

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

Wednesday, April 22, 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@traviscountytx.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@traviscountytx.gov>; Lawrence Lyman <Lawrence.Lyman@traviscountytx.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 22, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers
April 22nd Agenda



City of Austin / Austin Public Health



ECHO – Local Operations



Agency Updates



Wrap Up – Next Call: Friday, April 24th @ 9:00am

Meeting Notes:

COA/ APH – Laura Foss

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

- 1233 COVID-19 cases in Travis County, 25 deaths and 331 people recovered
 - At least 32 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, 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
 - Demographic information on cases available at <http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>
- Integral Care behavioral health teams are providing remote services at IsoFac and ProLodge sites
- 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
- Working to set up additional protective lodging site, ProLodge 3
- 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 info at <http://www.austintexas.gov/rise>

- Email rifefunding@austintexas.gov with questions
- Food access for people experiencing homelessness
 - Prepared meal distribution beginning today
 - Contract signed with Revolution Foods
 - Zach Shlachter is acting as the volunteer coordinator for people who would like to help with food distribution
 - Zach can be reached at zack.shlachter@austintexas.gov
 - City is looking for community partners/volunteers to assist with distributing prepared meals on the weekends
 - Wes Bickham is the contact at to access the shelf-stable food bags being distributed out of the convention center
 - For information on availability and how to access food bags, call Wes at 512-492-5826
 - In final stages of creating a web-based food distribution survey that will collect data on the number of food bags, meals, and water distributed to specific sites.
- Communications
 - Setting up an “Incident Command” through EOC specifically for homelessness
 - Will help provide more access to personal and integrate command operations, planning, and logistics
 - Contact Lara Foss to have updates added to the City’s COVID-19 homelessness information page
 - lara.foss@austintexas.gov
- DACC
 - Continues to offer walk in case management triage services, 8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday
 - Served 471 individuals total
- Motel Conversion Strategy
 - City closed on purchasing Rodeway Inn
 - Will be starting renovations soon
- Over the next year, the City of Austin expects to receive approx. \$20.8 million in federal funding through 4 different HUD formula grants
 - Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
 - This includes funding the City is expecting through the CARES act (COVID-19 relief)
 - Information on HUD grants: <https://www.austintexas.gov/fy2020-21-action-plan>
 - Public input on HUD grants: <https://www.speakupaustin.org/housing-and-urban-development-spending-plan>

ECHO Updates – Laura Evanoff

- ECHO is hosting a Permanent Housing virtual meeting tomorrow, 4/23/20, from 10 – 11:30am
 - Will be reviewing guidance for CoC programs that have applied for HUD grant waivers including record keeping standards and how to request amendments for grants
 - Updated information on evictions will also be discussed

Agency Updates

- No updates

Chat Box

From larafoss to Everyone: 09:01 AM

<http://austintexas.gov/covid19>

FUNDING WEBSITE: <http://www.austintexas.gov/rise>

All RISE funding questions should be sent to: RISEFunding@AustinTexas.gov

Volunteer for Food Access - Zach Shlachter can be reached at zack.shlachter@austintexas.gov

austintexas.gov/homelessness If you have updates you can email Lara Foss at

lara.foss@austintexas.gov

Information on HUD grants: <https://www.austintexas.gov/fy2020-21-action-plan>

Public input on HUD grants: <https://www.speakupaustin.org/housing-and-urban-development-spending-plan>

From Laura Evanoff to Everyone: 09:01 AM

Thanks Lara!

From Me to Everyone: 09:01 AM

HUD Office Hours are every Friday: <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/office-hours-covid-19-planning-response-for-homeless-assistance-providers-fridays/>

Permanent Housing Program Meeting - tomorrow from 10 - 11:30.

<https://zoom.us/j/96000641696> Meeting ID: 960 0064 1696

From Dylan Shubitz to Everyone: 09:05 AM

I got a bunch of RISE questions answered yesterday. happy to share what I learned with any agencies here. if anyone else has received more information about this funding opportunity I'd love to hear from you.

DylanS@hacanet.org

From larafoss to Everyone: 09:07 AM

Wes Bickham is the contact at the Convention Center for shelf stable bags you can contact him for information and availability at 512-492-5826

From Dylan Shubitz to Everyone: 09:09 AM

I wouldn't say all of them...

From kaleigh to Everyone: 09:09 AM

Thanks Laura!