

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

Wednesday June 3, 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: June 3, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/uJd7luH6p2g3HYKctgSDUfJ5W9TrLqms1SRLq_cKy0-1UiRXNIfyb7MXZbcuTkIJ-RfEftLYh8XPd7fd2?continueMode=true

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Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers
June 3rd Agenda



City of Austin / Austin Public Health



Agency Updates



Wrap Up – Next Call: Friday, June 5th @ 9:00am

Meeting Notes:

COA – Laura Foss

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

- 3433 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Travis County; 1296 recovered; and 93 deaths
- Demographic information on cases available at <http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19>
 - Using the same data from Wednesday-at least 48 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, including 26 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.
- City has extended stay at home orders till **June 15th** to be in line with Travis County
- 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
 - Pro-Lodges 1-4 are operational
 - All Prolodges are secure and not open to the public

- If any agency is interested in learning more about the Pro-lodge operations and services please contact Robert at Robert.Kingham@austintexas.gov
 - If other programs have capacity to work with people staying at Pro-Lodge sites, please contact Vella Karmen, vella.karmen@austintexas.gov
 - Eating Apart Together (EAT); Food access for people experiencing homelessness
 - Two remaining shipment of shelf stable meals from Central Texas Food Bank utilizing City of Austin RAISE
 - The remaining shipments are June 4th and June 11th
 - June 11th delivery will allow for food distribution through June 18th
 - City's contract with Revolution Food for prepared meals will end June 21st
 - EAT Initiative will continuing to investigate food access needs for those experiencing homelessness
 - To determine the scope and length of need as a response to COVID19
 - Hope to provide a clearer timeframe soon on continuation of services
 - 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
 - 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
 - Communications
 - Joint information System released a press release yesterday on measures planned to address the impact of COVID19 on vulnerable populations
 - Austin Public Health planning to launch mobile and targeted testing sites in key locations in Austin and Travis County
 - To help address the disproportionate impact of COVID19 on vulnerable populations
 - Access it here <https://www.austintexas.gov/news/measures-planned-address-impact-covid-19-vulnerable-populations>
 - The city is planning a conversation with communities of color Saturday June 13th
 - Discussing ways to improve health outcomes among most vulnerable populations
 - More details to come
 - Austin Public Health
 - Proving a weekly media virtual Q and A with leadership team
 - In order to provide opportunity to reporters to ask questions related to COVID19
 - Press conference today at 10:30 AM

- Will include Austin Travis County interim health authority Dr. Mark Escot, Austin Public Health Director Stephanie Haden, and Austin Public Health Chief Epidemiologist Janet Pasche
 - Topics include data collections; recovery numbers; updates to the dashboard; risk level; and daily hospital admissions
 - ATX will simul-casting the press conference in Spanish for the first time
- Austin American Statesman produced a YouTube Video on the Guided Path Pilot Program
 - Guided Path Pilot originally identified 99 individuals for outreach and engagement
 - DACA was assigned 21 of the 99 individuals and have housed 9 individuals to the data and are still working on 5 more individuals
 - Access it here <https://youtube/MCyGeLvdtiE>
- Hygiene Update
 - Due to changing City Operations there will be updates to the hygiene station operations
 - Said updates have been reflected in the basic needs map
 - As more updates occur, we will update the basic needs map
 - Access the basic needs map here <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/resource-sites-map-covid-19-response>
- Downtown Austin Community Court Update (DACC)
 - Continue to offer walk-in triage case management services 8am-5pm Monday through Friday
 - Added a 2nd triage staff member due to the volume of individuals experiencing homelessness requesting services
 - Triage case manager provides flyers to all clients with information on COVID19 and safety planning
 - May 29th and June 1st, they served 102 individuals through triage
 - And since March 16th they have served 1,163 individuals, an average of over 19 individuals a day
 - Individuals accessing basic hygiene resources or client's case managers reach remotely are not factored into this number
 - They continue to provide food kits from the Austin Convention Center to housed case-managed clients
 - Received another 140 food and basic needs bags from First United Methodist Church for their clients
- Homelessness COVID19 Support Strategy
 - Council is expected to vote on CARES Act spending on Thursday
 - Yesterday's work session BASTA presented on evictions in Travis County during COVID19

- Access it here <https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=341494>
- You can watch the presentation on ATXN under the archives section
 - Access it here <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/atxn-video-archive>

Agency Updates

David Gomes-Integral Care

- Harm Reduction Teleconference yesterday on campsites and individuals who are having substance use issues
 - There was a notice that we are losing a larger amount of funding around this topic
- As we look at the community health situation-harm reduction will be a very important part that is intermingled with the COVID19 situation
 - We might want to talk about it and the impacts for our clients

ECHO Updates:

- Next call will be Friday the 5th at 9 AM
 - The implementation teams will report out
- Weekly meetings
 - Street Outreach-COVID Response Coordination Meeting scheduled for today Wednesday the 3rd has been canceled
 - Criminal Justice and homelessness Response Coordination Meeting and the Health Care Response Meetings have been moved to every 2 weeks on Fridays
 - Meetings will take place on Friday the 12th

Chat Box

From Andrew Willard to Everyone: 10:02 AM

Good Morning, Everyone! Please feel free to utilize the chat to share agency updates, ask questions, or provide comments. If we aren't able to answer your questions today, we will address them during our next meeting, Friday.

From Iara Foss to Everyone: 10:09 AM

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

If any agency is interested in learning more about the Pro-lodge operations and services please contact Robert at Robert.Kingham@austintexas.gov All Pro-lodge facilities are secure and not open to the public.

If any programs have capacity to serve clients at these Pro-lodge sites, please contact Vella Karman at Vella.Karman@austintexas.gov

Please include information regarding trash pickup needs for encampments in the EAT Initiative 1,2,3 survey when food is distributed in the community or send this information to michelle.myles@austintexas.gov

If you are interested in participating in any aspect of the Eating Apart Together Initiative please contact Zack Shlachter (zack.shlachter@austintexas.gov).

Press release:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/news/measures-planned-address-impact-covid-19-vulnerable-populations>

Austin American Statesman piece about the Guided Path Pilot:

<https://youtube/MCyGeLvdtiE>

From Iara Foss to Everyone: 10:09 AM

Basic Needs Access Map

<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/resource-sites-map-covid-19-response>

BASTA Work Session presentation on evictions in Travis County during COVID-19,

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=341494>

And you can watch the presentation in the archive section of ATXN.tv

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/atxn-video-archive>

From Nicolina Kozak to Everyone: 10:11 AM

Sorry about that!

From Kyle to Everyone: 10:12 AM

Thank you