

# COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

Monday, April 15, 2020 9:00 AM

Barrera, Patricia <Patricia.Barrera@austintexas.gov>; Kelly White <kwhite@safeaustin.org>; Julia Spann <jspann@safeaustin.org>; natasha.burton@anewentry.org; Monique Coleman <Monique.Coleman@traviscountytexas.gov>; Karman, Vella <Vella.Karman@austintexas.gov>; Kathleen.Ridings@uss.salvationarmy.org; Greg McCormack (GMcCormack@frontsteps.org); Matthew Mollica <matthewmollica@austinecho.org>; Darilynn Cardona-Beiler <Darilynn.Cardona-Beiler@integralcare.org>; susan.mcdowell@lifeworksaustin.org; Kent Herring <KHerring@familyeldercare.org>; Jo Kathryn Quinn <jkquinn@caritasofaustin.org>; Peter Daniels <Peter.Daniels@anewentry.org>; Dawn Handley <Dawn.Handley@integralcare.org>; Laura Sovine <lsovine@austinrecovery.org>; Darrin Acker <dacker@cforr.org>; rteich@foundationhomeless.org; jlong@casamarianella.org; tnichols <tnichols@frontsteps.org>; Justine Price <justine.price@wilco.org>; Mercer, Tim <Tim.Mercer@communitycaretx.org>; Mercer, Timothy I <tim.mercer@austin.utexas.edu>; Kuang, Audrey <Audrey.Kuang@communitycaretx.org>; Chris Baker <chris@toofound.org>; Shontell Gauthier <SGauthier@familyeldercare.org>; Christine Laguna <Christine.Laguna@integralcare.org>; Robert P. Dominguez <robert.dominguez@integralcare.org>; Foss, Lara <Lara.Foss@austintexas.gov>; Soleece Watson <soleece.watson@anewentry.org>; Cacki Young <Cacki.Young@Foundcom.org>; Amber Fogarty <amber@mlf.org>; Alan Graham <alan@mlf.org>; Valdez, Pete [Community Court] <Pete.Valdez@austintexas.gov>; Kingham, Robert <Robert.Kingham@austintexas.gov>; mark@sunriseaustin.org; Karen Dorrier <Karen.Dorrier@integralcare.org>; Myles, Michelle <Michelle.Myles@austintexas.gov>; Johnson-Smothers, Akeshia <Akeshia.Johnson-Smothers@austintexas.gov>; Kirscht, Estella <Estella.Kirscht@austintexas.gov>; Niki Kozak <nikikozak@austinecho.org>; Kate Moore <katemoore@austinecho.org>; Sowinski, Jennifer <Jennifer.Sowinski@austintexas.gov>; Teri Yates <teriyates@austinecho.org>; Katie Rose <katierose@austinecho.org>; Christopher.Shorter@austintexas.gov; barbara@poppeassociates.com; matthewdoherty.consulting@gmail.com; mwhite@housinginnovations.us; Larisa Corder <larisacorder@austinecho.org>; angelhouse@austinbaptistchapel.com; Axton Nichols <axtonnichols@austinecho.org>; Cate Graziani <cgraziani@harmreductiontx.org>; chrisharris101 <chrisharris101@gmail.com>; Sarah Duzinski <sarahduzinski@austinecho.org>; ELT <ELT@NETORGFT2096939.onmicrosoft.com>; Powell-Evans, Simon <Simon.Powell-Evans@austintexas.gov>; Korey Darling <Korey.Darling@traviscountytexas.gov>; Lawrence Lyman <Lawrence.Lyman@traviscountytexas.gov>; Elizabeth Baker <Elizabeth.Baker@integralcare.org>; ericka.robinson@anewentry.org; Mark Hilbelink <mhilbelink02@yahoo.com>; Patti McCabe pmccabe@casamarianella.org; kevin@mlf.org; Irit Umani <Irit@TrinityCenterAustin.org>; wthurman@utexas.edu; Craig, Ken <Ken.Craig@austintexas.gov>; mark@marklittlefield.com; Megan Podowski <mpodowski@caritasofaustin.org>; Rohlich, Amanda <Amanda.Rohlich@austintexas.gov>; David Gomez <David.Gomez@integralcare.org>; Shlachter, Zack <Zack.Shlachter@austintexas.gov>; Bronwyn Towart <bronwyn.towart@lifeworksaustin.org>; Whitney Bright <whitneybright@austinecho.org>; Melissa Wheeler <melissawheeler@austinecho.org>; Quiana Fisher QFisher@caritasofaustin.org

## Meeting Recording:

Topic: COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers (April 8-June 30 invite)

Date: Apr 15, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

# Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County



COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers  
April 15<sup>th</sup> Agenda



City of Austin / Austin Public Health



ECHO – Local Operations



Agency Updates



Wrap Up – Next Call: Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am

## Meeting Notes:

COA/ APH – Vella Karman

<http://www.austintexas.gov/departments/austins-homeless-strategy-covid-19-support>

