

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

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Meeting Recording:

Simulation Funding - Matthew Dougherty and Barbara Poppe

- Senate Expected to pass with vote to take place tomorrow -
- ESG grant 4 billion dollars going to support efforts to prevent, prepare and respond amongst people experiencing homelessness and those supported by our homeless response system
- Waiting to hear how the waiver process is going to come down from HUD - Procurement standards and policies - guidance of how to get money out to the door will be coming soon
- Important to note that no match is required with the money that is coming out
- We must post how the funds are going to be used online
- Will look like Temp ENS through leasing and/or temporary structures - not specific to one type - No cap for shelters or habitability requirements

- Training and hazard pay are allowable uses - not considered admin costs
- 2 billion will be allocated in 30 days using existing ESG formula - entitlement grant allocation formula for the first 2 billion dollars
- We can estimate by multiplying last award by 6.9
- Next 2 billion in about 90 days, will be developed by different formula, unsheltered homelessness, risk of COVID, sheltered and unsheltered, economic and housing market factors
- 160 billion corona relief funds, we don't have many details on this, state and local governments w. new expenses between March 1 and December 30 2022
- Many more materials will be coming out regarding funds
- FEMA vs. ESG uses - national strategy of blending uses together to draw down more federal dollars but able to use the funds strategically to house folks during pandemic and use funds house folks once we are past
- Texas has been declared state of emergency - is the city going to request FEMA Dollar?
 - Vella will find out and update group tomorrow.

ECHO –Matthew Mollica, Kate Moore, Laura Evanoff

ECHO Operations (Kate Moore)

- COVID-19 Coordination Groups: ECHO staff are coordinating calls with the following coordination groups
 - Permanent Housing Programs (Bree Williams and Laura Evanoff)
 - First call is on Thursday 3/26/20 from 10:00 – 11:30
<https://zoom.us/j/744399925> Meeting ID: 744 399 925
 - Homeless Service Providers and Health Care System (Niki Kozak)
 - Friday 3/27 at 8:00am
 - Emergency Night Shelter (Preston Petty)
 - Wednesday 3/35 @ 11:30
 - Outreach / Unsheltered Homelessness (Katie Rose)
 - Mondays at 8:00am

CUC Health Care for the Homeless Team – Tim Mercer

- Tim and Audrey working on screening protocol for shelter population and outreach workers
- Want to understand how we can screen and get to right testing location
- Want to understand how to prioritize these spots with two goals
 - Decompress hospitals
 - Prevent spread of disease
- Will share protocols ASAP

City of Austin / Austin Public Health – Vella Karmen

- Should have 20 handwashing stations being delivered across town, working on more of those, particularly locations that are high traffic and previously part of the violet bag program
- Working on distributing drinking water
- Requested and received prioritized needs from partners - coordination with donation network for distribution of supplies
- UT dell med school also helping with coordinating supplies/resources
- Working on Coordination and protocols with HCH and ECHO & Consultants

- Had call this morning with chief epi and dept health director
- Need to make sure things are set up standard across the system
- Received notification from TDHCA (state department provides homeless funding)
 - Will be receiving additional funding, \$25,000 coming to Austin
- No known positive cases of anyone experiencing homelessness
- Clearing up rumors around positive tests and indication of people who have tested positive
- No quarantine locations yet
 - Continue to look at hotels/motels
 - Looking at other city facilities
 - Suggestions of dorms, acc campus, and other resources

Resources

- COA Homeless Strategy page: <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/austins-homeless-strategy-covid-19-support>
- Google Drive Folder (drop docs/flyers to share)
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13MPhvSwdYqfNHASyfnOZgb0x9ScsHGmE>
- Q&A Form
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScLTzZ6S91QYm3REfD7Lo6AVJ55dRLaTgsM7mZxx_Dc1pBSRg/viewform
- Community Google Doc (Homeless Services Continuities)
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SSLjrNBi7TWvpisfZ5PNIXUjQU_5A9ecoXvmH9DHycM/edit