

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

Monday, May 4, 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>; Darlynn Cardona-Beiler <Darlynn.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 <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 & Reports-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers (April 8-June 30 invite)

Date: May 4, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/x5RMM4HN9XIIYK\\_1txvSXog6Rti7eaa80CMX\\_qLLyxsmZvuzvOPgZMpYngRPUwwf](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/x5RMM4HN9XIIYK_1txvSXog6Rti7eaa80CMX_qLLyxsmZvuzvOPgZMpYngRPUwwf)

Password: 3s%.?12a

# Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers  
May 4<sup>th</sup> Agenda



City of Austin / Austin Public Health



Agency Updates



Wrap Up – Next Call: Wednesday, May 6th @ 9:00am

## Meeting Notes:

COA/APH – Vela Karmen

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

- 1756 confirmed COVID-19; 516 recovered; and 52 deaths
- Demographic information on cases available at <http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>
  - At least 38 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, including 22 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
- 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 4<sup>th</sup> ProLodge
- Integral Care behavioral health teams are providing services at IsoFac and ProLodge 1, 2, and 3
- Front Steps staff are working on providing case management services 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](mailto:vella.karmen@austintexas.gov)
- Downtown Efforts
  - 28 Downtown Ambassadors, 2 APD Officers, and 3 HOST members were on site under I-35 providing trash removal and
  - Distributed water, masks, educational flyers, and other supplies for 2 hours
    - Thank you, Downtown Austin Alliance, for spearheading
- Communications
  - City has provided guidance on activities and information for businesses that have recently reopened or plan to open under Gov. Abbotts April 17<sup>th</sup> executive order GA18
    - Which supersedes some provisions of the stay-at-home work safe order
    - This helps define some of the changes that went into effect Friday
    - Should provide an FAQ about specific items
- 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
  - Last week 105 individuals were served through triage case management,
  - and since March 16<sup>th</sup> they 634 individuals were served, an average of 18 individuals a day
    - Individuals also access basic hygiene resources
  - Distributed over 150 snack pack and hygiene bags to triage clients
    - First United Methodist Church donating another 16 packs to clients on Friday May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Delivered 27 bags of food (including dog and cat food) to housed clients on Friday May 1<sup>st</sup>
    - from donations from the City Food Distribution Program at the Convention Center
- Austin Housing Finance Cooperation and The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA)
  - Launching Austin's Relief of Emergency Needs for Tenants (RENT) Program
    - Provides one-time emergency rental assistance to Austin households experiencing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19
    - Austin residents can apply through HACA's rent website (application is online only) starting today May 4<sup>th</sup> at 9am till May 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
      - [www.atxRentHelp.org](http://www.atxRentHelp.org)
    - Applicants will be randomly selected from all applications received through these dates

## Agency Updates:

- Audrey Kuang - Community Care Healthcare for the Homeless
  - Today-Monday May 4<sup>th</sup> mask surveillance testing in ARCH garage
    - Testing A-symptomatic and symptomatic individuals for clients and staff
  - Tentative- Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup> surveillance at state camp
    - Surveillance of A-symptomatic and symptomatic individuals

## ECHO Updates

- COVID Coordination meetings this week
  - Veteran Check in Monday May 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am
  - Emergency Shelter Task Group Wednesdays at noon
  - Street Outreach Coordination Wednesdays at 2:30
  - Permanent Housing Programs and COVID Coordination group
    - Email Andrew Willard for access or with questions at [andrewwillard@austinech.org](mailto:andrewwillard@austinech.org)

## Chat Box

### **From larafoss to Everyone: 09:03 AM**

Good Monday morning all!

APH Public Testing Enrollment:

The enrollment form is available at [AustinTexas.gov/COVID19](https://austintexas.gov/COVID19). To access the form, click on the "Take Self-Assessment" button to create an account and complete a questionnaire listing your symptoms

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

[http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/FAQs%20Regarding%20the%20City%20and%20Governor%20Orders\\_.pdf](http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/FAQs%20Regarding%20the%20City%20and%20Governor%20Orders_.pdf)

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-issues-executive-order-relating-to-the-expanded-reopening-of-services>

<https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-issues-executive-order-relating-to-the-expanded-reopening-of-services>

Info on the Rent Program:

[atxRentHelp.org](http://atxRentHelp.org)

### **From Preston Petty to Everyone: 09:08 AM**

Thanks Andrew!