

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

Wednesday May 13, 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 <Isovine@austinrecovery.org>; Darrin Acker <dacker@cforr.org>; rteich@foundationhomeless.org; jlong@casamarianella.org; tnichols <tnichols@frontsteps.org>; Justine Price <jjustine.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: May 13, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/2v1SMeHa7DNLXqfp0kfzdLURBri_T6a80SkZ_PdfUzV0dkUBWfjv2b_zAifO8J_L

Password: 3x*.0fS9

Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers
May 13th Agenda



City of Austin / Austin Public Health



ECHO Updates



Agency Updates



Wrap Up – Next Call: Wednesday, May 15th @ 9:00am

Meeting Notes:

COA – Vela Carmen

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

- 2235 confirmed COVID-29 cases in Travis County; 760 recovered; and 71 deaths
- Demographic information on cases available at <http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>
 - At least 43 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, including 24 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.
 - 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 referral
 - <http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>
 - Click “self-assessment” button to create an account and complete the questionnaire listing your symptoms

- Order from Austin/Travis County Health Authority stating **masks when outside the home or in public are recommended**
 - Physical distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals is still recommended
- Quarantine and Alternate Facilities:
 - ProLodges 1-3 are operational and at full capacity,
 - Considering options for a 4th ProLodge
 - Integral Care behavioral health teams are providing services at IsoFac and ProLodge 1, 2, and 3
 - Starting this week Front Steps staff are providing on site case management at all 3 ProLodges
 - If other programs have capacity to work with people staying at ProLodge sites, please contact Vella Karmen, vella.karmen@austintexas.gov
- The Central Texas Food Bank is utilizing City of Austin RAISE funds to provide 4 additional weeks of shelf stable meal bags
 - These remaining shipments will occur through June 11th
- Food access for people experiencing homelessness; Eating Apart Together (EAT)
 - Continuing to investigate food access needs for those experiencing homelessness
 - To determine the scope and length of need as a response to COVID19
 - The EAT 123 survey
 - Include information on encampment trash pickup needs
 - EAT has the hopes of providing or increasing trash pickup in the identified locations
 - When food is distributed in the community
 - Or send information to Michelle.miles@austintexas.gov
 - If you want to participate in any aspect of Eating Apart Together Initiative Zach Shlachter at zack.shlachter@austintexas.gov
- Communication Updates
 - Basic Needs Street signs are being installed at 14 basic needs sites today
 - These basic needs sites have a combination of at least 3 services
 - Hand washing stations, port-a-potties, showers, and/or food delivery
 - The basic needs signs have information with infographics on how to the spread of COVID19
 - Directs people to austintexas.gov/homelessness for more information
- Hygiene Update
 - 3 shower trailers will be operational and running later this week
 - Crews experienced delays due to yesterday's weather
 - Contracting with Family Elder Care and The Other Ones Foundation to operate at different locations in Austin
- Down Town Community Court Update

- Continue to offer walk in triage case management services 8am-5pm Monday through Friday
 - Provide flyers to all clients on COVID-19 and safety planning
- This week May 11th-12th 32 people served through triage case management
- And since March 16th they have served 792 individuals, an average of 19 individuals a day
 - Individuals accessing basic hygiene resources are not factored into this number, or
 - Client's case managers reach remotely
- City Council
 - Last week 18 million dollars was approved to support;
 - COVID19 emergency relief for revolving loan programs and
 - Grants for businesses, child care support, health and human services assistance, work force development, social services, legal services, education, arts and culture, environment and animal protection, and declaring an emergency
- City of Austin
 - Housing First Request for Qualifications Statements (RFQF) Solicitation
 - To establish a contract with one or more qualified nonprofit or governmental agencies to provide operations management and support services for converted motels
 - RFQS Due tomorrow May 14th by 2 PM to Central Purchasing
- Austin Public Health
 - Include awareness material and messaging about 2020 Census
 - Through the COVID19 response and ongoing Austin Public Health community services

ECHO Updates:

- Matt Mollica
 - National legislation updates on funding for those who experience homelessness
 - House Democrats put forward the Hero's Act stimulus package yesterday
 - Could be voted on as early as Friday but this will not likely be the final iteration of the bill
 - Will fall along party lines; a partisan vote
 - Reach out to you senators and house representative to voice your support
 - ECHO will be putting together information on how to reach out to your senators and house representatives; will provide to our partners
 - Any advocacy on the state or federal level will be very important
 - The bill includes
 - \$4 billion tenant based rental assistance

- \$1 billion for new temporary for vouchers for people and families who are experiencing homelessness or at risk or are fleeing domestic violence
 - Income level restrictions for these subsidies are current income therefore could be meant to address the economic impact people are facing around job loss and unemployment right now
 - Homelessness Assistance Grants specifically ESG funds \$11.5 billion
 - To address the impacts of those experiencing homelessness or at risk
 - To support additions homeless prevention and diversion activities to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic
 - Can be used for hazard pay
 - There is a provision prohibiting pre conditions before people can be helped
 - Our community is set to receive \$1 billion out of the \$4 billion in ESG funds that was dedicated from the first stimulus bill the Cares Act
 - Our community will receive \$3-4 million in new money
 - With another \$3 billion for ESG with the potential for even more funds for our community
 - Emergency Rental Assistance Fund that's trying to be established
 - \$100 billion in funds for emergency assistance to help low income renters at risk of homelessness avoid eviction due to the economic impact of COVID19
 - Getting these funds would be important to our community
 - Prevention dollars as well
 - We know it's important for our community
 - The bill also has language that would cancel the 2020 NOFA competition
 - We will update as it goes through legislature
- COVID Coordination meetings this week
 - Providing updates on all the different implementation groups this Friday
 - Emergency Shelter Task Group today Wednesday at 11 AM
 - Street Outreach Coordination today Wednesday at 2:30 PM
 - Permanent Housing Programs Meeting Thursday at 10 AM
 - Health Care Meeting and Criminal Justice Response this week at 10:30 AM
 - Email Andrewwillard@austinecho.org for more information if needed
 - Next meeting will be this coming Friday

Agency Updates

- None

Chat Box

From Laura Evanoff to Everyone: 09:00 AM

Good morning! We would love to hear about any agency updates, report-outs, success stories and/or lessons learned. Feel free to type in the chat box or talk during the agency updates section of the agenda

Link to HEROES: <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/6888648/House-Coronavirus-Relief-Bill-May-12.pdf>

From Preston Petty to Everyone: 09:14 AM

Thanks Andrew!