortunate to have benefitted for a fourth season from the community activity your volunteers impart. We Grow Food has enriched our community as you have cultivated the garden: with care, kindness and dedication. Your volunteers not only provide fresh, locally grown fruits, vegetables and greenery, but a positive impact for all people within our neighbourhood.

It's been unfortunate that this year due to Covid-19 we have been unable to take full advantage of the garden. Thank you for the addition of special 'market days', something we eagerly looked forward to and appreciated. An example of how you continued serving the community through these complex times.

We look forward to a time when Lakeridge Health's Child and Youth Mental Health Program can reinstitute gardening and visits into our health care program. Our patients, staff, and visitors incorporate the garden into their daily routines and have missed being able to spend some time in this open space. The garden is often a place of reprieve from a stressful time or place of reflection. It contributes to healing those both giving and receiving care at the Hospital.

We are proud that We Grow Food has developed such a remarkable garden on our property, and, through our partnership with We Grow Food, the land continues to blossom.

Sincerely,

## Carolyn

Carolyn McCutcheon Director, Administration