<http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>

- 900 COVID-19 cases in Travis County. 14 deaths and 158 people recovered
  - At least 22 individuals experiencing homelessness, including 2 that have recovered
    - The count of cases among people experiencing homelessness is likely an undercount due to private labs and providers not necessarily recording each person's housing status when they test
- All residents at The Salvation Army downtown shelter were transferred to isolation/quarantine (Iso-fac) and protective lodging (Pro-lodge)
  - Shelter is undergoing a deep cleaning
- New order from Austin/Travis County Health Authority stating **everyone must wear a fabric mask when outside the home or in public**
  - Physical distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals in still in affect
- Pro-Lodge 2 is open
  - Has a capacity for 60 people
- Integral Care is providing mental health services to Iso-Fac and Pro-Lodges 1 and 2
- Austin City Council approved allocating \$15 million from their emergency reserve fund, RISE (Relief in a State of Emergency)

- Funding will go towards improving food access, case management, and assistance with rent/mortgage, utilities, and medical and childcare expenses
- Press release: <https://www.austintexas.gov/news/city-council-approves-relief-state-emergency-fund-provide-immediate-and-direct-relief-vulnerable-austinites>
- More details to come later
- 
- Food access for people experiencing homelessness
  - 714 bags of shelf-stable food have been distributed in the downtown core and to encampments, along with water and pet food
  - Central Texas Food Bank will deliver another shipment of shelf-stable food expected Thursday (4/16/20)
  - Prepared meal delivery is postponed temporarily as they work through distribution details
- Communications
  - Revisions to [austintexas.com/homelessness](http://austintexas.com/homelessness) went live on Monday night
  - Working with Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and food access taskforce to release a food access press release on Thursday (4/16/18)
- DACC
  - Continues to offer walk in case management triage services, 8am – 5pm Monday – Friday
  - Served 372 individuals, approx. 17 people a day
  - Downtown First Methodist Church will continue donating snack bags for DACC clients
  - Agencies can request feedback from the Austin Homelessness Advisory Council (AHAC) at upcoming meetings (4/27/20 and 5/11/20)
    - Contact Laura Williamson, [laura.williamson2@austintexas.gov](mailto:laura.williamson2@austintexas.gov) 512-293-7210
    - L Williams will help draft surveys which consist of 8-10 open-ended questions
    - 2-week turnaround time to receive feedback
- Motel Conversion Strategy
  - Planning to deliver 3-4 hotels with a variety of housing models
  - COA released a Housing First request for qualifications statement (RFQS)
    - Looking to establish partnerships with one or more qualified nonprofits or governmental agencies to provide property management, operations, and supportive services at one or more city-owned properties
    - Responses due on May 14 by 2pm
    - Information available here: [https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account\\_services/solicitation/solicitation\\_details.cfm?sid=134322](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134322)

## ECHO – Matt Mollica

- ECHO is working with the City and other agencies to prepare data dashboards with information on the isolation/quarantine facilities and protective lodges as well as more general info on our community's COVID-19 response. Will present to this group when ready
- Working with City of Austin and consultants to develop plans for when people begin leaving the Iso-Fac and Pro-Lodge facilities
  - Looking into new housing opportunities made available by federal stimulus dollars as well as some local money
  - Plan will show how much money might be allocated to different programs and to provide a better understanding on how people will be prioritized for those resources

## Agency Updates

- The Salvation Army
  - Downtown shelter has been cleaned. Expecting to bring staff back tomorrow and clients will come back some time later

## Chat Box

### **From Iara Foss to Everyone: 09:08 AM**

Stay Home - Work Safe Order:

[http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/document\\_96DEBEEC-E581-05E0-8A3D444404948A84.pdf](http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/document_96DEBEEC-E581-05E0-8A3D444404948A84.pdf)

City's Relief in a State of Emergency (RISE) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief for Austin residents:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/news/city-council-approves-relief-state-emergency-fund-provide-immediate-and-direct-relief-vulnerable-austinities>

Contact Laura via email ([Laura.Williamson2@austintexas.gov](mailto:Laura.Williamson2@austintexas.gov)) or cell (512-293-7210)

### **From Cate Graziani to Everyone: 09:08 AM**

what is the best way to request hand washing stations or food delivery for an encampment?

### **From Iara Foss to Everyone: 09:09 AM**

The City issued a "Housing First" Request for Qualification Statements (RFQS) solicitation. Learn more here:

[https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account\\_services/solicitation/solicitation\\_details.cfm?sid=134322](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134322)

### **From Dylan Shubitz to Everyone: 09:13 AM**

I wish to renew the questions I posted here on Monday regarding the \$15m allocation from council with the hope that city staff will address them directly

### **From Matthew Mollica to Everyone: 09:13 AM**

[matthewmollica@austinecho.org](mailto:matthewmollica@austinecho.org)