

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

Monday, April 27, 2020 9:00 AM

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## Meeting Recording:

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

Date: Apr 27, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/3NNJPqjb0zhIcoX19XP4W4EMEt-4aaa82nAW-fsLnx4f7SAg9SvWHil6rAT3SrDO>

Access code: OR^E?a&4

# Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers  
April 27<sup>th</sup> Agenda



City of Austin / Austin Public Health



ECHO – Local Operations



Agency Updates



Wrap Up – Next Call: Wednesday, April 29th @ 9:00am

## Meeting Notes:

COA/ APH – Vella Karmen

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

- 1412 COVID-19 cases in Travis County, 39 deaths and 398 people recovered
  - At least 37 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, including 10 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>
- Austin Public Health launched an online enrollment form for COVID-19 testing
  - Form will allow people to take self-assessment to determine eligibility and schedule a test without a medical provider
  - <http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>
    - Click "take self-assessment" button to create an account and complete the questionnaire
- A group is working to facilitate transportation to COVID-19 testing sites. More info coming soon. Will include individuals experiencing homelessness and other populations
- 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
- Quarantine/Isolation accommodations
  - ProLodges 1 and 2 are operational and at capacity, and
  - ProLodge 3 will be fully operational tomorrow and will likely be nearly half full
  - Looking into setting up ProLodge 4
  - Integral Care behavioral health teams are providing services at IsoFac and ProLodge 1 and 2
  - Front Steps is providing on site case managed for people in ProLodge 2. Working to begin to provide services at ProLodge 1 as well
  - If other programs have capacity to work with people staying at ProLodge sites, please contact Vella Karmen, [vella.karmen@austintexas.gov](mailto:vella.karmen@austintexas.gov)
- City departments are working with Downtown Austin Alliance's Downtown Ambassadors to promote safety, distribute supplies, and cleaning high traffic areas.
- Food access for people experiencing homelessness; Eating Apart Together (EAT)
  - Launched a survey to collect information on the number of food bags distributed from which locations
  - 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](mailto: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
- Communications
  - City will be sending out new informational flyers to partners soon for distribution
  - Emergency Operations Center approved creating street signs to identify locations where people can access basic needs services (hygiene, food, etc.)
  - Contact Lara Foss to have updates added to the City's COVID-19 homelessness information page
    - [lara.foss@austintexas.gov](mailto:lara.foss@austintexas.gov)
- DACC
  - Continues to offer walk in case management triage services, 8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday
  - Served 529 individuals total

## ECHO Updates –Laura Evanoff

- Permanent Housing Resource Guide and guidance for CoC-funded agencies who have applied and been approved for HUD waivers
  - <https://www.austinecho.org/covid19-service-providers/>
- Schedule for Coordination Groups
  - Emergency Shelter Task Group
    - Wednesdays at noon
    - Contact Preston Petty, [prestonpetty@austinecho.org](mailto:prestonpetty@austinecho.org)
  - Street Outreach Coordination
    - Wednesdays at 2:30
    - Contact Katie Rose, [katierose@austinecho.org](mailto:katierose@austinecho.org)
  - Homeless Response Coordination
    - Fridays at 10:30
    - Contact Niki Kozak, [nikikozak@austinecho.org](mailto:nikikozak@austinecho.org)

## Agency Updates

- No Updates

## Chat Box

**From Laura Evanoff to Everyone: 08:59 AM**

Happy Monday! Please type any question in the group chat. If we aren't able to answer them during the call, we will carry them over to the Wednesday morning call.

**From larafoss to Everyone: 09:02 AM**

Good morning.

For demographic breakdowns and more information you can visit the <http://austintexas.gov/covid19> web site

**From Jennifer Long to Everyone: 09:04 AM**

What is the criteria for getting a hotel room?

**From larafoss to Everyone: 09:09 AM**

If any programs have capacity to serve clients at these Pro-lodge sites, please contact me at [Vella.Karman@austintexas.gov](mailto:Vella.Karman@austintexas.gov)

If you are interested in participating in any aspect of Eating Apart Together please contact Zach Shlachter ([zach.shlachter@austintexas.gov](mailto:zach.shlachter@austintexas.gov)). We are particularly interested in recruiting for weekend delivery of prepared meals

Thanks all!

**From Preston Petty to Everyone: 09:09 AM**

Thanks Laura!